



THE GOLDEN AGE

BATMAN

VOLUME FIVE



BATMAN

THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 5

BILL FINGER

WITH **DON CAMERON, RUTH "BUNNY" LYON KAUFMAN, HORACE L. GOLD**
JOSEPH GREENE AND JOE SAMACHSON
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BOB KANE

WITH **JERRY ROBINSON, GEORGE ROUSSOS, DICK SPRANG**
JACK BURNLEY, RAY BURNLEY, FRED RAY, NORMAN FALLON
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COVER ARTIST

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By special arrangement with the JERRY SIEGEL family

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BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOLUME 5

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BATMAN #16
April–May 1943
Cover art by **JERRY ROBINSON** and **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

"The Joker Reforms"
Writer: **DON CAMERON**
Penciller: **BOB KANE**
Inkers: **JERRY ROBINSON** and **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

"The Grade A Crimes"
Writer: **RUTH "BUNNY" LYON KAUFMAN**
Penciller: **JACK BURNLEY**
Inker: **RAY BURNLEY**

"The Adventures of the Branded Tree"
Writer: **DON CAMERON**
Penciller: **JACK BURNLEY**
Inker: **RAY BURNLEY**

"Here Comes Alfred"
Writer: **DON CAMERON**
Penciller: **BOB KANE**
Inkers: **JERRY ROBINSON** and **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

DETECTIVE COMICS #75
May 1943
Cover art by **BOB KANE** and **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

"The Robber Baron"
Writer: **DON CAMERON**
Penciller: **JACK BURNLEY**
Inker: **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

DETECTIVE COMICS #76
June 1943
Cover art by **JERRY ROBINSON**

"Slay 'Em with Flowers"
Writer: **HORACE L. GOLD**
Artist: **JERRY ROBINSON**

BATMAN #17
June–July 1943
Cover art by **JERRY ROBINSON**

"The Batman's Biographer"
Writer: **DON CAMERON**
Penciller: **BOB KANE**
Inkers: **JERRY ROBINSON** and **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

"The Penguin Goes A-Hunting"
Writer: **DON CAMERON**
Penciller: **JACK BURNLEY**
Inkers: **RAY BURNLEY**

"Rogues' Pageant"
Writer: **DON CAMERON**
Penciller: **JACK BURNLEY**
Inker: **RAY BURNLEY**

"Adventure of the Vitamin Vandals"
Writer: **JOSEPH GREENE**
Penciller: **BOB KANE**
Inker: **JERRY ROBINSON**

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #10
Summer 1943
Cover art by **FRED RAY**, **DICK SPRANG**, **JOE SIMON** and **HAL SHERMAN**

"The Man with the Camera Eyes"
Writer: **BILL FINGER**
Penciller: **JERRY ROBINSON**
Inker: **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

DETECTIVE COMICS #77
July 1943
Cover art by **BOB KANE** and **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

"The Crime Clinic"
Writer: **BILL FINGER**
Penciller: **BOB KANE**
Inker: **GEORGE ROUSSOS**

DETECTIVE COMICS #78
August 1943
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY

"The Bond Wagon"
Writer: JOSEPH GREENE
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: GEORGE ROUSSOS
160

BATMAN #18
August-September 1943
Cover art by DICK SPRANG and STAN KAYE

"The Secret of Hunter's Inn!"
Writer: JOE SAMACHSON
Artist: JERRY ROBINSON

"Robin Studies His Lessons!"
Writer: JOE SAMACHSON
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON

"The Good Samaritan Cops"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Artist: JACK BURNLEY

"The Crime Surgeon"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON
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DETECTIVE COMICS #79
September 1943
Cover art by JERRY ROBINSON

"Destiny's Auction!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: JERRY ROBINSON
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #11
Fall 1943
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY

"A Thief in Time!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JERRY ROBINSON
Inker: FRED RAY
236

DETECTIVE COMICS #80
October 1943
Cover art by BOB KANE and JERRY ROBINSON

"The End of Two-Face!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON
249

BATMAN #19
October-November 1943
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"Batman Makes a Deadline!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"Atlantis Goes to War!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"The Case of the Timid Lion!"
Writer: UNKNOWN
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"Collector of Millionaires"
Writer: JOE SAMACHSON
Penciller: DICK SPRANG
Inker: NORMAN FALLON
262

DETECTIVE COMICS #81
November 1943
Cover art by BOB KANE and JERRY ROBINSON

"The Cavalier of Crime"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: GEORGE ROUSSOS
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BATMAN #20
December 1943-January 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Centuries of Crime!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: RAY BURNLEY

"The Trial of Titus Keyes!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON

"The Lawmen of the Seal!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: RAY BURNLEY

"Bruce Wayne Loses the Guardianship of Dick Grayson!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON
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Until the 1970s, it was not common practice in the comic book industry to credit all stories. In the preparation of this collection, we have used our best efforts to review any surviving records and consult any available databases and knowledgeable parties. We regret the innate limitations of this process and any missing or misassigned attributions that may occur.

BATMAN No.16

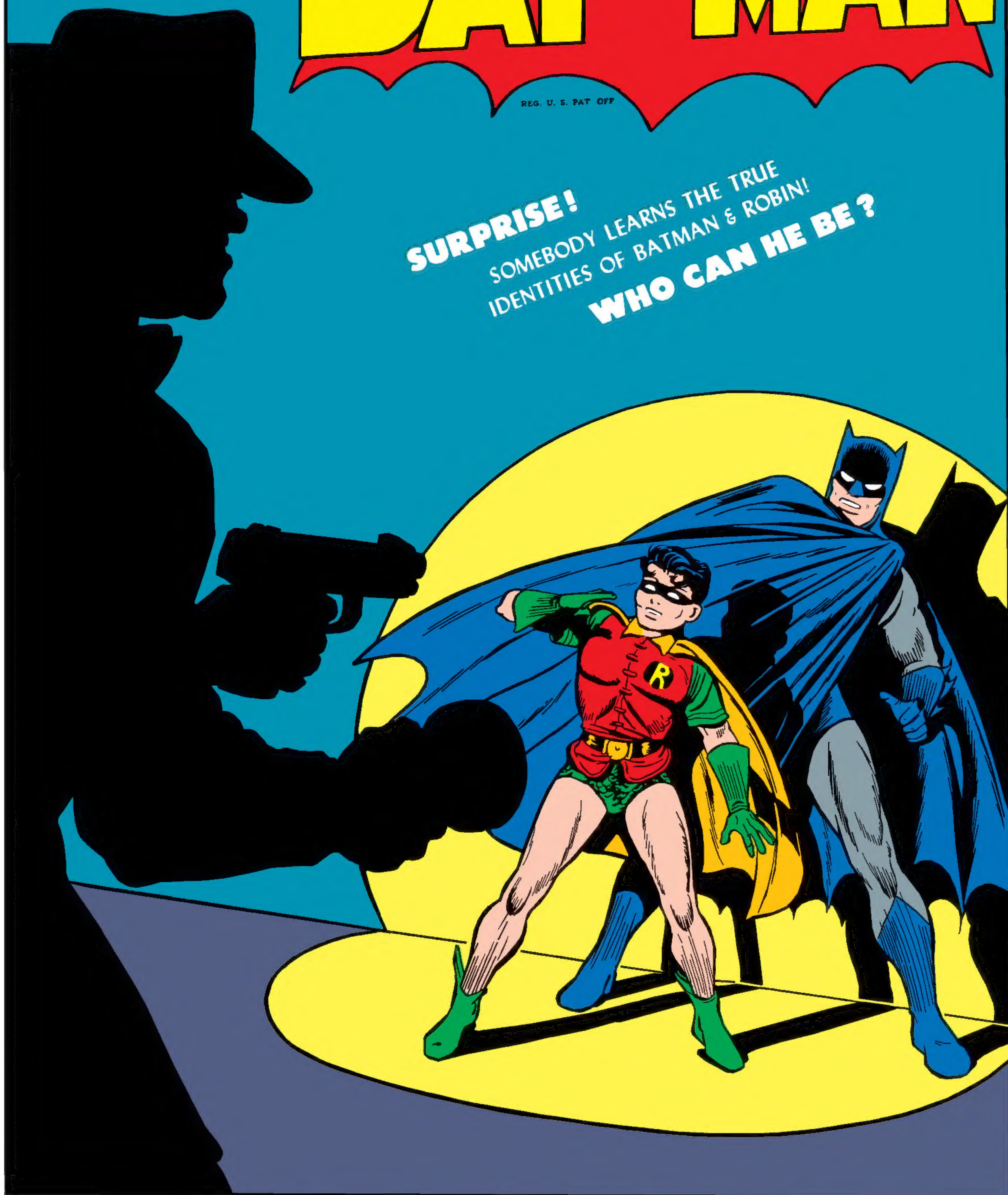


APRIL-MAY

BATMAN

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

SURPRISE!
SOMEBODY LEARNS THE TRUE
IDENTITIES OF BATMAN & ROBIN!
WHO CAN HE BE?



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

YOU HAVE HEARD THAT THE SAVAGE LEOPARD CANNOT CHANGE ITS SPOTS, NOR THE CARRION-EATING VULTURE BECOME A GENTLE DOVE... BUT AS YOU TURN THE PAGES OF THIS STORY, YOU MAY BEGIN TO HAVE YOUR DOUBTS! FOR THAT JEERING APE, THE **JOKER** -- THAT CRAFTY CLOWN OF CRIME, THAT GRINNING GARGOYLE OF GREED -- SUDDENLY FORSAKES HIS EVIL WAYS TO BECOME NOT ONLY AN HONEST, UPRIGHT CITIZEN, BUT A FIERCE FOE OF WRONG-DOERS AS WELL!....

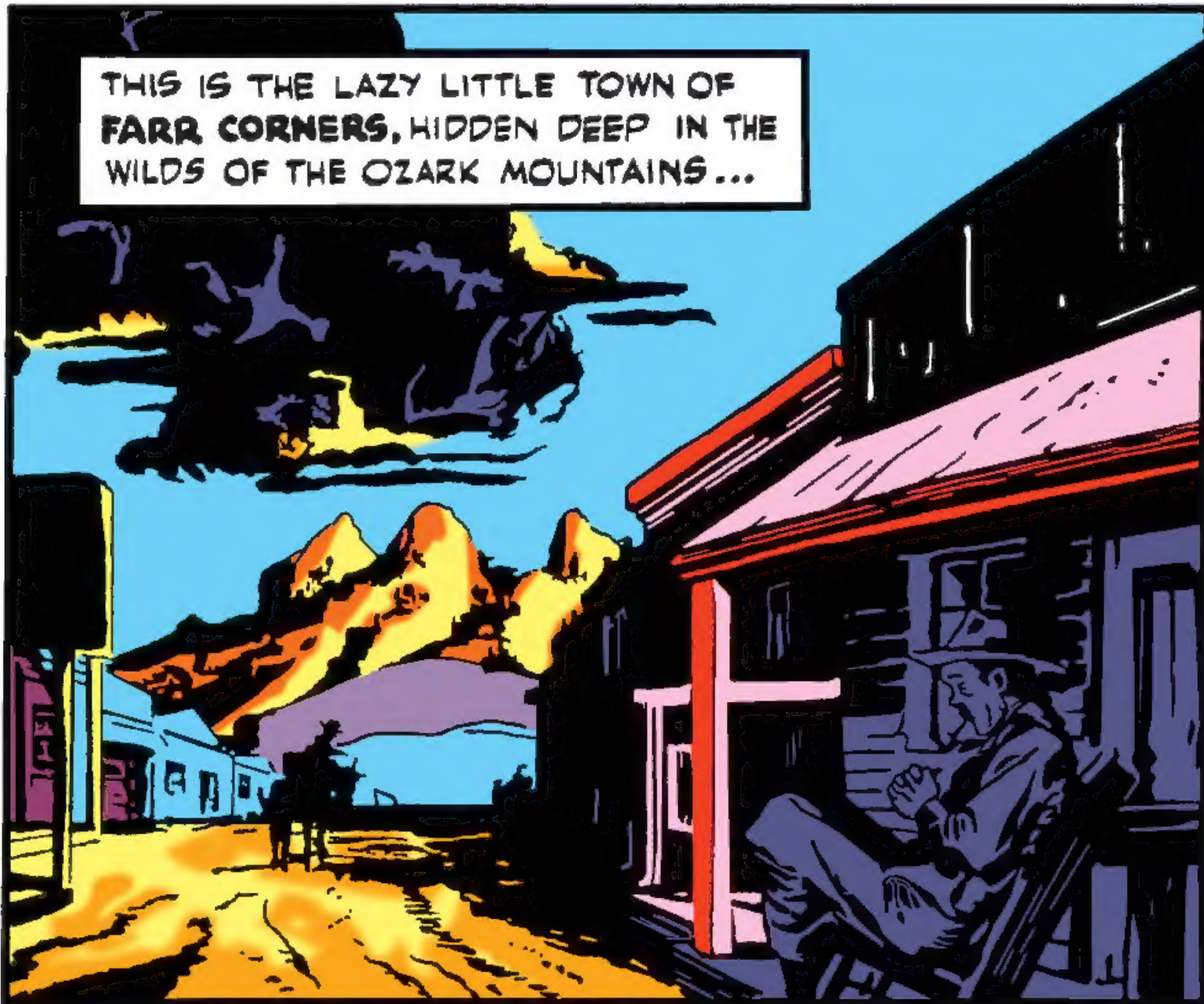
READ ON -- AND SHARE THE THRILLING, SPINE-CHILLING ADVENTURES OF THOSE SENSATIONAL CRIME-CRUSHERS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, AS THEY BATTLE THROUGH THE PITFALLS OF PERIL AND MAZES OF MYSTERY WHEN -- "THE JOKER REFORMS!"

by
BOB KANE



★ ★ **OUR HERO** ★ ★
THE MOST HONEST MAN IN TOWN

HOTEL



THIS IS THE LAZY LITTLE TOWN OF FARR CORNERS, HIDDEN DEEP IN THE WILDS OF THE OZARK MOUNTAINS...



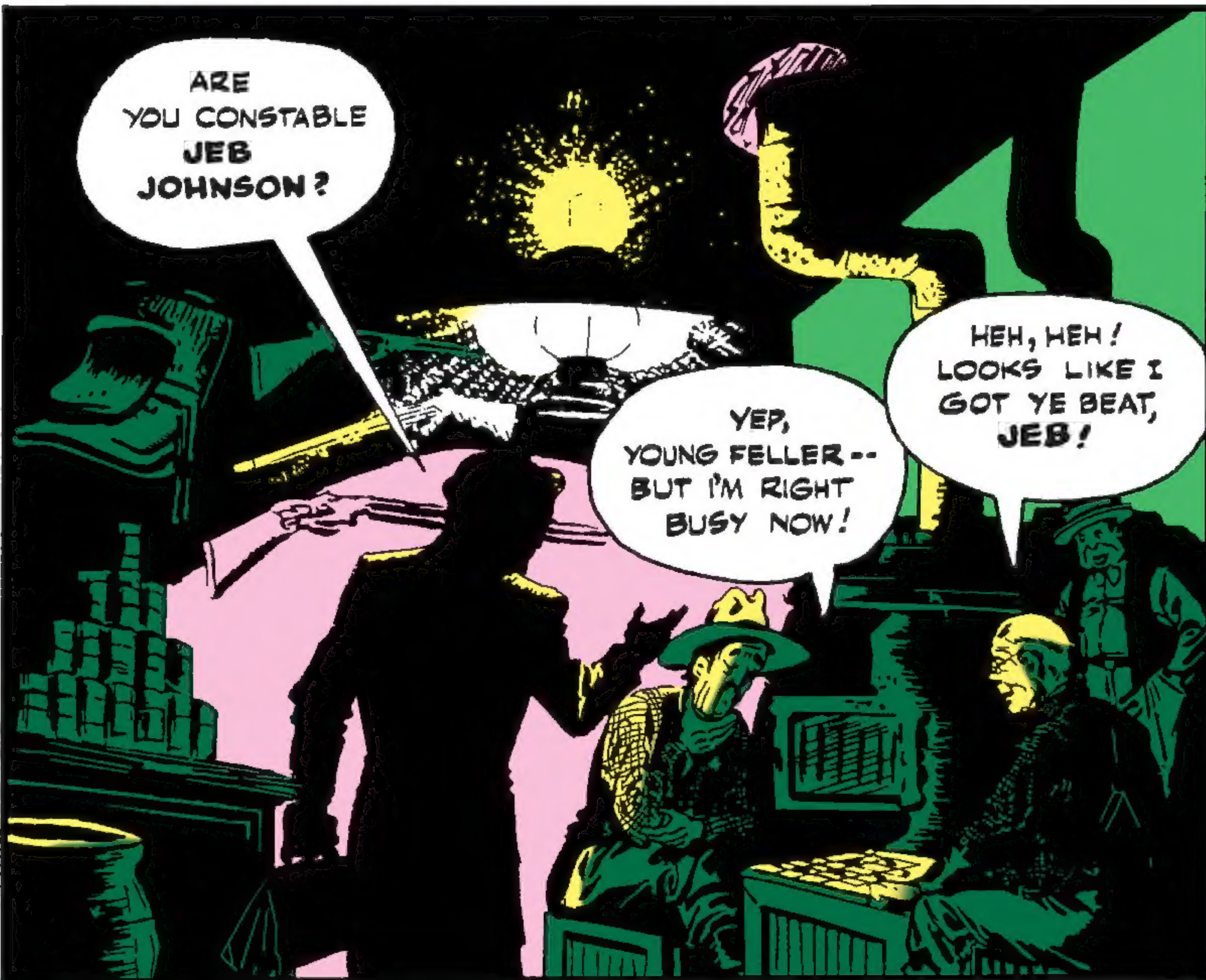
AND THIS IS A STRANGER IN TOWN--A TALL, TRAVEL-WORN, WAYFARER WHOSE BUSINESS IS WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

EXCUSE ME, MY GOOD MAN... CAN YOU DIRECT ME TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE?

RECKON YUH MEAN JEB JOHNSON, TH' CONSTABLE...PLAYIN' CHECKERS WITH SAM UPSON IN TH' STORE!



THIS WILL PROBABLY BE THE BIGGEST CASE THE CONSTABLE HAS EVER WORKED ON...



ARE YOU CONSTABLE JEB JOHNSON?

YEP, YOUNG FELLER-- BUT I'M RIGHT BUSY NOW!

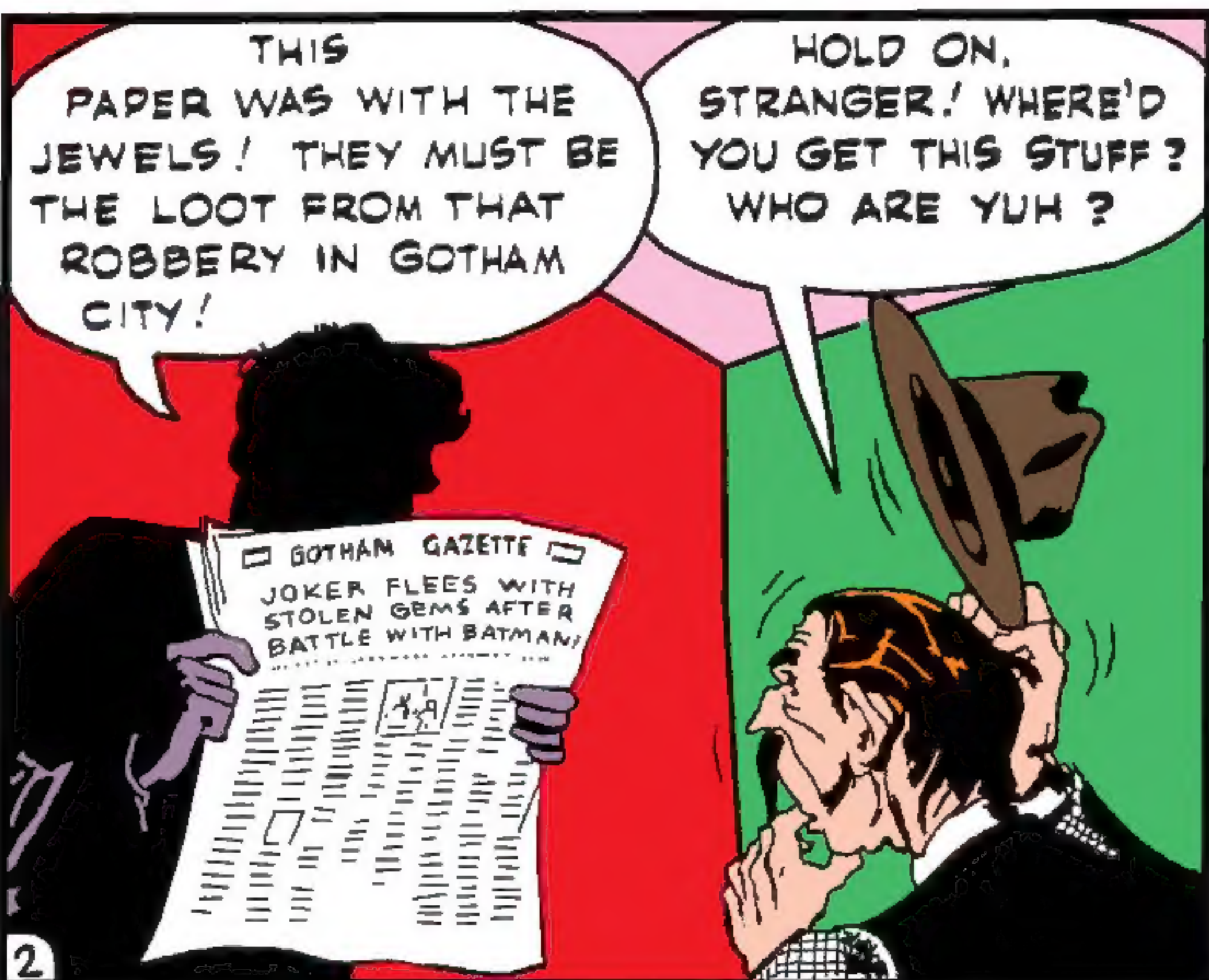
HEH, HEH! LOOKS LIKE I GOT YE BEAT, JEB!



IF YOU COULD SPARE A MINUTE FROM YOUR GAME TO LOOK THESE OVER...

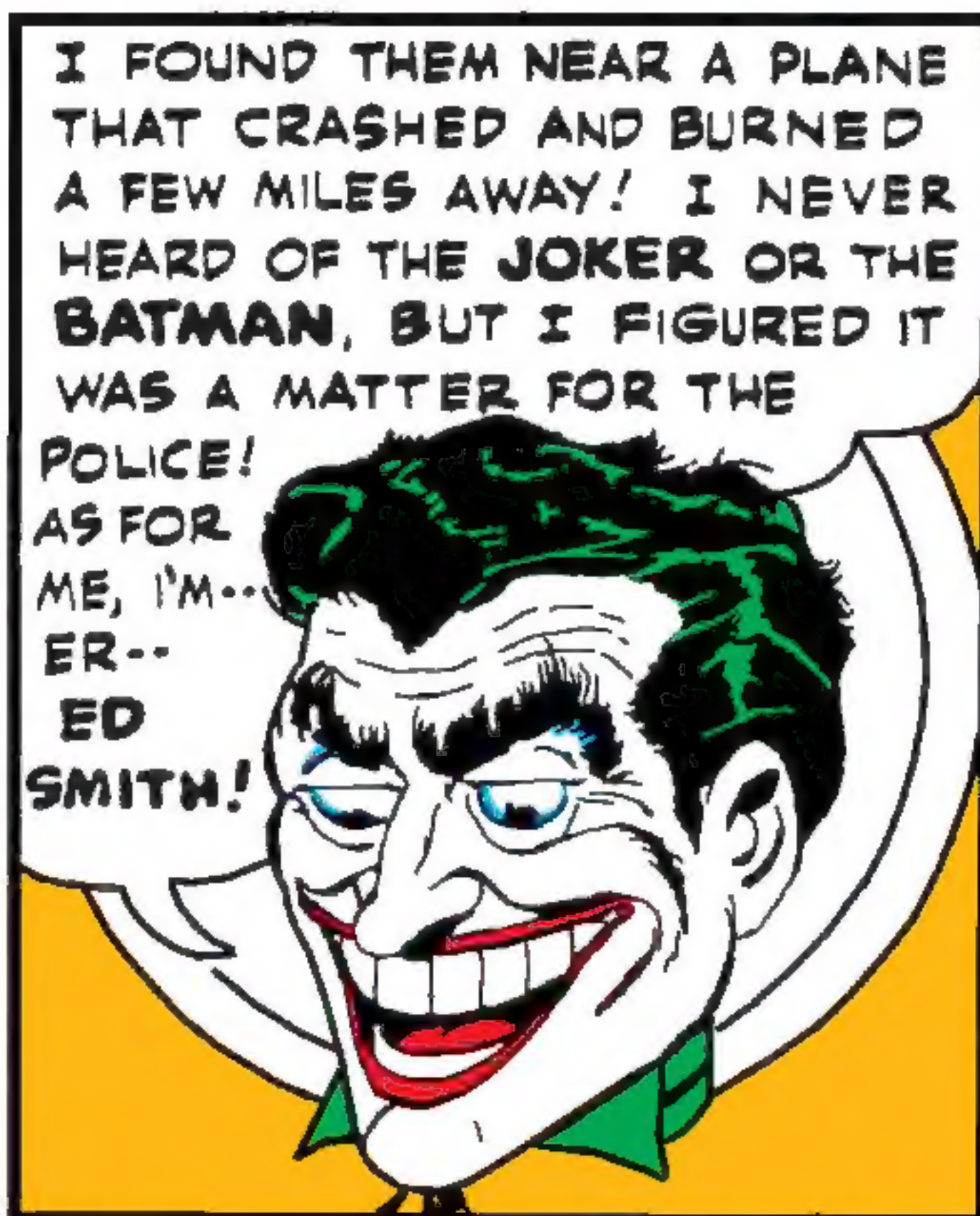
JUMPIN' TOAD-FROGS -- DIAMONDS!

AN' EMERALDS--AN' RUBIES -- AN' PEARLS!

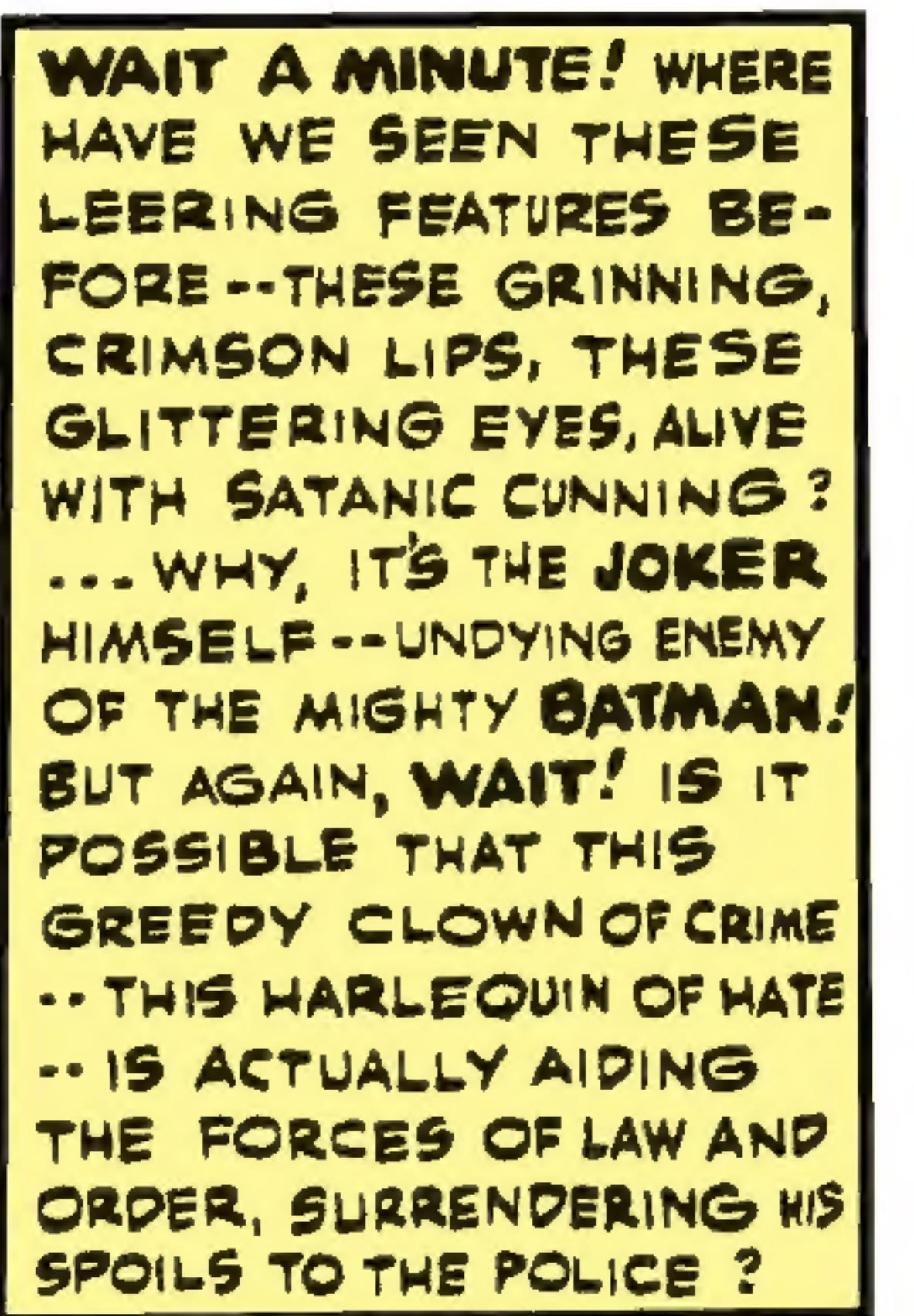


THIS PAPER WAS WITH THE JEWELS! THEY MUST BE THE LOOT FROM THAT ROBBERY IN GOTHAM CITY!

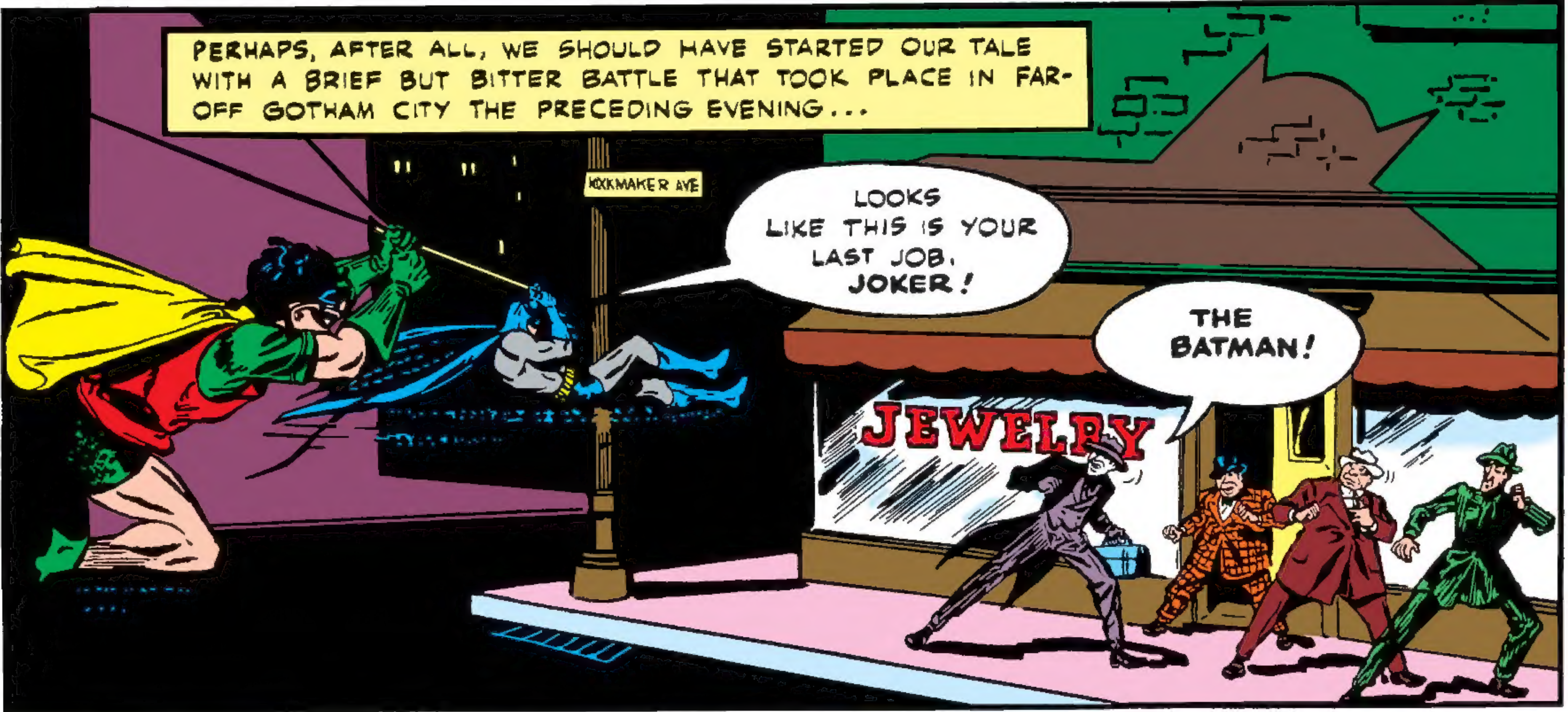
HOLD ON, STRANGER! WHERE'D YOU GET THIS STUFF? WHO ARE YUH?



I FOUND THEM NEAR A PLANE THAT CRASHED AND BURNED A FEW MILES AWAY! I NEVER HEARD OF THE JOKER OR THE BATMAN, BUT I FIGURED IT WAS A MATTER FOR THE POLICE! AS FOR ME, I'M-- ER-- ED SMITH!



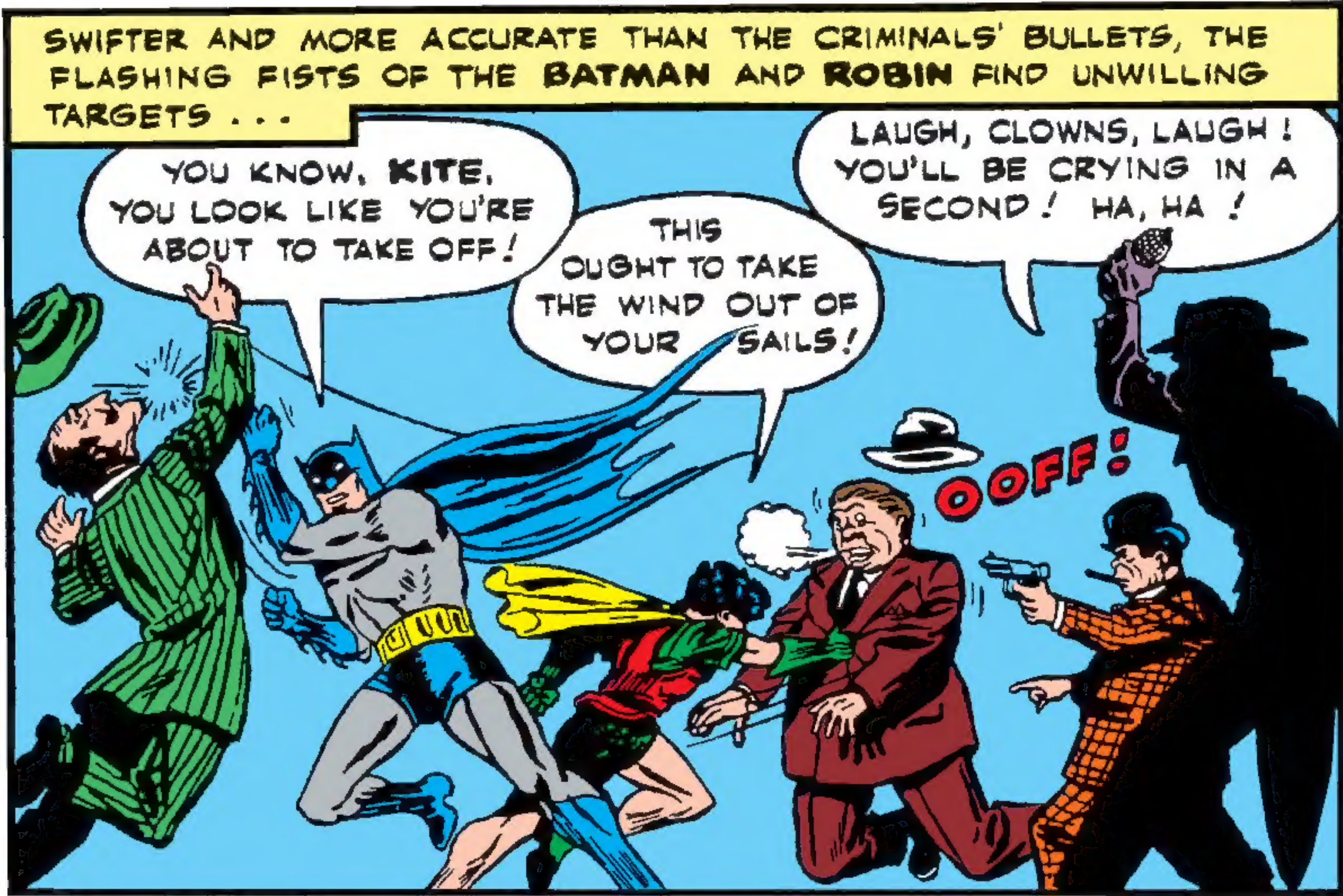
WAIT A MINUTE! WHERE HAVE WE SEEN THESE LEERING FEATURES BEFORE--THESE GRINNING, CRIMSON LIPS, THESE GLITTERING EYES, ALIVE WITH SATANIC CUNNING? ... WHY, IT'S THE JOKER HIMSELF--UNDYING ENEMY OF THE MIGHTY BATMAN! BUT AGAIN, WAIT! IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THIS GREEDY CLOWN OF CRIME -- THIS HARLEQUIN OF HATE -- IS ACTUALLY AIDING THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER, SURRENDERING HIS SPOILS TO THE POLICE?



PERHAPS, AFTER ALL, WE SHOULD HAVE STARTED OUR TALE WITH A BRIEF BUT BITTER BATTLE THAT TOOK PLACE IN FAR-OFF GOTHAM CITY THE PRECEDING EVENING...

LOOKS LIKE THIS IS YOUR LAST JOB, JOKER!

THE BATMAN!



SWIFTER AND MORE ACCURATE THAN THE CRIMINALS' BULLETS, THE FLASHING FISTS OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN FIND UNWILLING TARGETS...

YOU KNOW, KITE, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ABOUT TO TAKE OFF!

THIS OUGHT TO TAKE THE WIND OUT OF YOUR SAILS!

LAUGH, CLOWNS, LAUGH! YOU'LL BE CRYING IN A SECOND! HA, HA!

POOF!



BUT THE JOKER'S EVIL BAG OF TRICKS CONTAINS ONE THAT TURNS THE TIDE TEMPORARILY AGAINST JUSTICE...

WHA--? AN AMMONIA BOMB?

COME, FRIENDS, THE GETAWAY CAR IS WAITING!



THAT CLEVER FIEND HAS DONE IT AGAIN!

I THINK ONE OF THEM DROPPED THIS SCRAP OF PAPER... BUT MY EYES ARE BURNING SO I CAN'T READ WHAT'S ON IT!



MORNING FINDS A PLANE DRONING WESTWARD OVER A MOUNTAINOUS WILDERNESS...

HA, HA! I SHOWED THE BATMAN I WAS TOO SMART FOR HIM! EH, BOYS?

YOU SURE DID, JOKER! WITH THESE ROCKS AN' TH' STUFF FROM OUR OTHER JOBS, WE'LL BE MILLIONAIRES!



ME, THE BRAINIEST CRIMINAL ON EARTH--AND YOU THREE, THE MOST SKILLFUL OPERATORS IN THE UNDERWORLD! WE'VE HAD A LOT OF FUN, HAVEN'T WE, SPARKY?

I'LL HAVE MORE FUN WHEN I GET TO WHERE YOU CACHED THE SWAG AND I GET MY SHARE!



WE'LL BE THERE IN JUST A FEW MINUTES AND --- WHAT'S THIS? THE ENGINE'S GETTING READY TO QUIT!

WHAT A SPOT FOR A FORCED LANDING! WE'D NEVER MAKE IT!

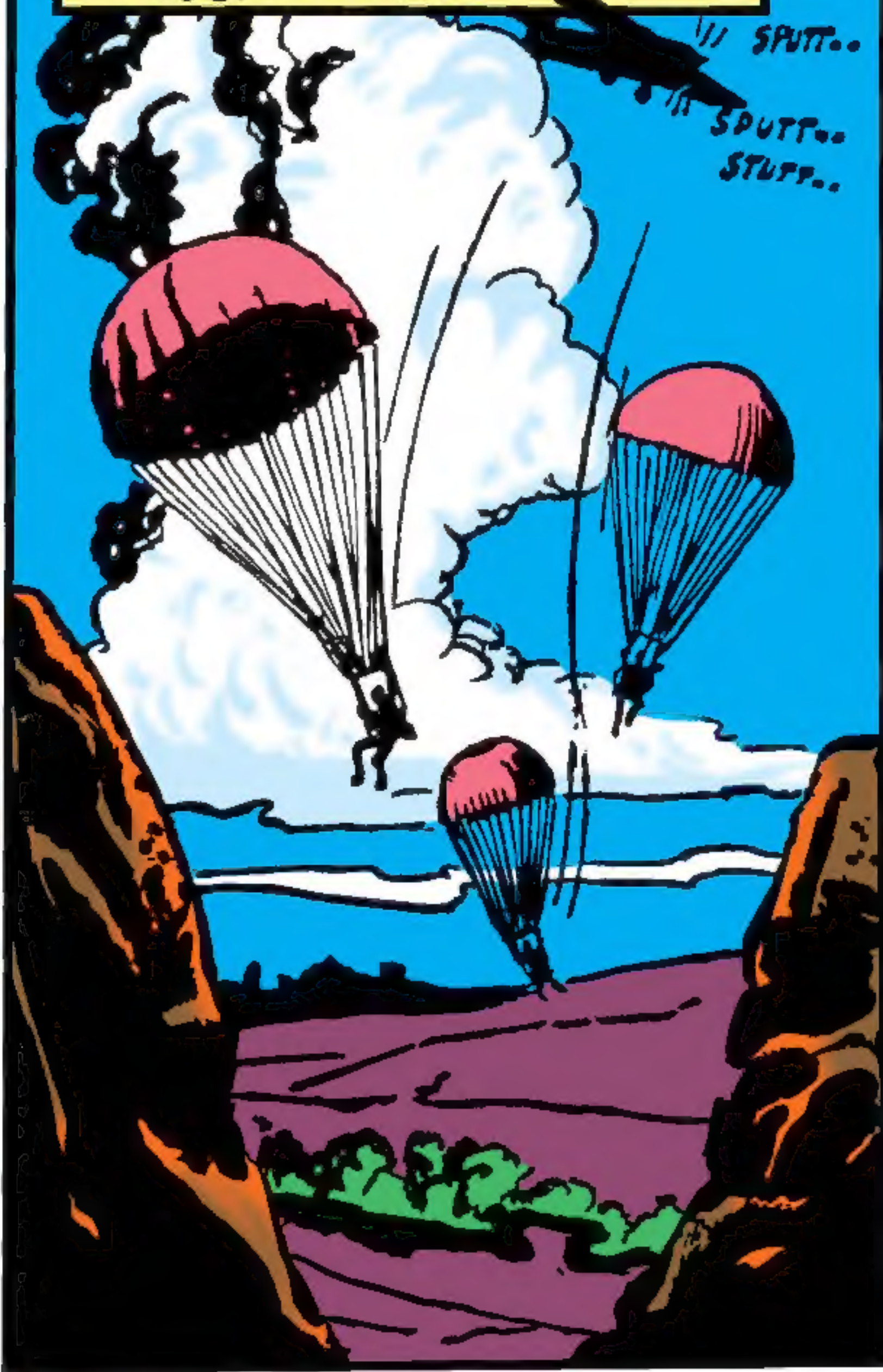
SPUTT... SPUTT... SPUTT... SPUTT... SPUTT...



QUICK --- BAIL OUT IN YOUR CHUTES!... I'LL HOLD HER STEADY TILL YOU'VE GONE, AND THEN I'LL FOLLOW YOU!

CHEE-- I DON'T MIND SHOOTIN', BUT DIS HIGH-DIVIN' ACT HAS GOT ME SCARED STIFF!

SO IT IS THAT THREE SILKEN
PARACHUTES MUSHROOM IN
THE AIR HIGH ABOVE THE
WOODED HILLS...



WHILE THE JOKER'S GREED
DRIVES HIM TO A TREACHEROUS
GAMBLE WITH FATE!

HA, HA! WHAT FOOLS THEY ARE!
IF I CAN KEEP THIS PLANE IN
THE AIR, I WON'T HAVE TO SPLIT
WITH THEM! THEY'LL NEVER
FIND THE HIDDEN LOOT-- AND
THEY'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN!
HA, HA!



BUT THE MOTOR IS IN WORSE
SHAPE THAN THE ARCH-CROOK
REALIZES... FLAMES BURST
FROM THE COWLING -- THE
CRAFT DIVES SHARPLY --
AND SECONDS LATER



HOURS PASS--AND
IN A DENSE RAVINE
NOT FAR FROM
THE SMOKING RUINS
OF THE PLANE, A
SPRAWLED FIGURE
STIRS...



WH-WHERE
AM I ? ...I FEEL
STUNNED, DIZZY... MUST
HAVE BEEN WALKING
AND FELL DOWN
HERE...



WHO AM I ?
FUNNY... CAN'T SEEM TO
REMEMBER A THING ! OH, WELL,--
PERHAPS IT WILL ALL COME BACK
AS THE SHOCK WEARS OFF ...
OH, ...MY HEAD IS SPINNING...



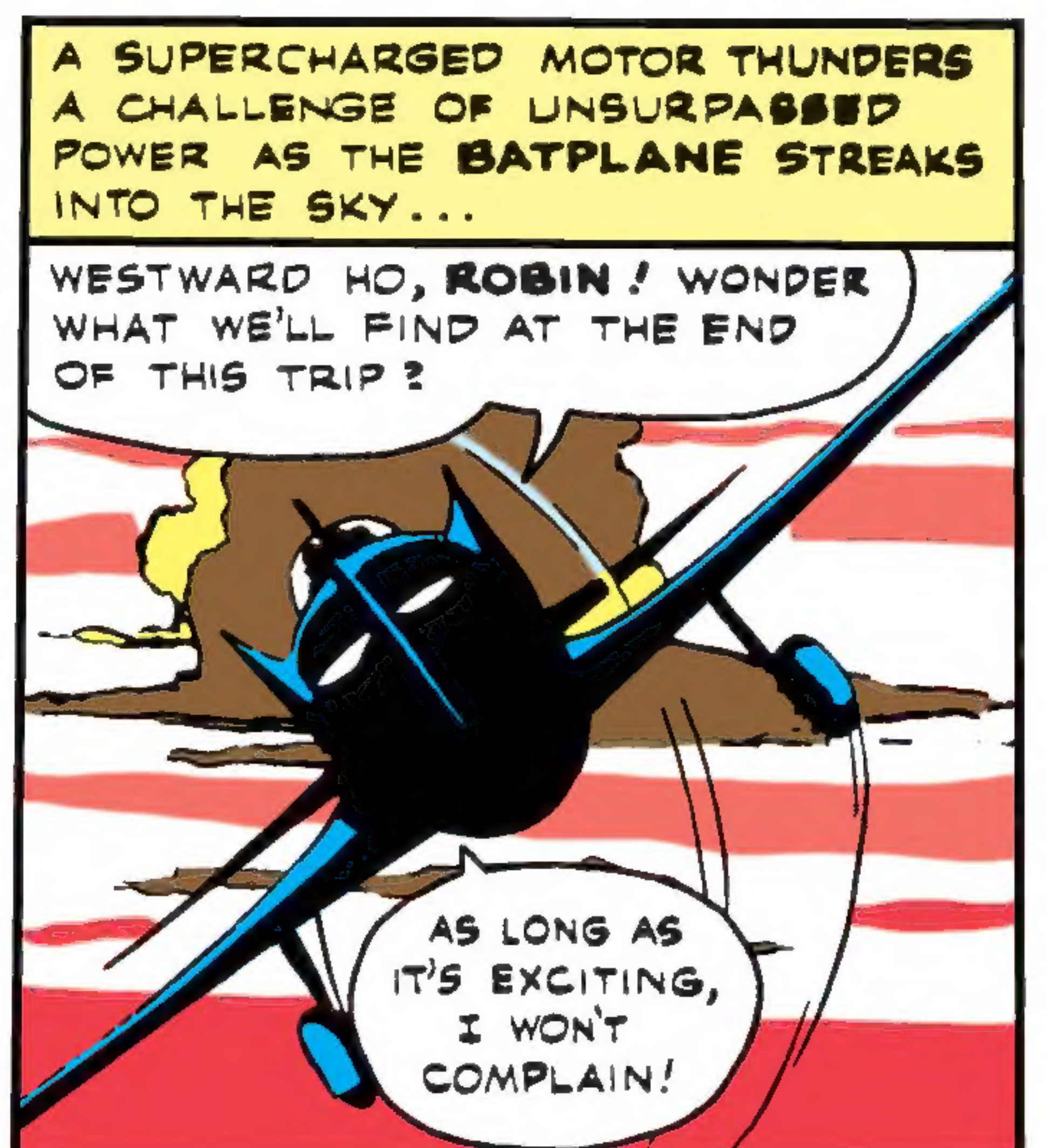
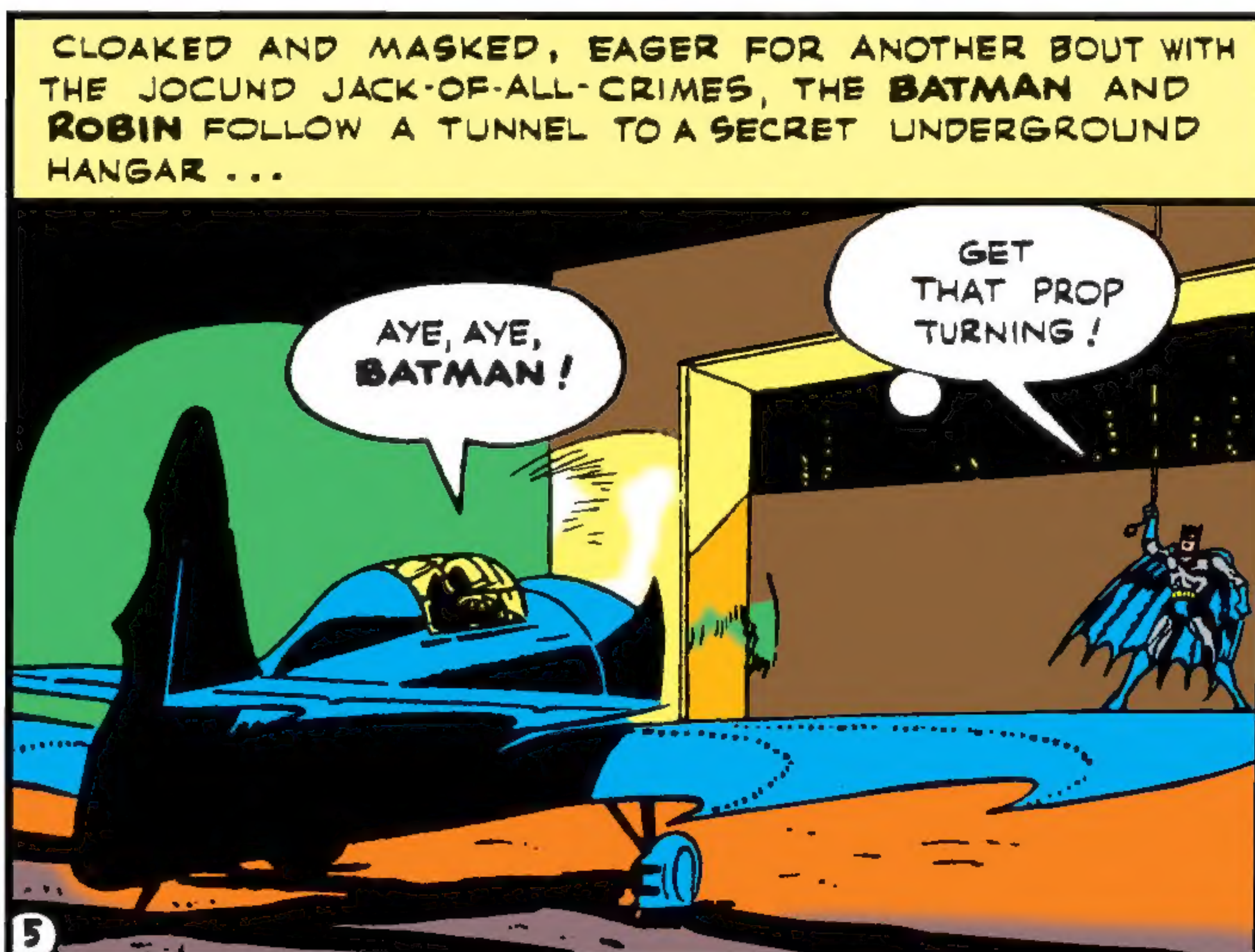
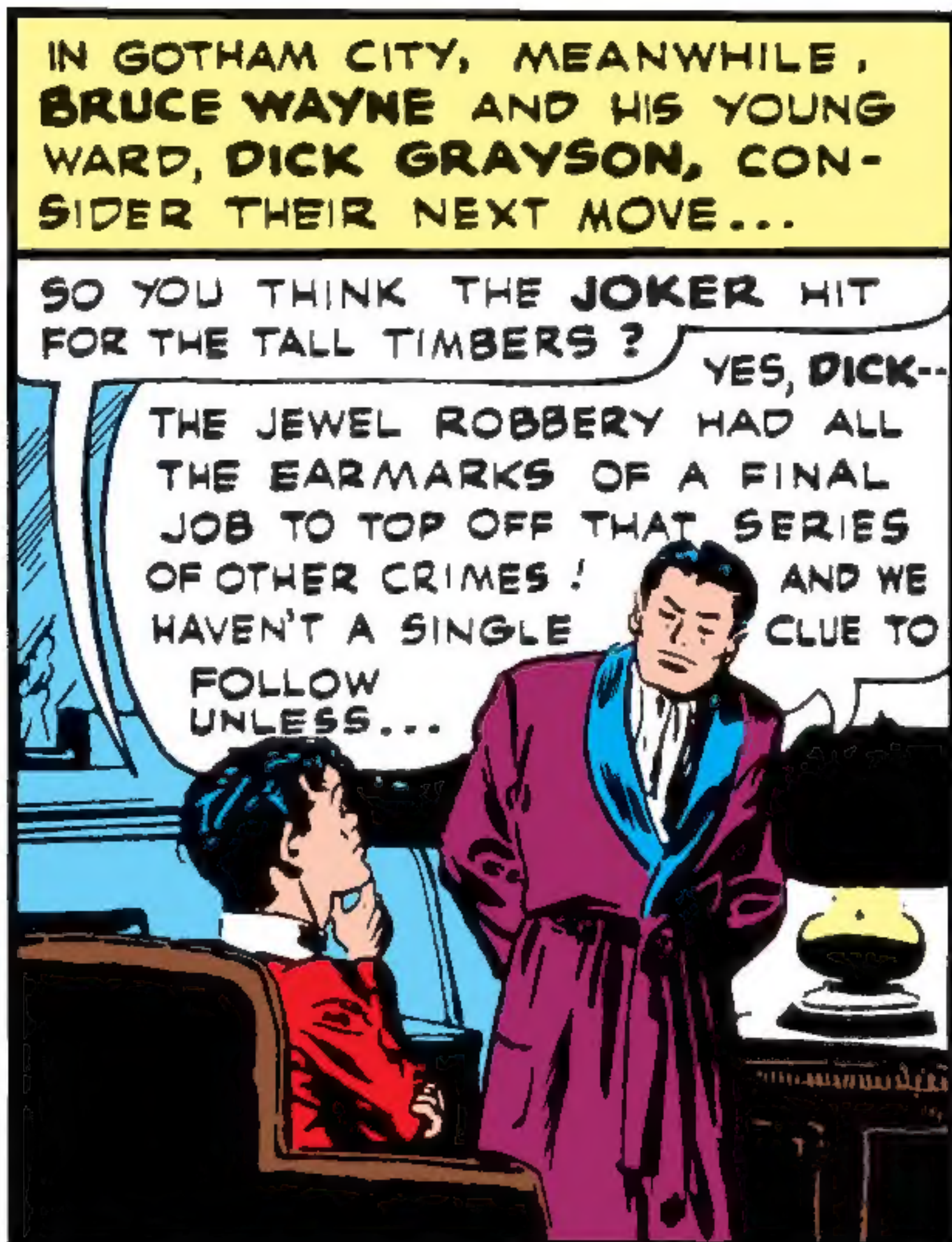
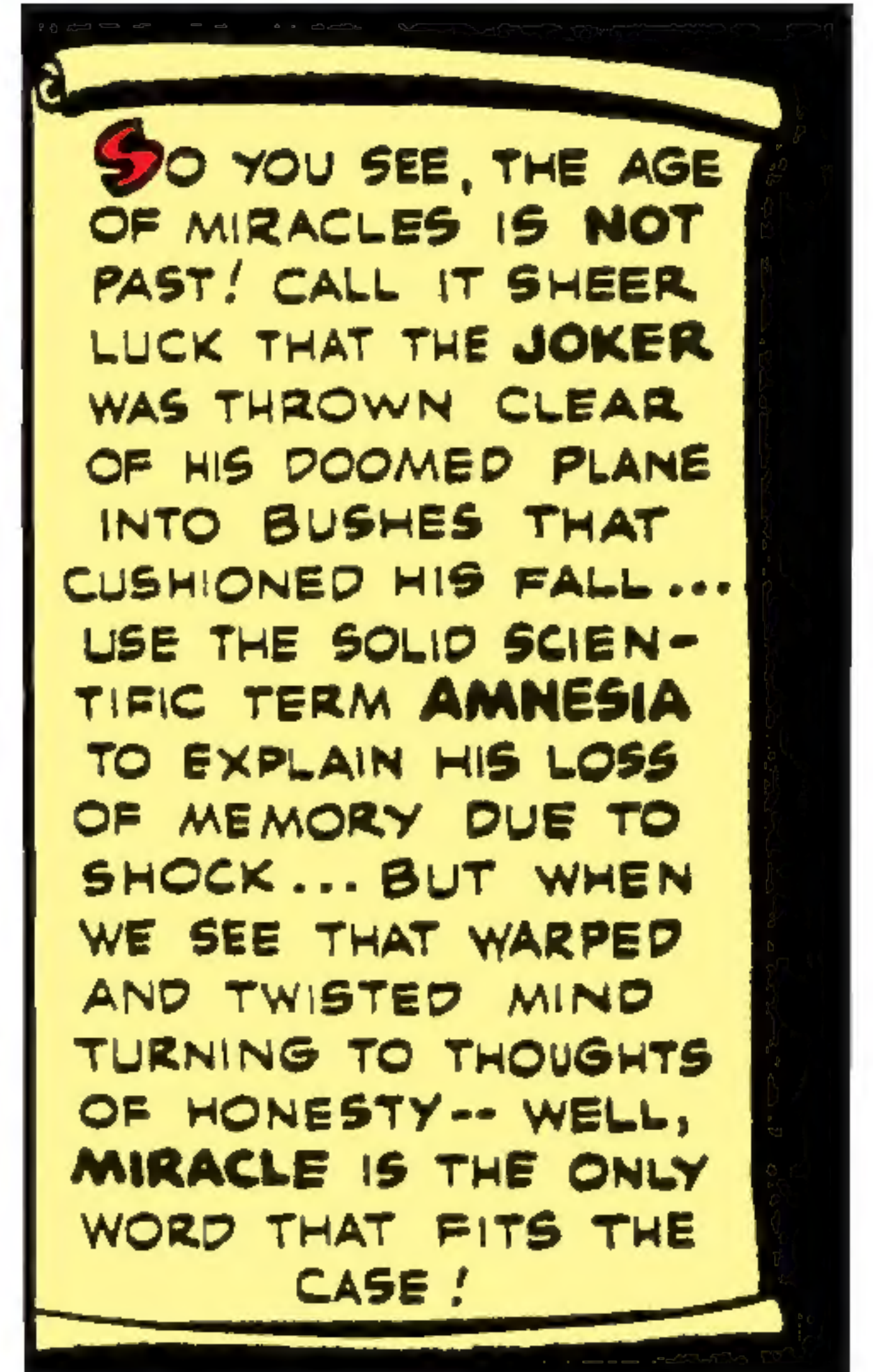
A PLANE!
CRASHED AND DESTROYED!
COULD I HAVE BEEN IN IT ?
... BUT NO-- I'D CERTAINLY
HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THAT
CASE... HMMM-- HERE'S
A VALISE THAT WAS
THROWN CLEAR.



JEWELS
WORTH A FORTUNE!
WONDER IF THIS NEWS-
PAPER THAT WAS IN-
SIDE THE VALISE CAN
TELL ME ANYTHING...?



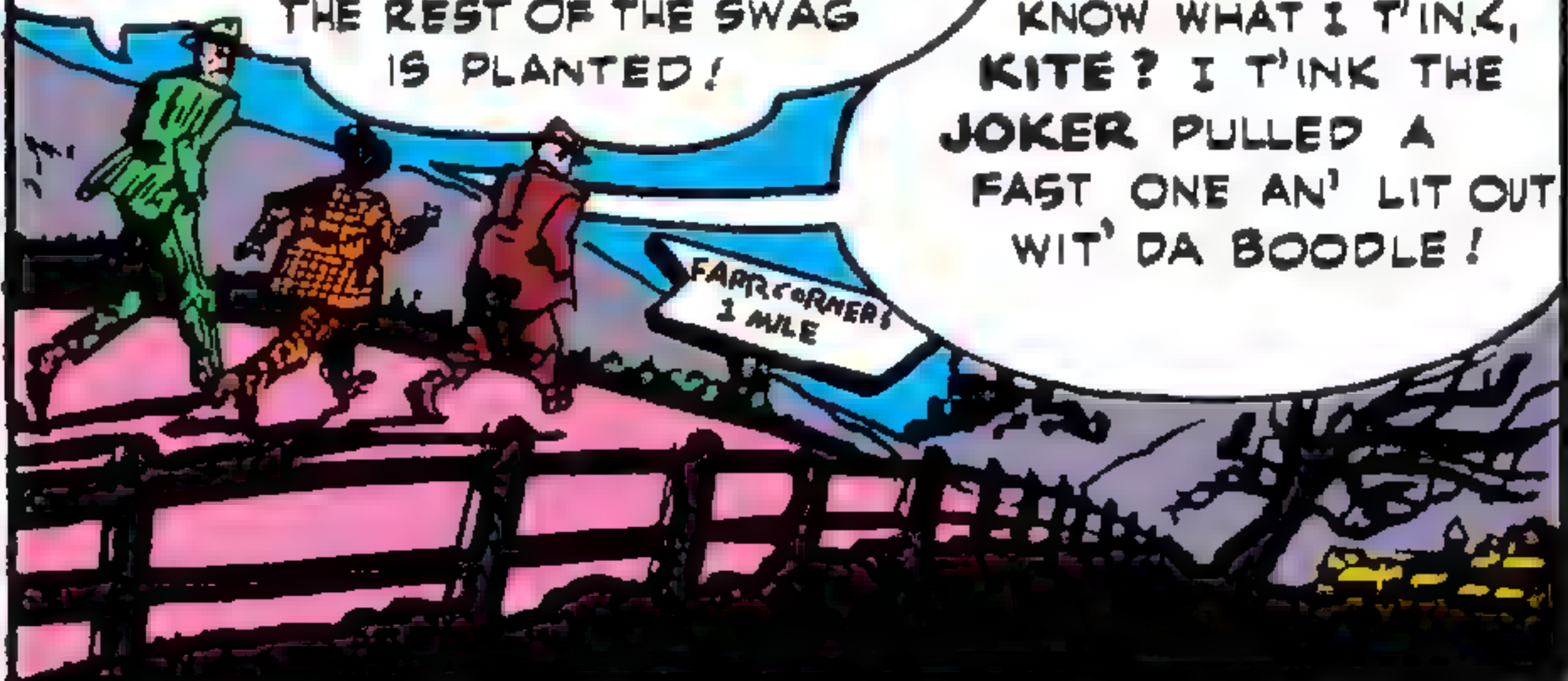
WHY,
THIS MUST BE THE
LOOT FROM THAT
ROBBERY! AND THE
JOKER--WHOEVER HE
IS-- MUST HAVE BEEN
BURNED TO DEATH
MAKING HIS GETAWAY!
JUST ONE MORE PROOF
THAT CRIME
DOESN'T
PAY !



WHILE THE DYNAMIC DUO OF CRIME-SMASHERS IS WING-ING SWIFTLY TOWARD ADVENTURE, THREE DOLEFUL CROOKS PLOD GLUMLY TOWARD THE OUTSKIRTS OF FARR CORNERS ...

WHAT A ROTTEN BREAK! THE JOKER AND THE JEWELS GONE -- AND WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THE REST OF THE SWAG IS PLANTED!

YA WANNA KNOW WHAT I T'INK, KITE? I T'INK THE JOKER PULLED A FAST ONE AN' LIT OUT WIT' DA BOODLE!



YOU'RE DREAMING, NITRO! WE DIDN'T SEE HIM JUMP, SO HE MUST HAVE BURNED UP WITH THE CRATE! IT'S UP TO US TO GET BACK TO THE BIG TOWN AND MAKE ANOTHER STAKE!

I'M GOIN' BACK TA DA BIG TOWN, AWRIGHT, SPARKY--BUT WHEN I GET DERE, I'M GONNA START LOOKIN' FER DAT DOUBLE-CROSSER WIT' A PINEAPPLE IN ME POCKET!



THE DEJECTED TRIO HAS SPENT MUCH TIME WANDERING IN THE MOUNTAINS... AND THE SLEEPY VILLAGE HAS TAKEN ON A FESTIVE AIR SINCE LAST WE VISITED IT...

BIGGEST CELEBRATION SINCE MA HUPPER'S FUNERAL, HANK!

WELCOME OUR HERO

I'LL SAY THIS FUR FARR CORNERS-- NOBODY LIKES T' WORK BUT WHEN THERE'S A PARTY BREWIN', EVERYBODY WAKES UP AN' GETS BUSY!



WONDER WHAT THE HICKS ARE CELEBRATING?

AS MAYOR O' THIS HERE TOWN, I HAVE ORDERED THIS HERE BLOW-OUT T'DO HONOR TO A STRANGER WHO HAS PUT FARR CORNERS ON TH' MAP AT LAST!



TOMORRA EVERY NEWS-PAPER IN AMERICA WILL TELL HOW ED SMITH BRUNG TO OUR ENTERPRISIN' CONSTABULE PRECIOUS JEWELS STOLE BY CROOKS FROM TH' WICKED CITIES O' TH' EAST, WHICH SAME HE FOUND OUT IN THE MOUNTAINS...



AIN'T IT WONDERFUL T' THINK TH' NAME O' FARR CORNERS WILL SMACK EVERY AMERICAN WHO CAN READ RIGHT IN TH' EYE FOLKS?

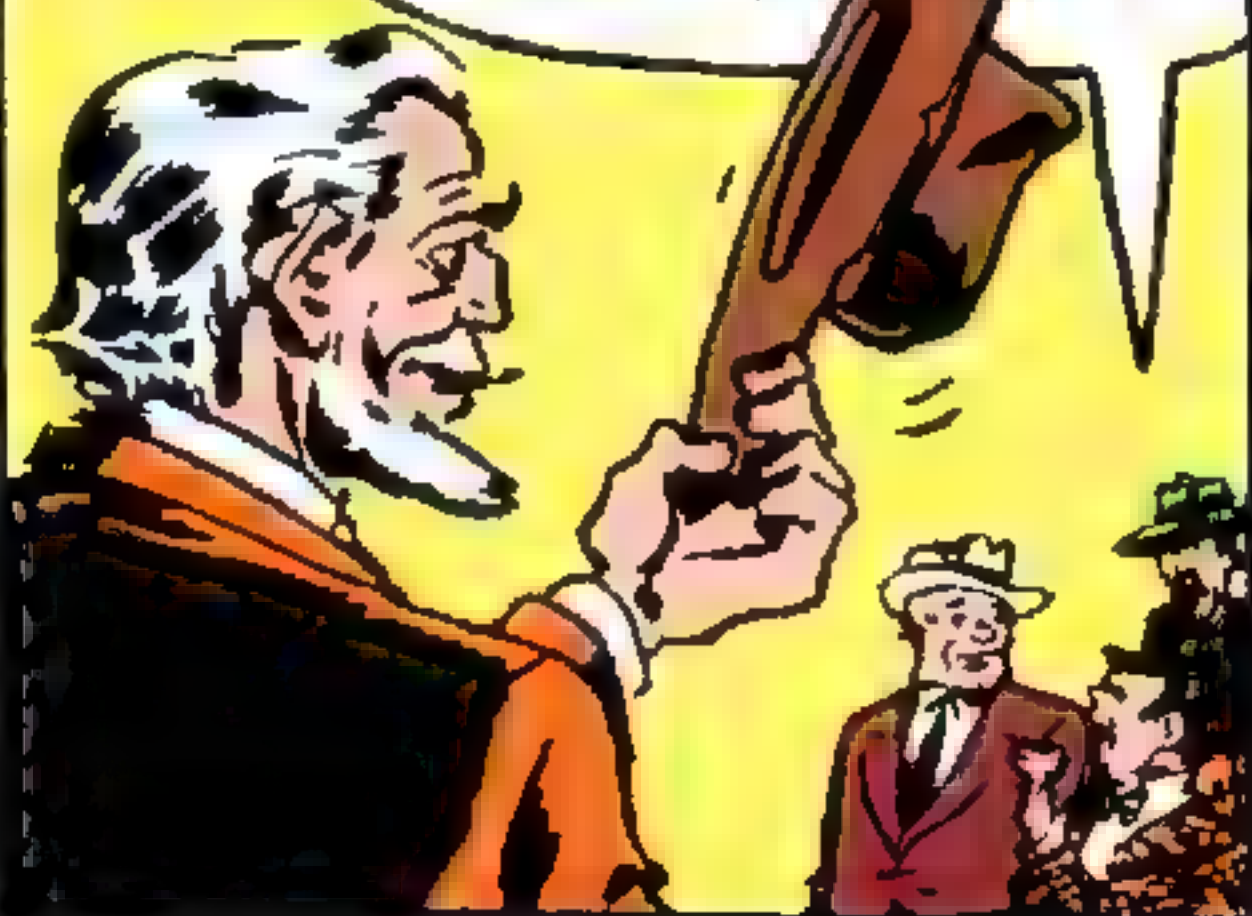
BUT THE JOKER'S ERSTWHILE COMRADES IN CRIME HAVE A SHOCK IN STORE FOR THEM...

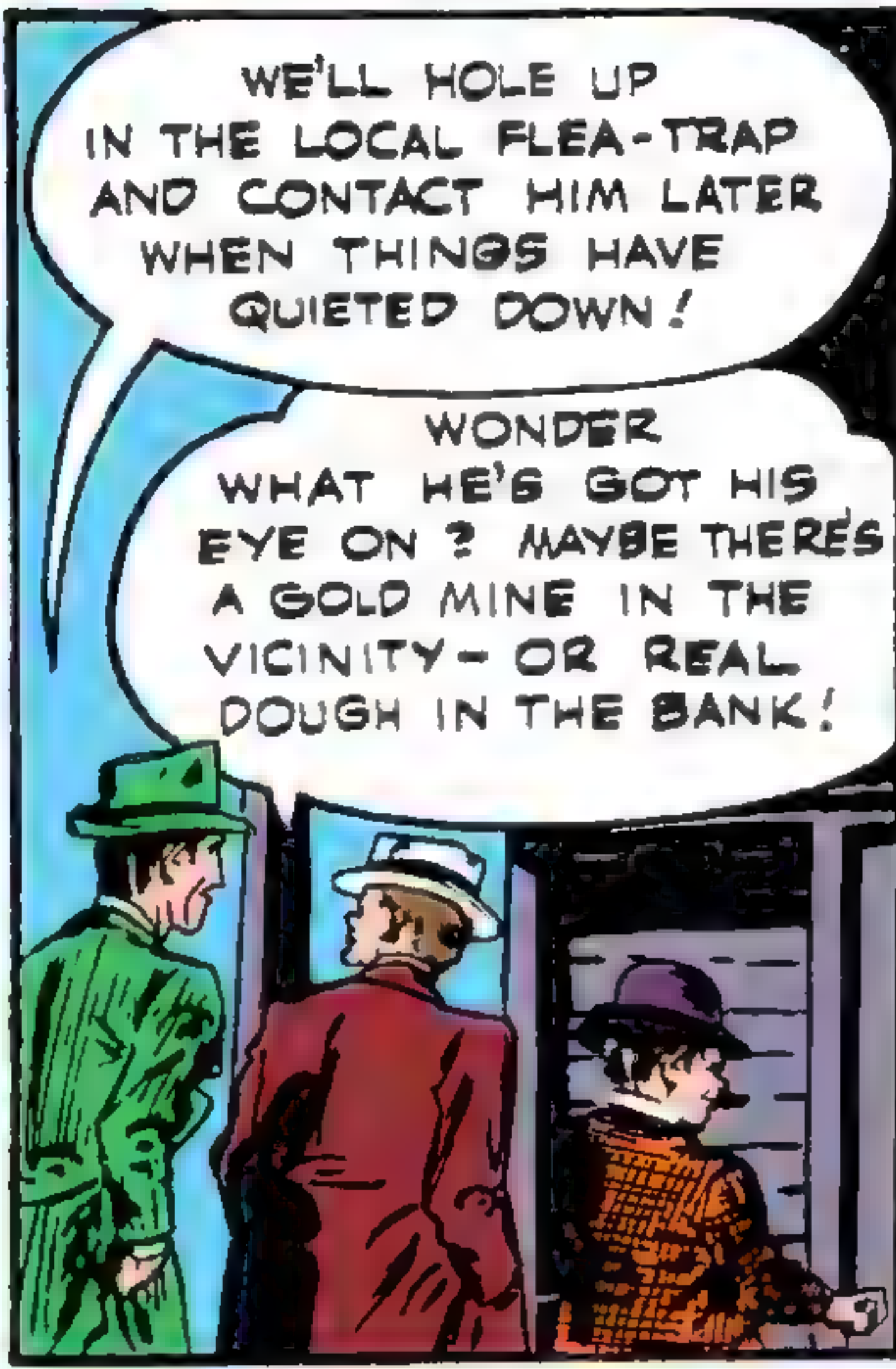
AN' NOW I AM RIGHT DUMFBOUNDED WITH JOY T' PRESENT TH' HONESTEST MAN IN THESE PARTS - GUEST O' HONOR -- ED SMITH HIS-SELF, IN TH' FLESH!

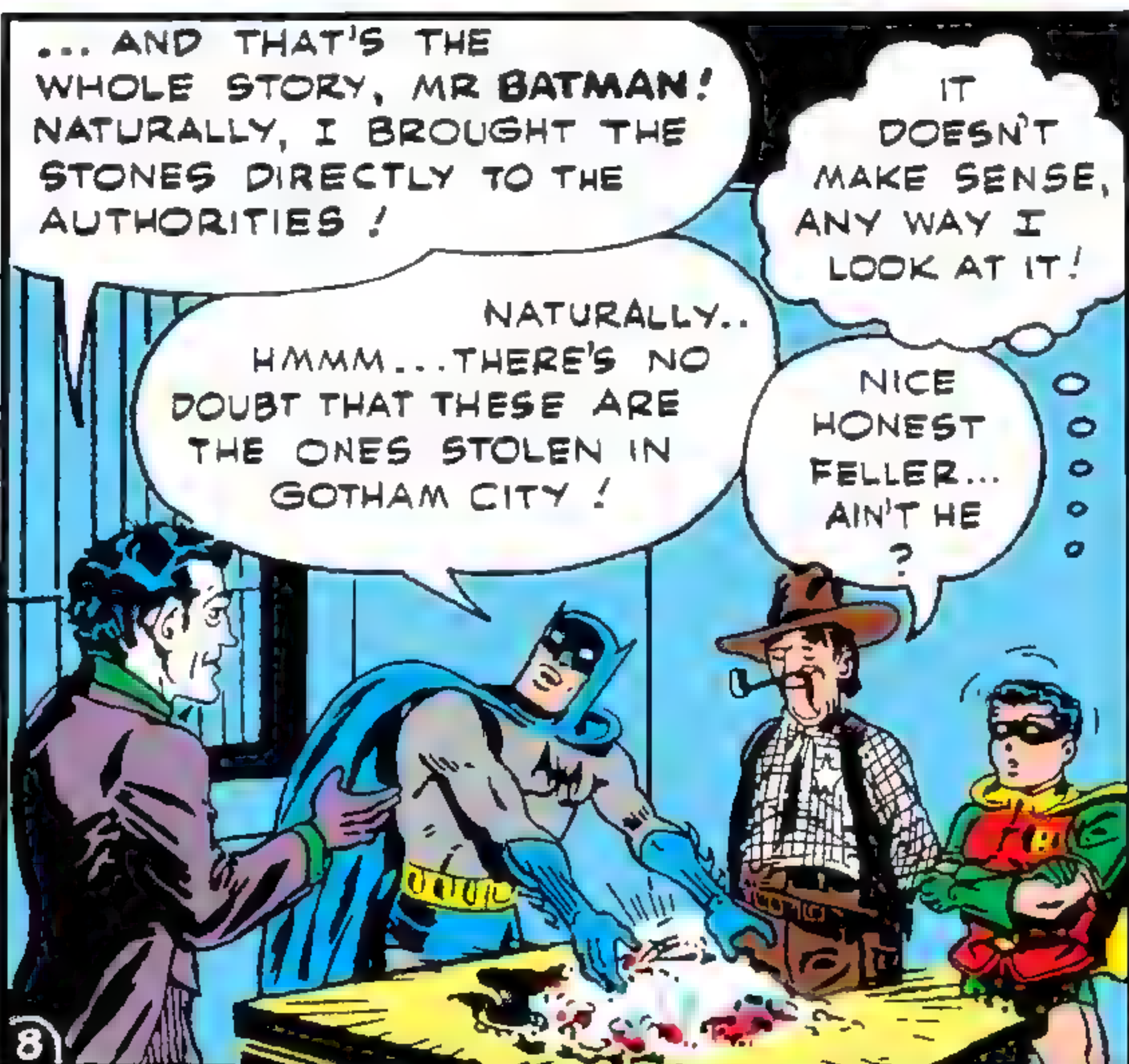
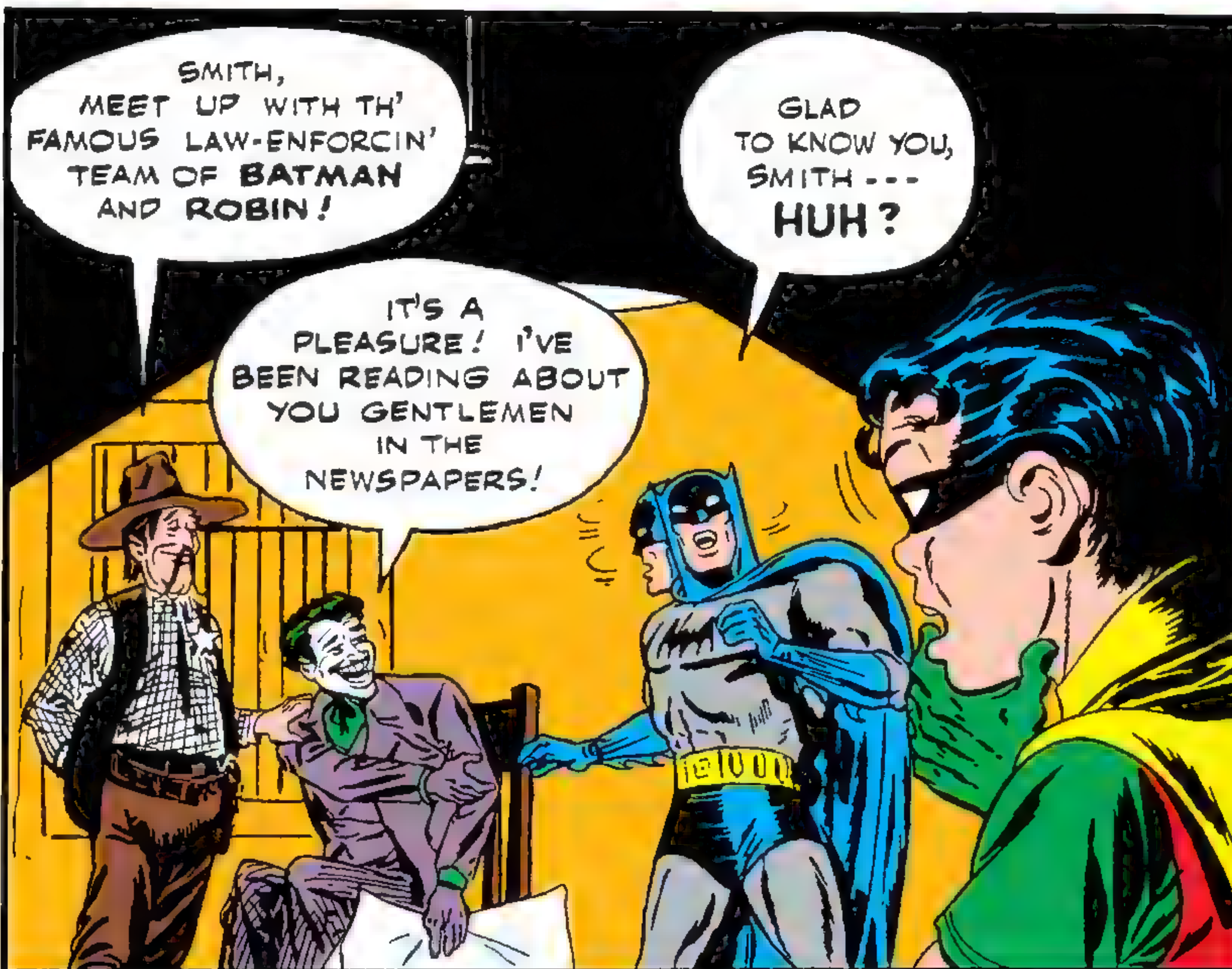
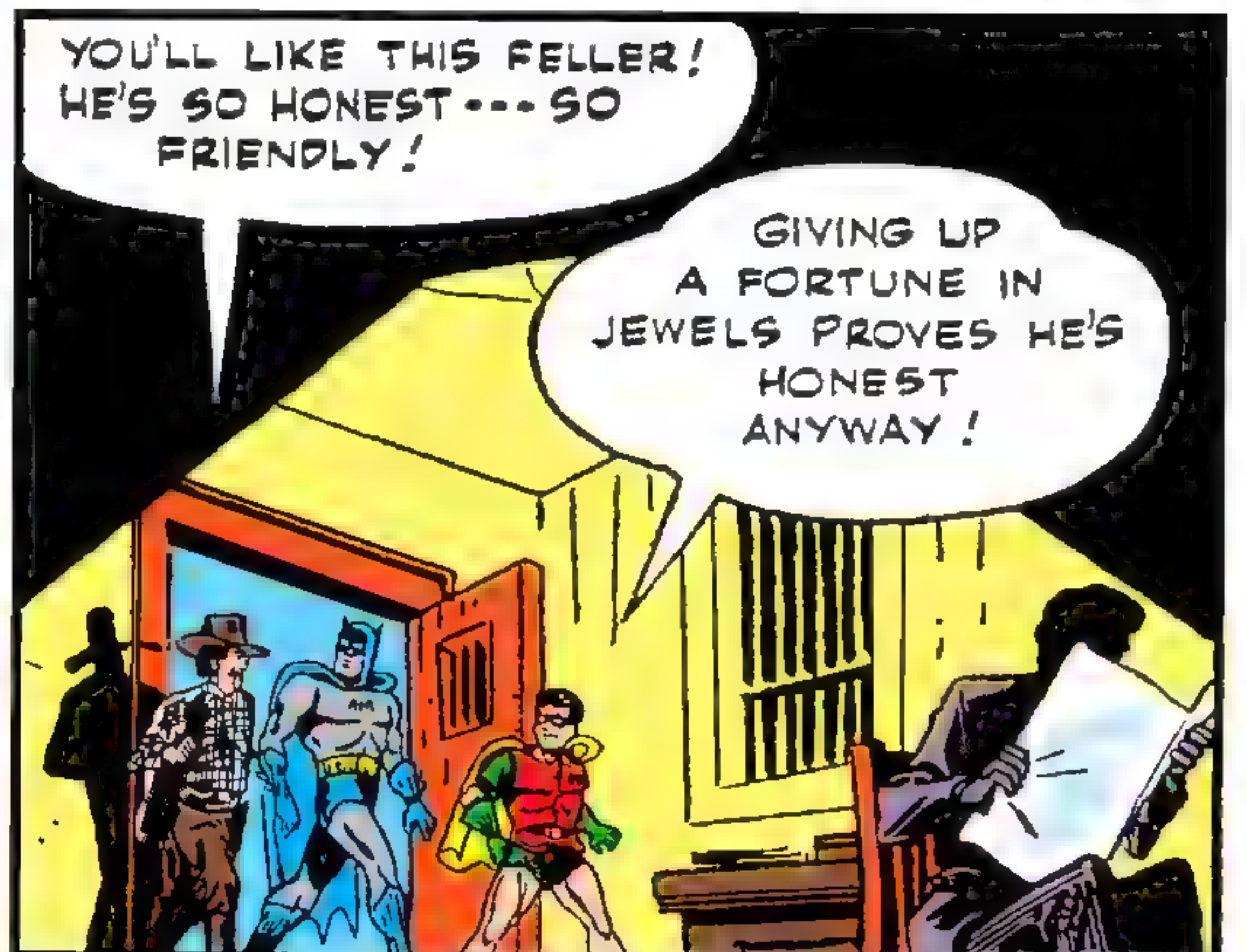
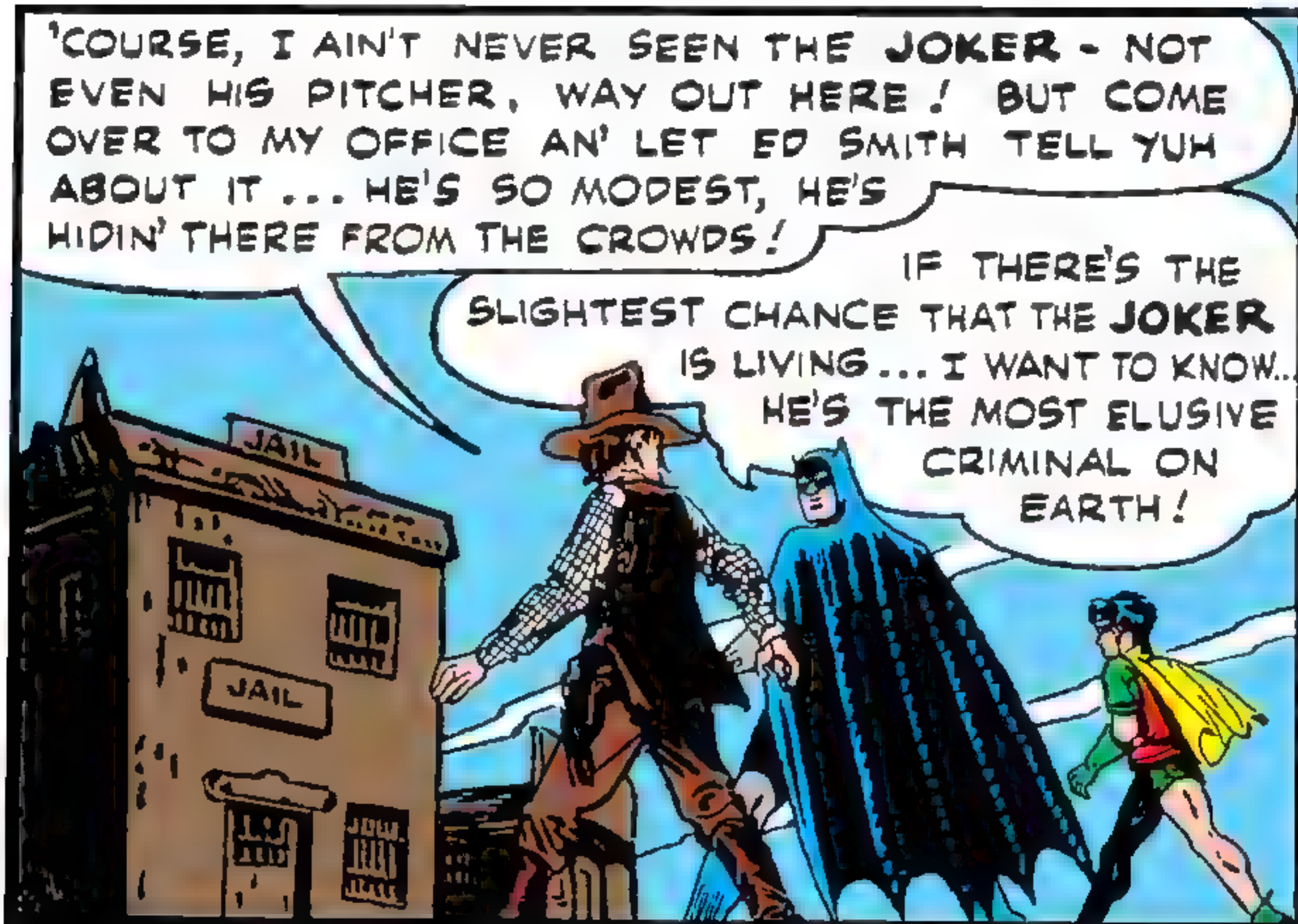


SOMEBODY FOUND THE JOKER'S VALISE! MAYBE WE CAN STEAL IT BACK!

SOME CLODHOPPER WHO DIDN'T EVEN KNOW DA STUFF WAS WOITH DOUGH, I BETCHA!







TO THE SUSPICIOUS EYES OF THREE WATCHERS ON THE VERANDA OF THE LOCAL HOSTELRY, THE APPROACHING GROUP CAN HAVE ONLY ONE MEANING...



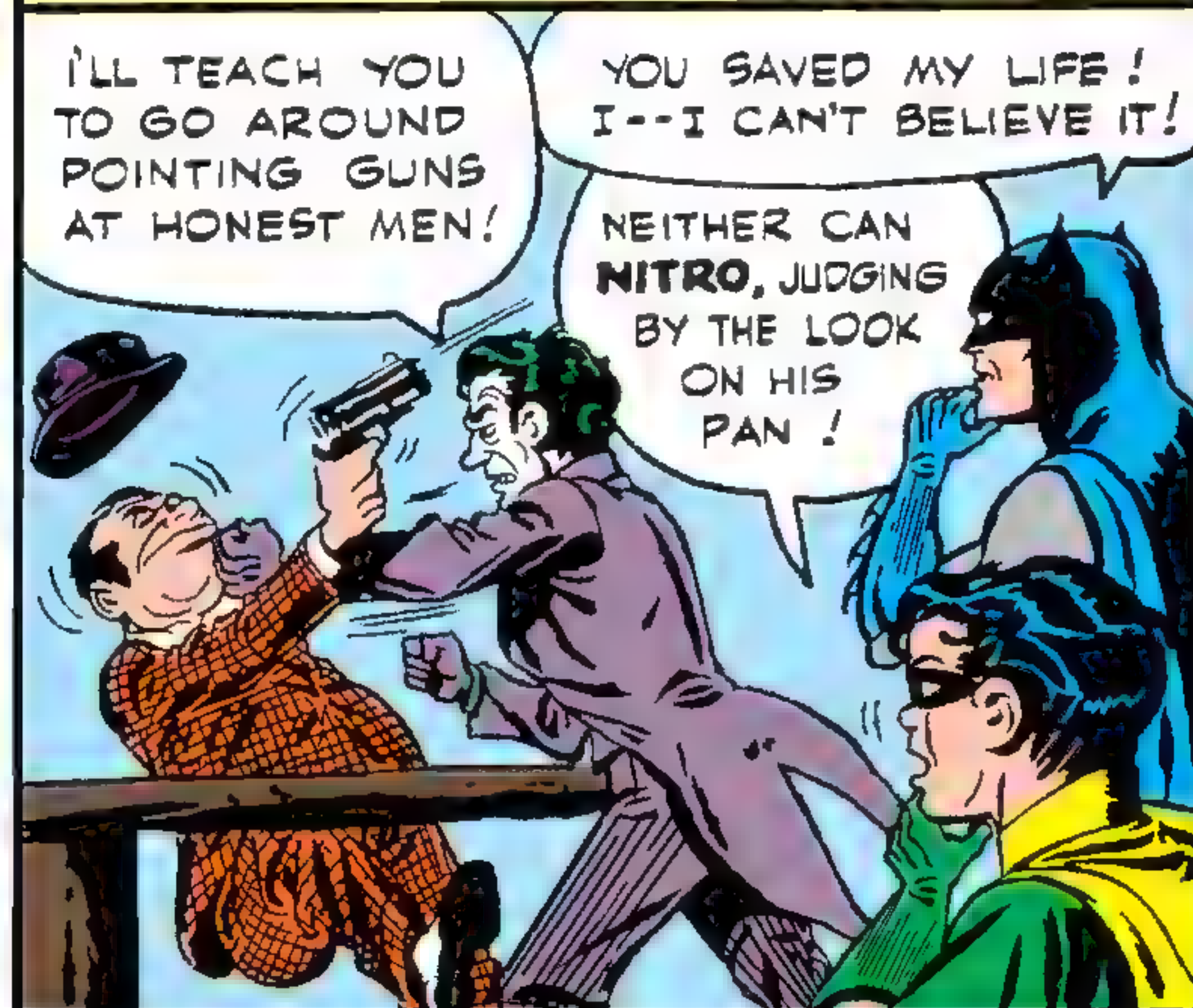
WHADDYA MEAN, GET OUT?
HOW CAN WE GET OUR DOUGH
WITHOUT THE JOKER?

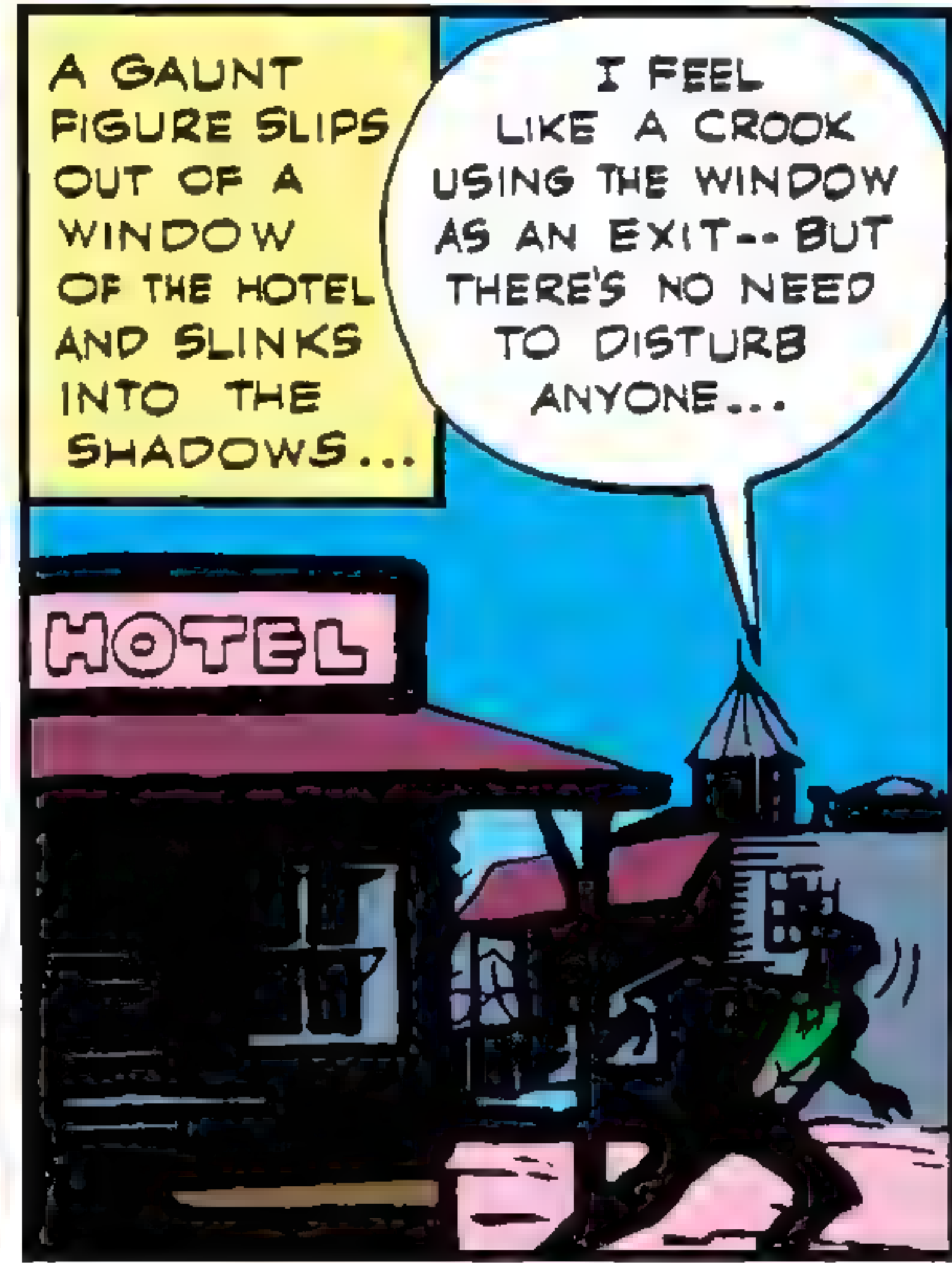
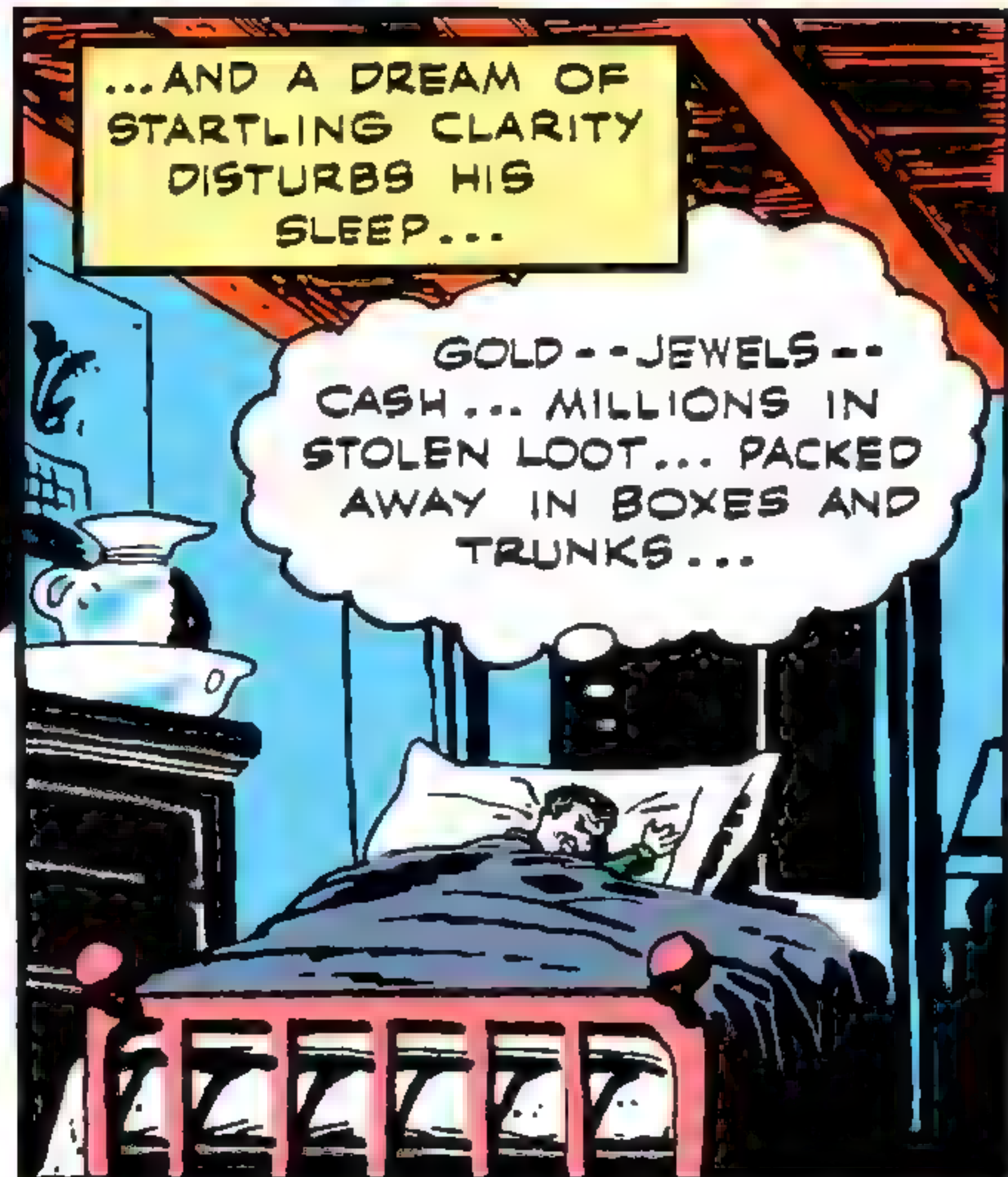
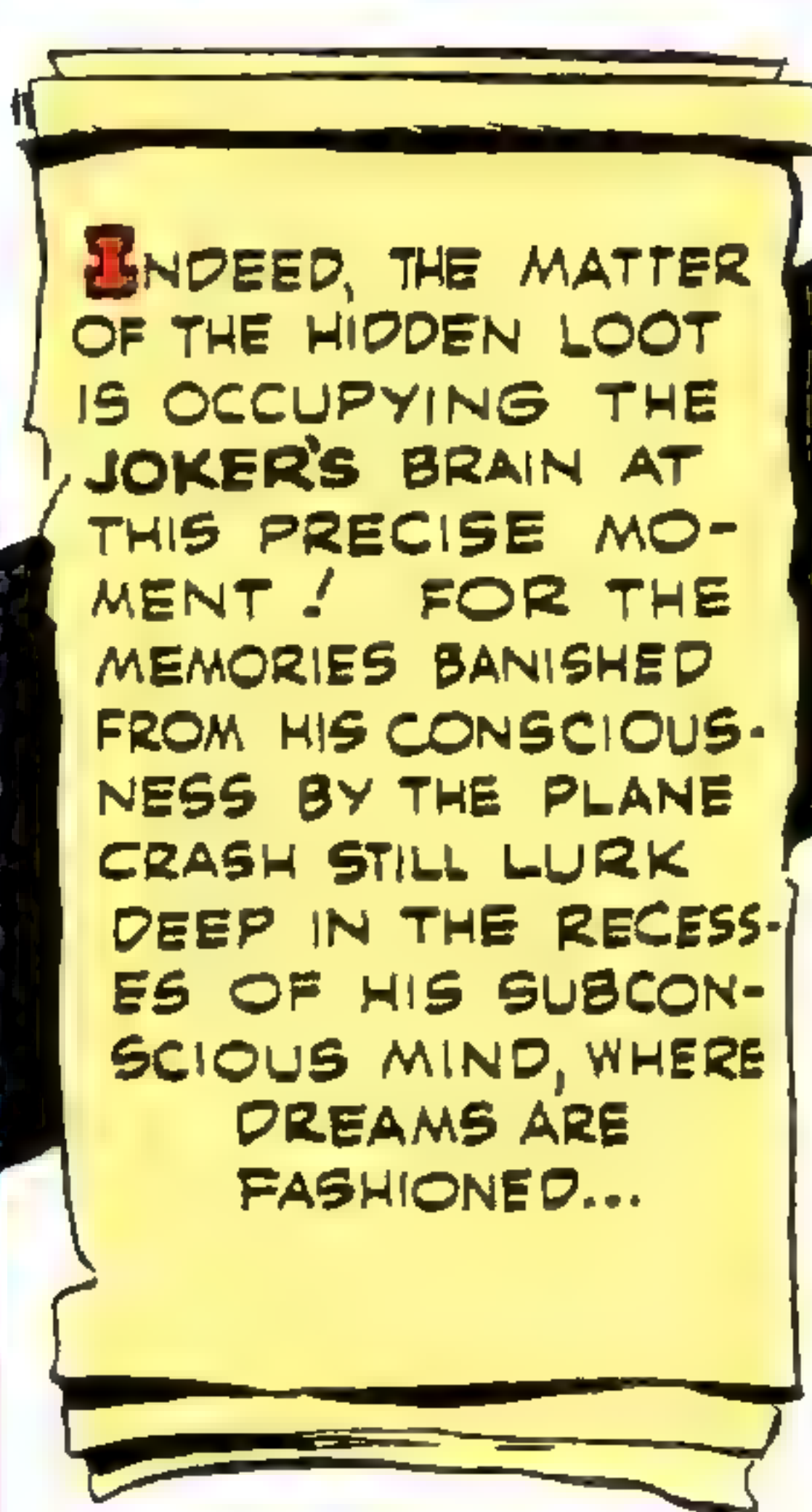
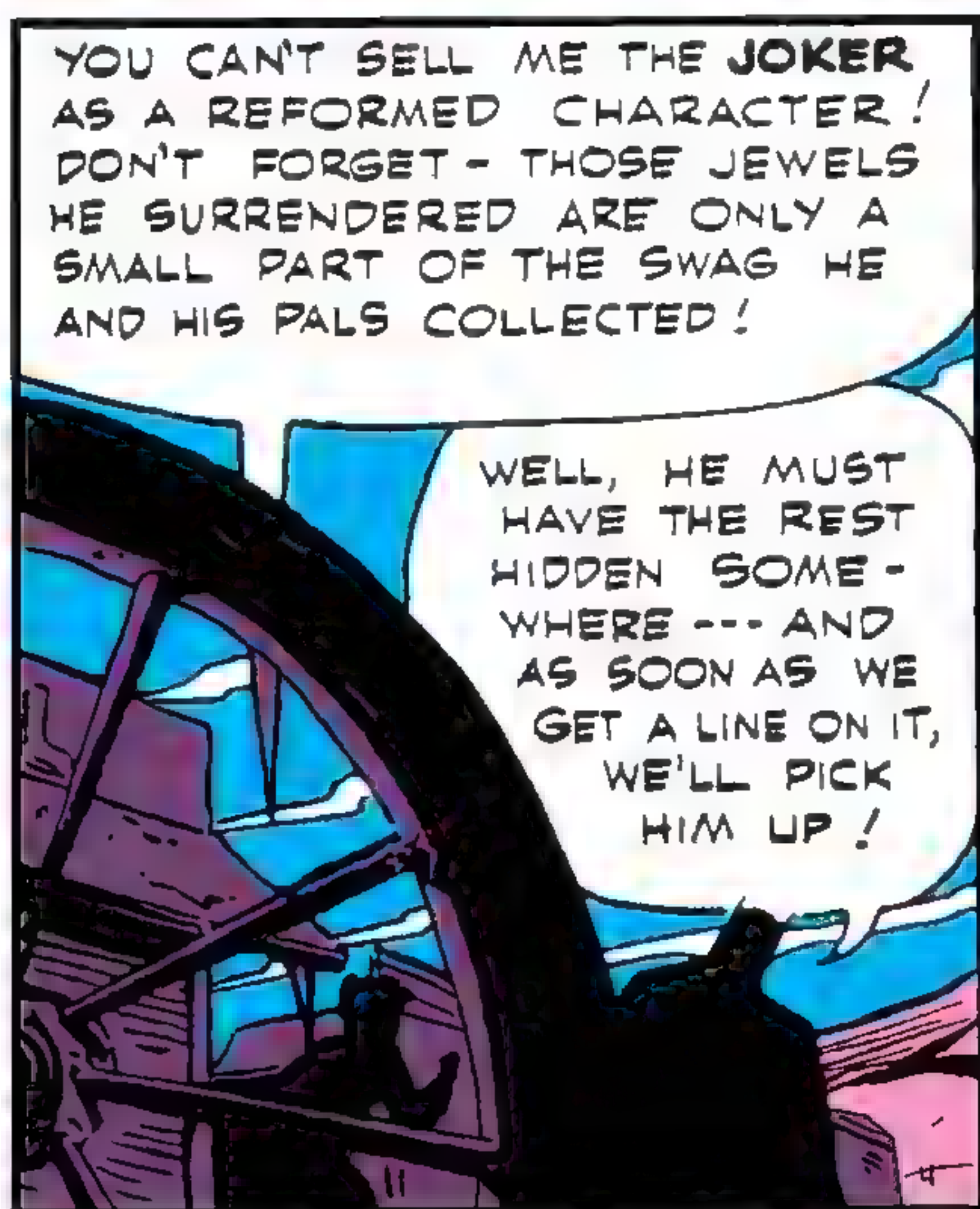
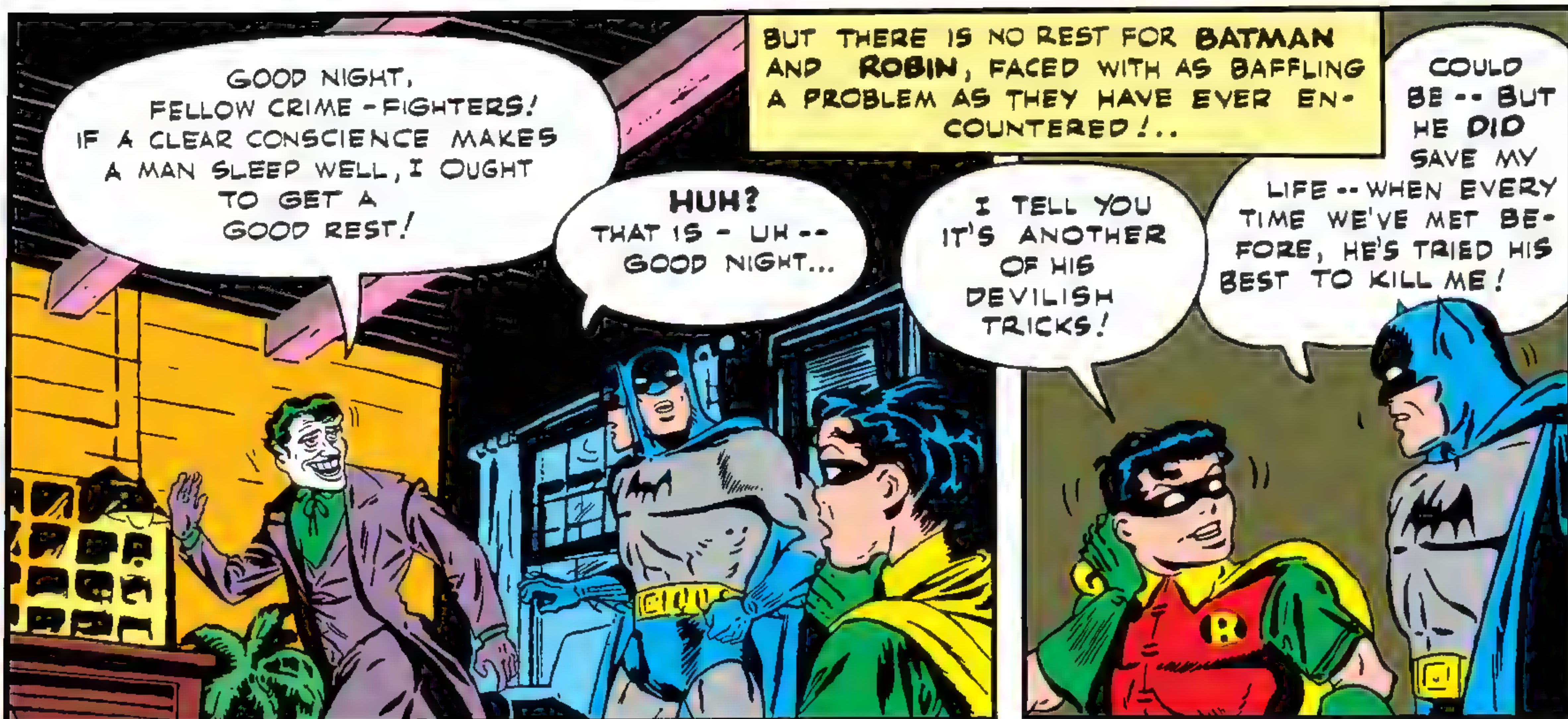


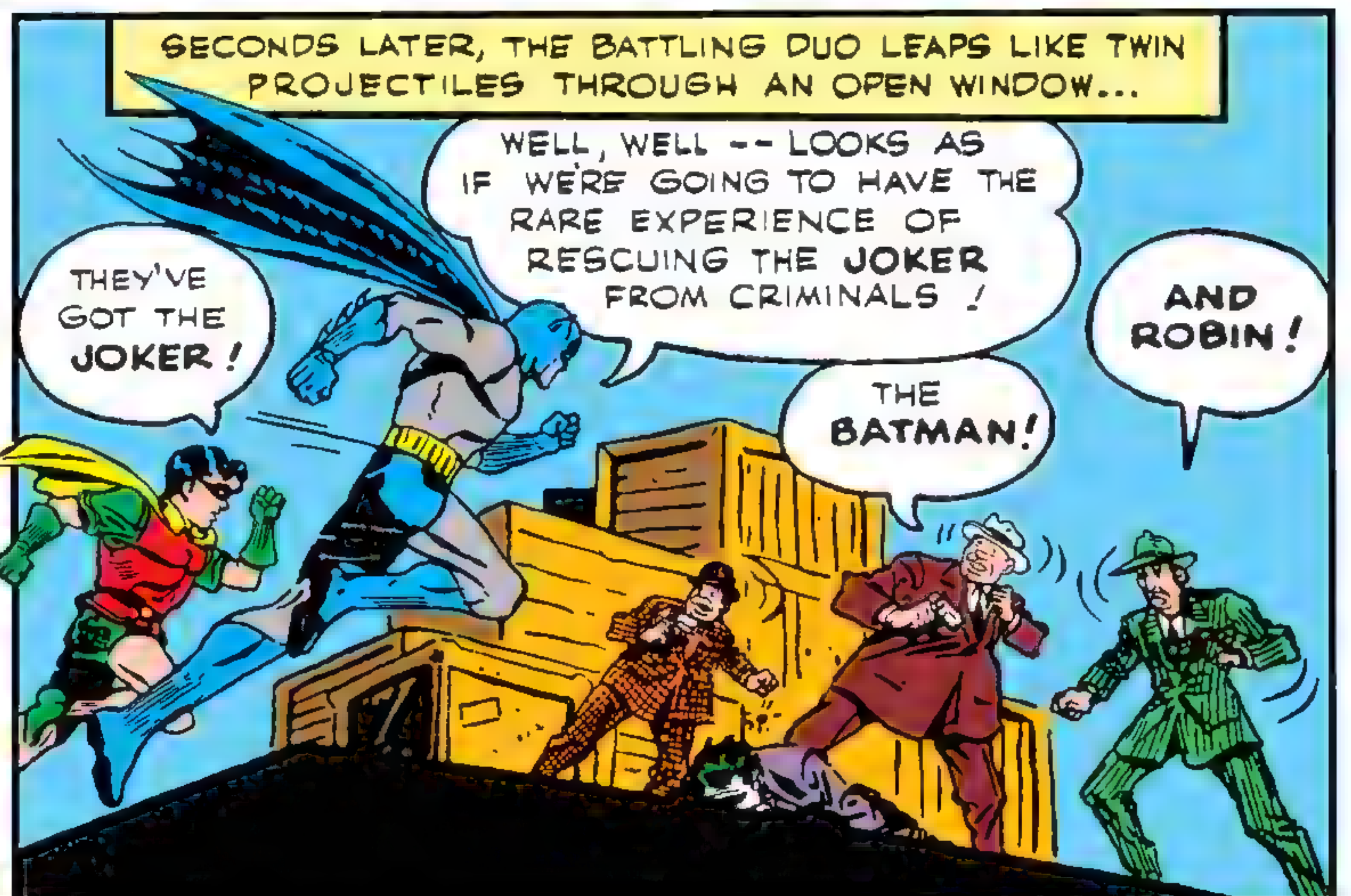
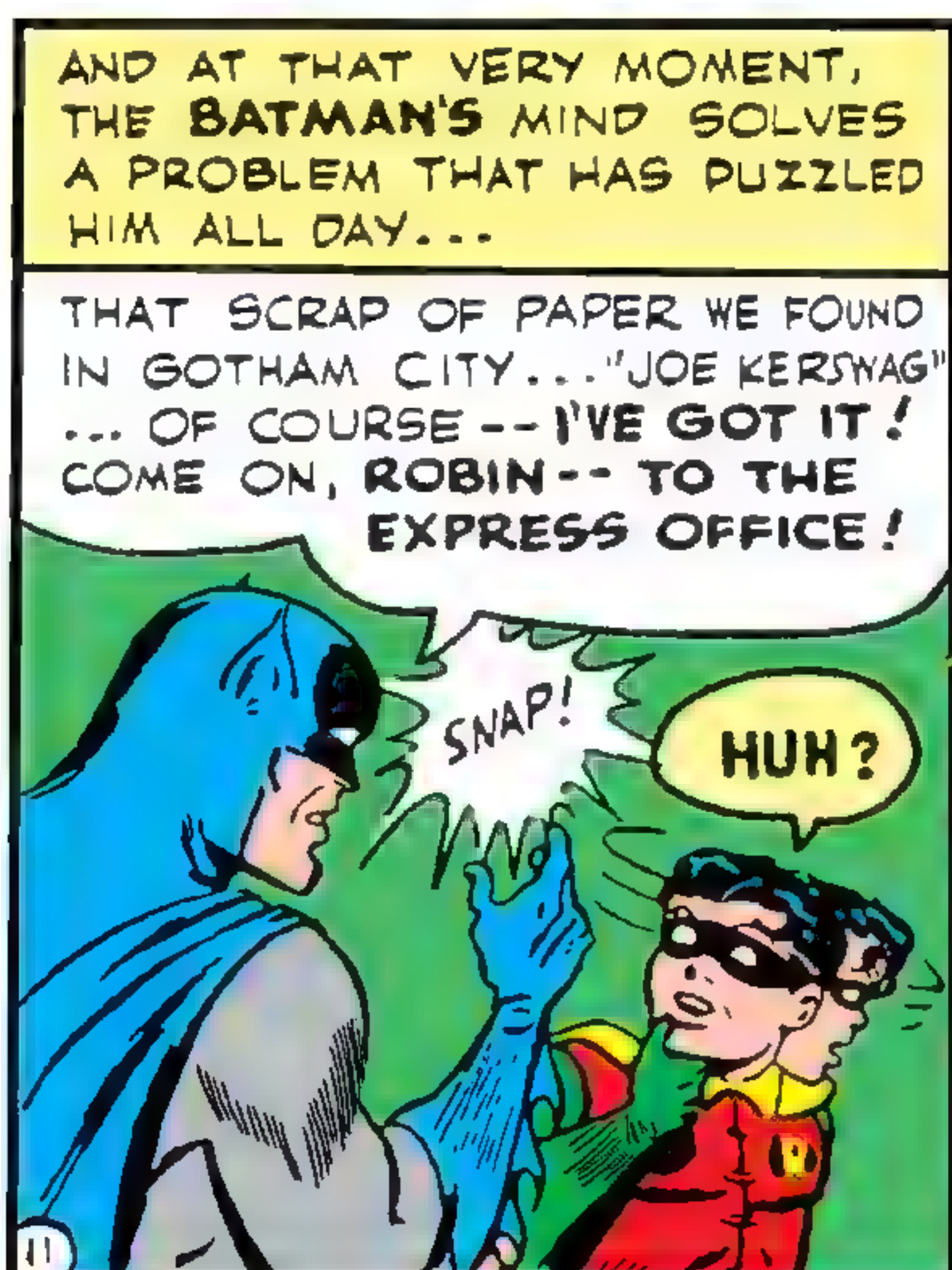
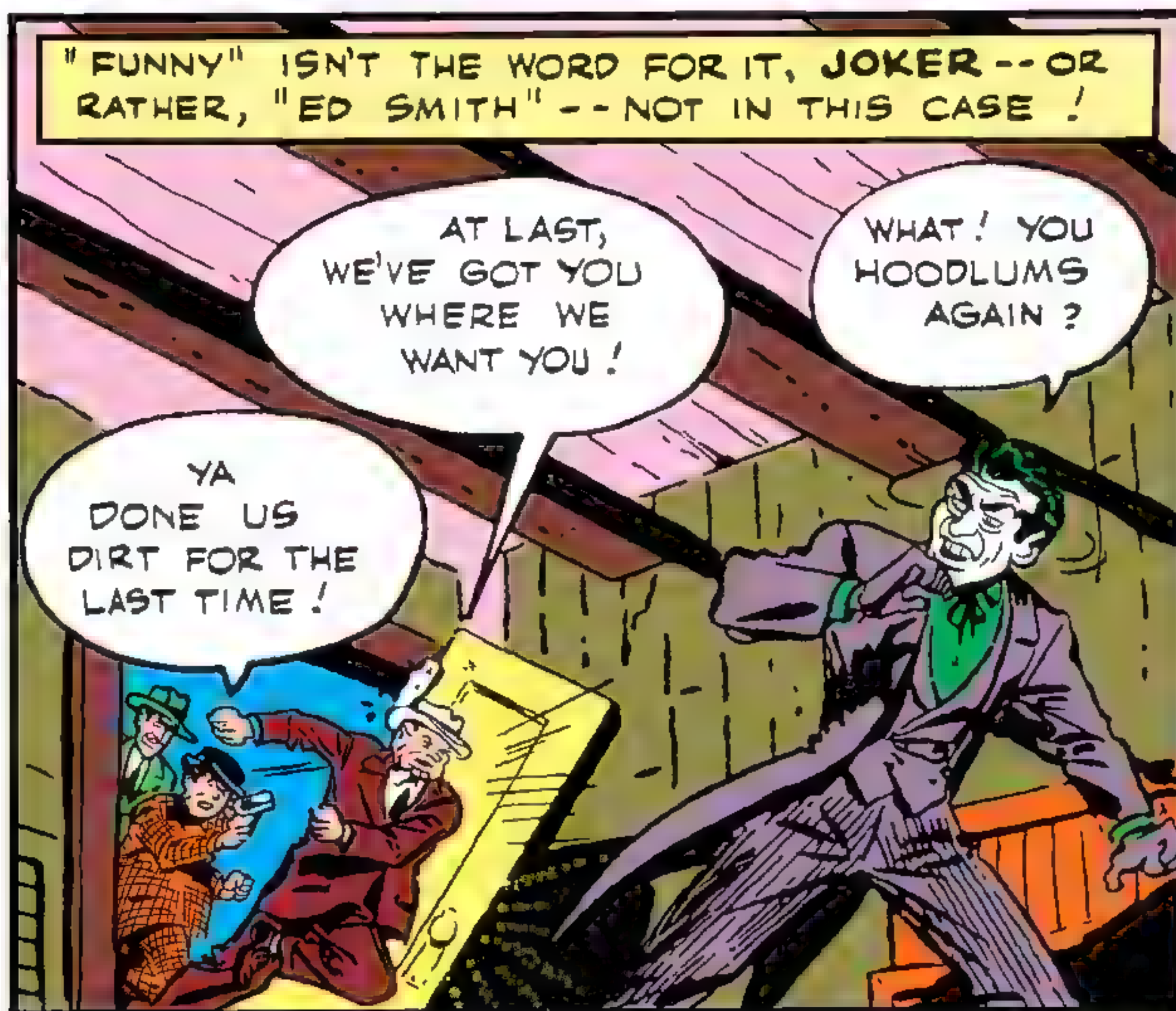
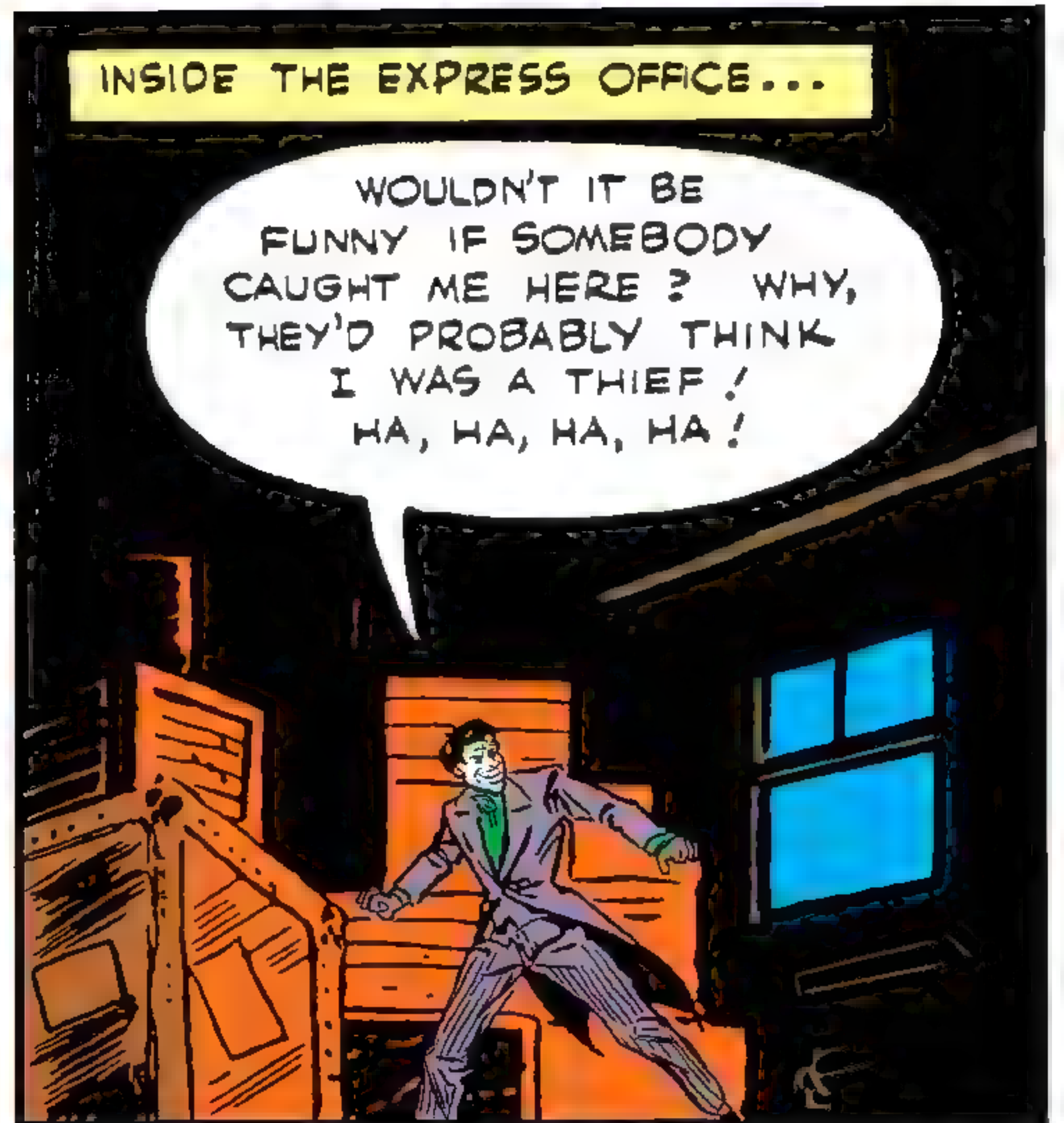
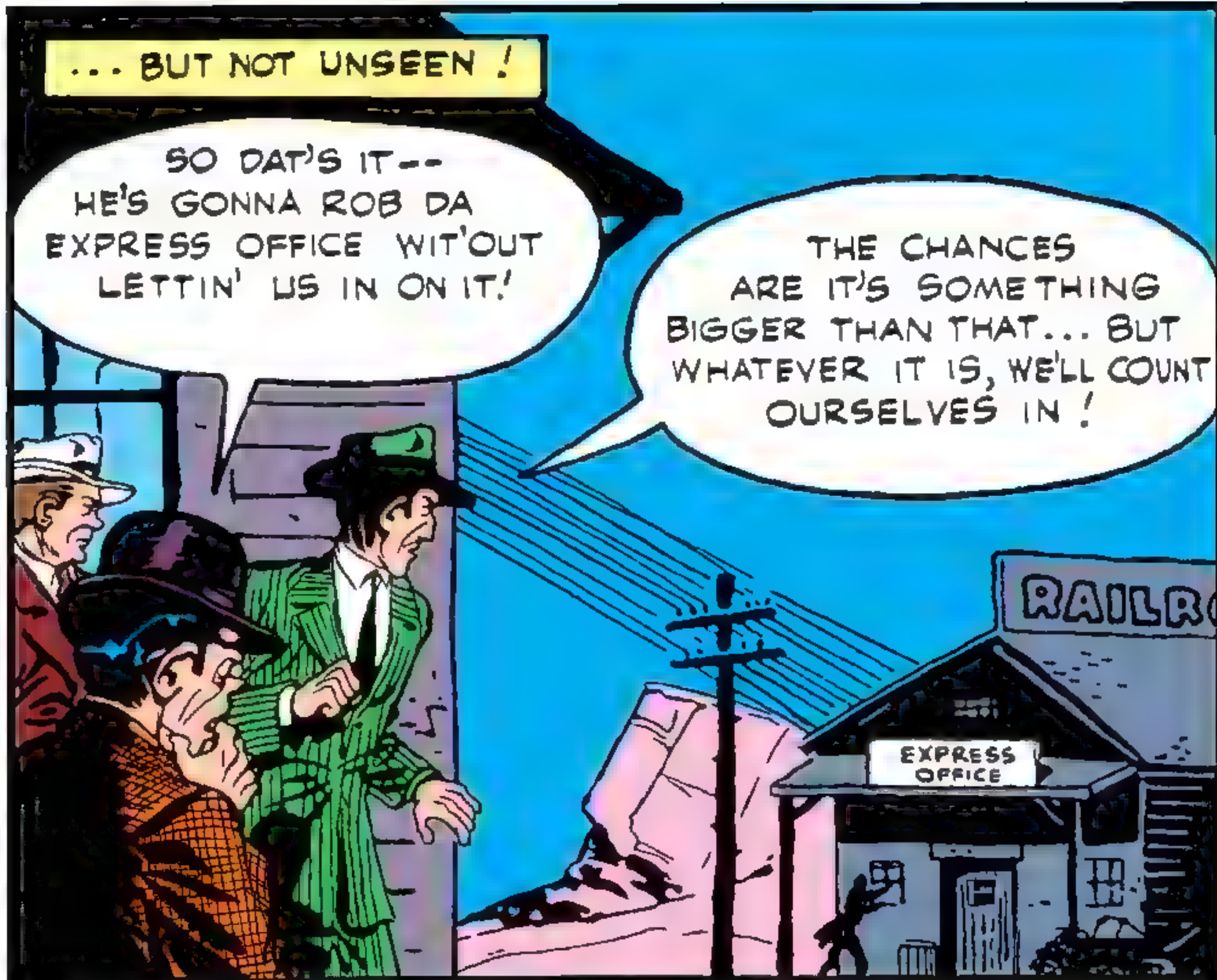
THE NEXT INSTANT...

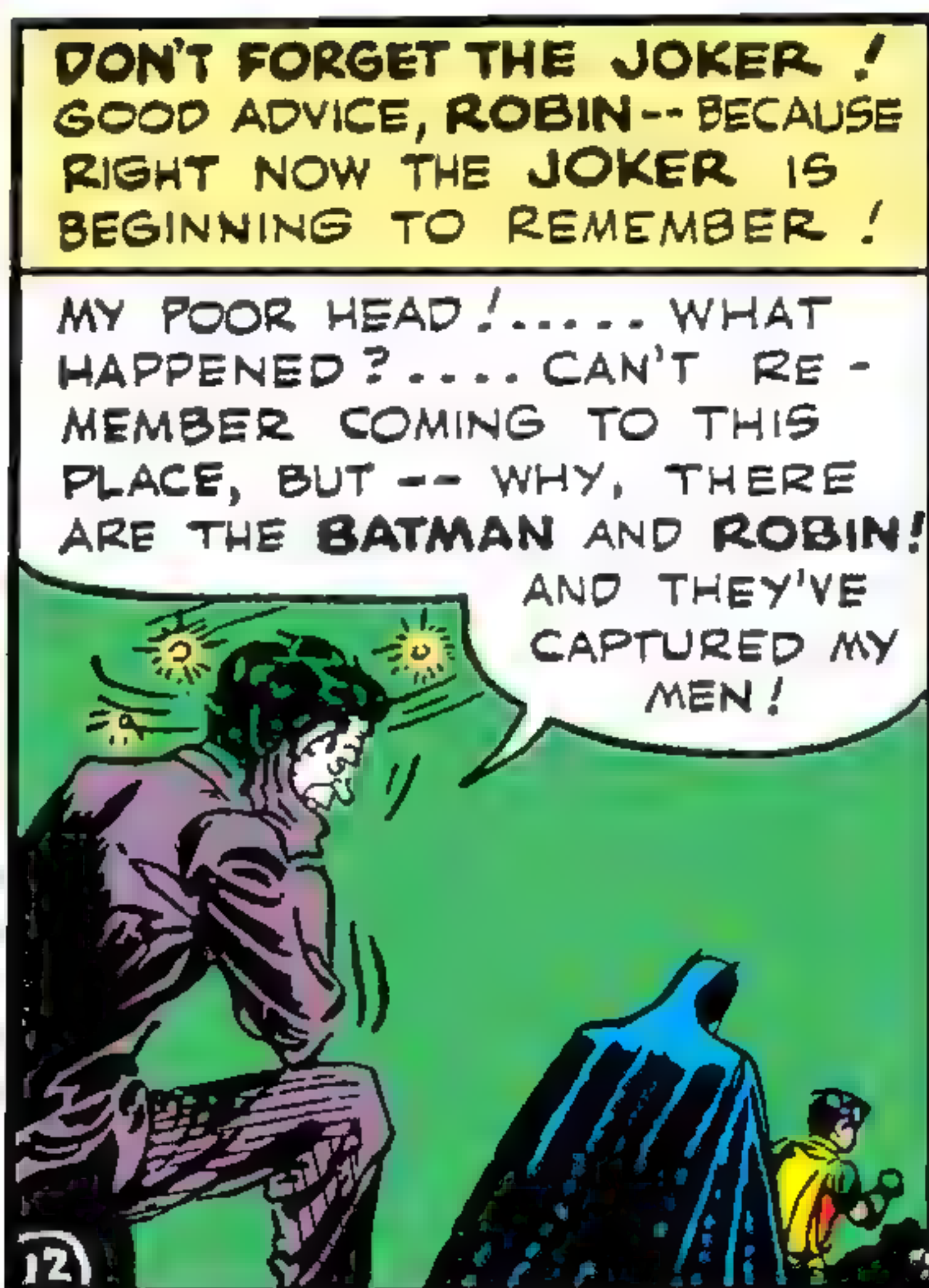
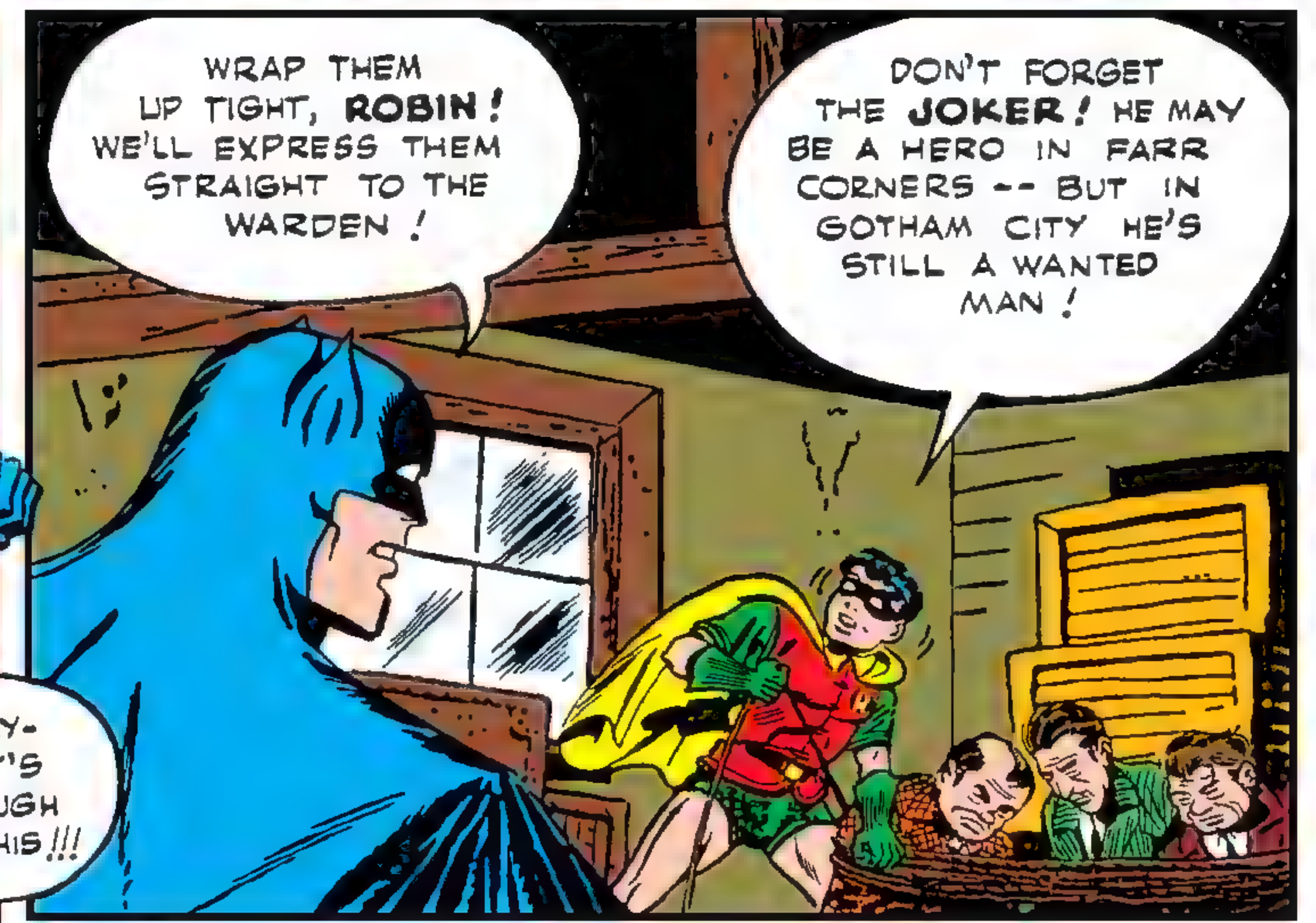
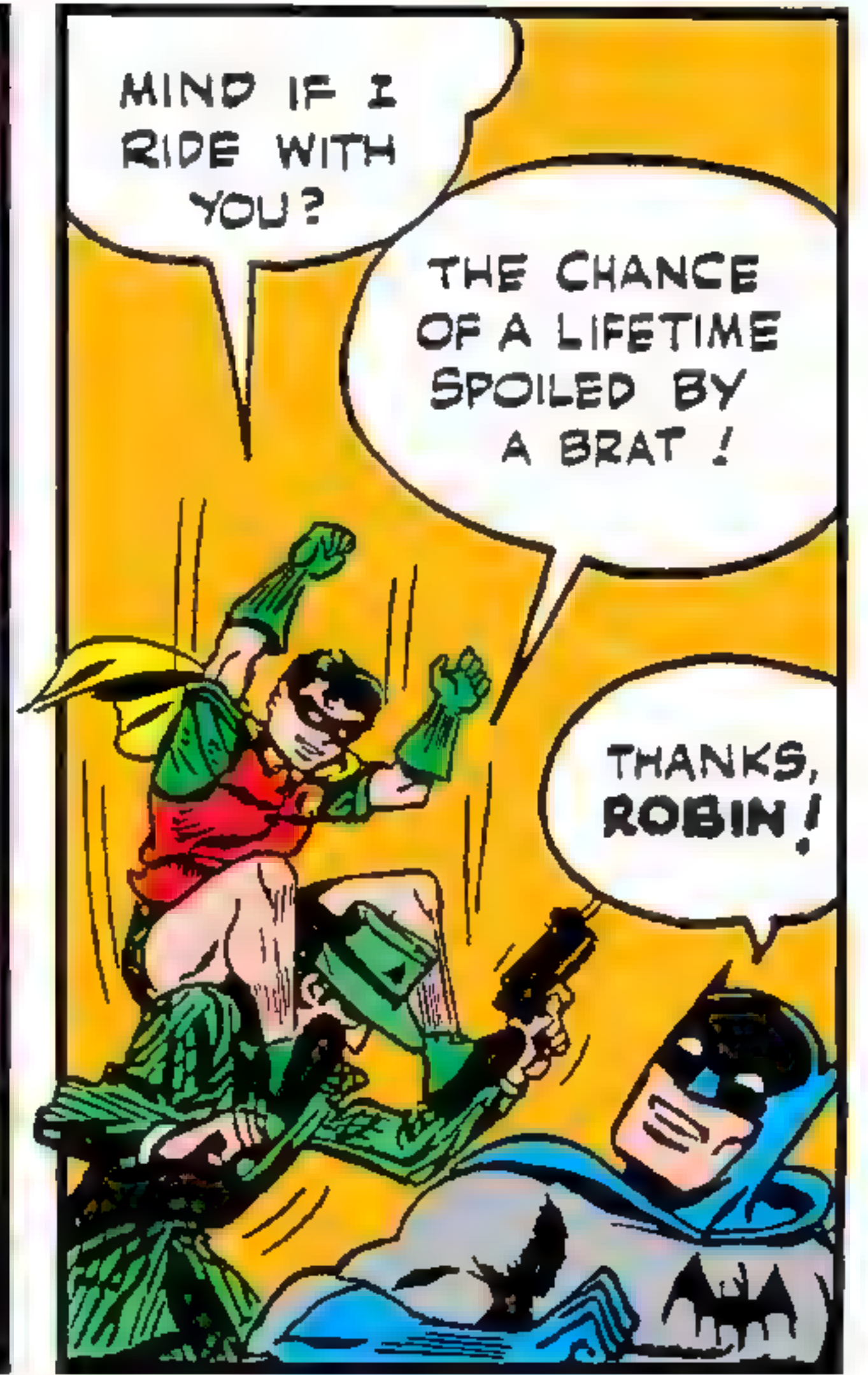
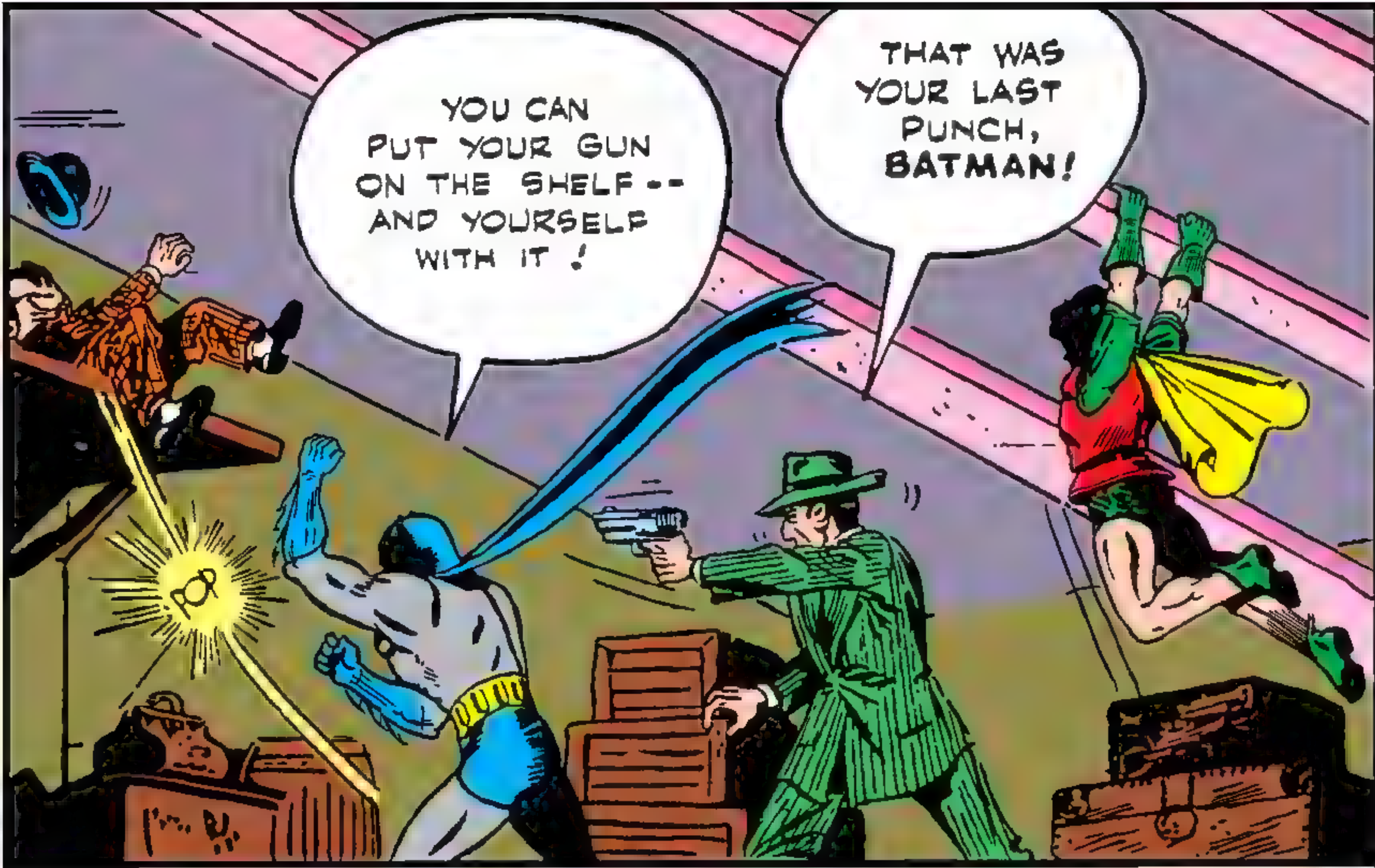


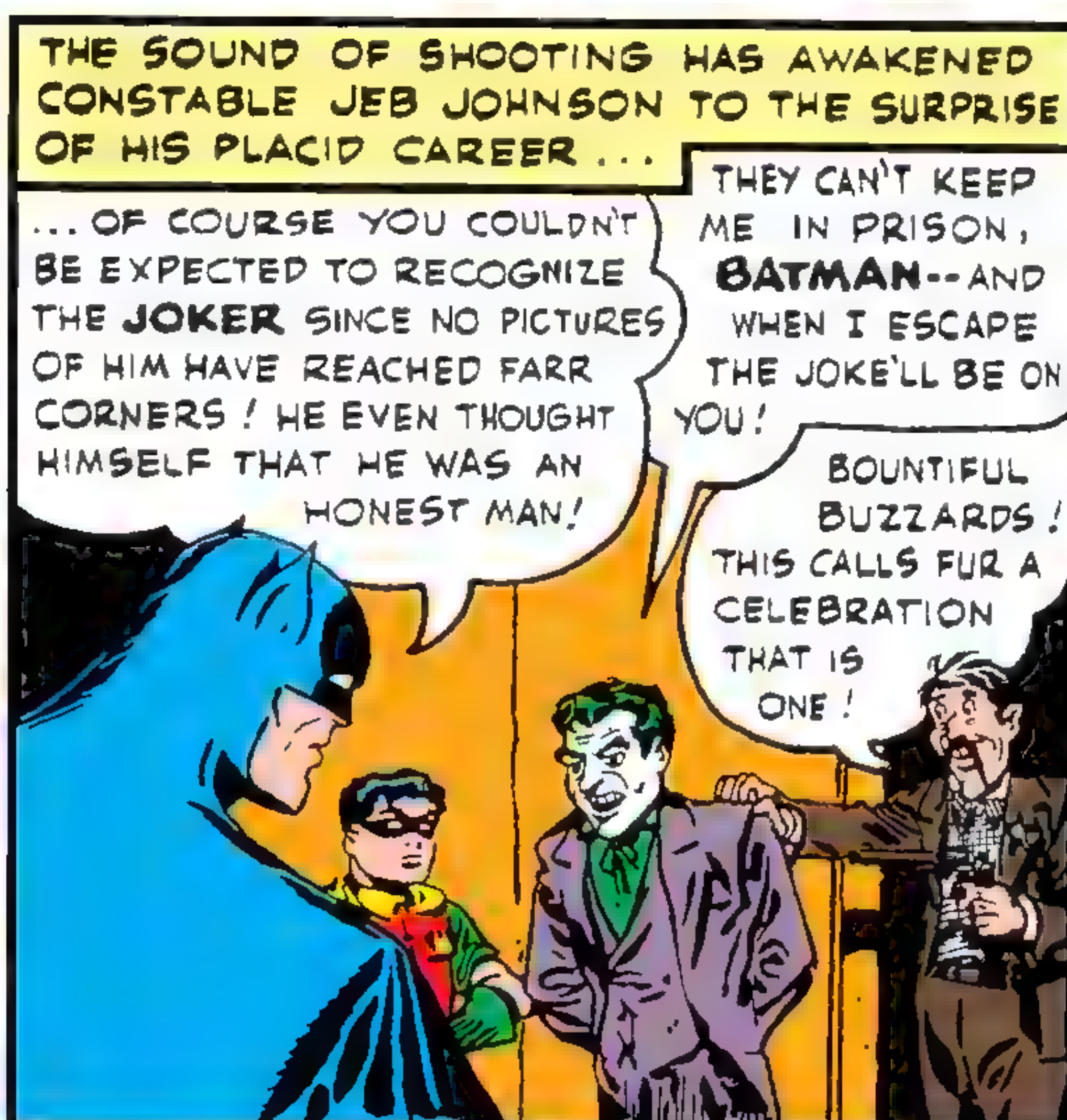
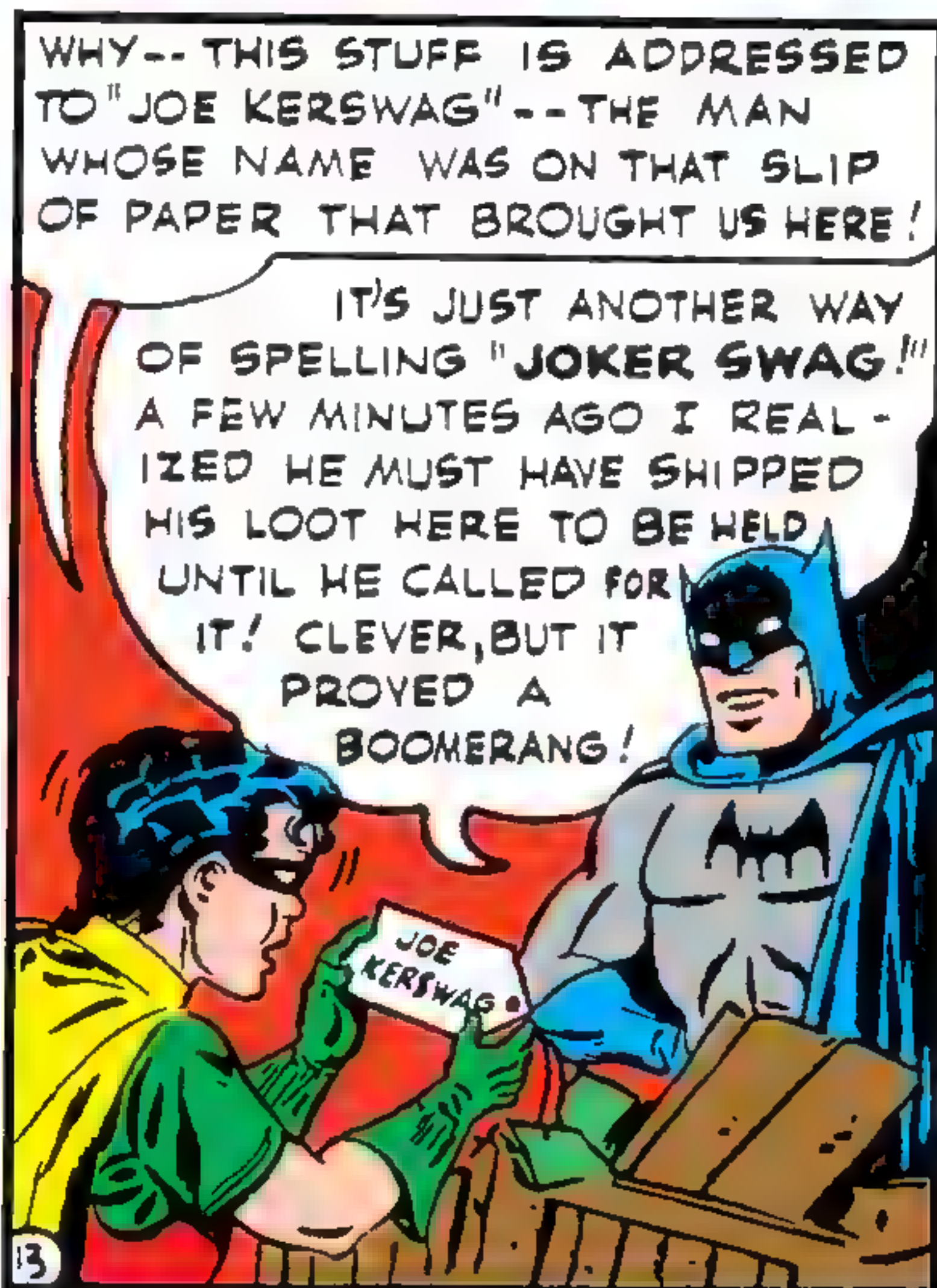
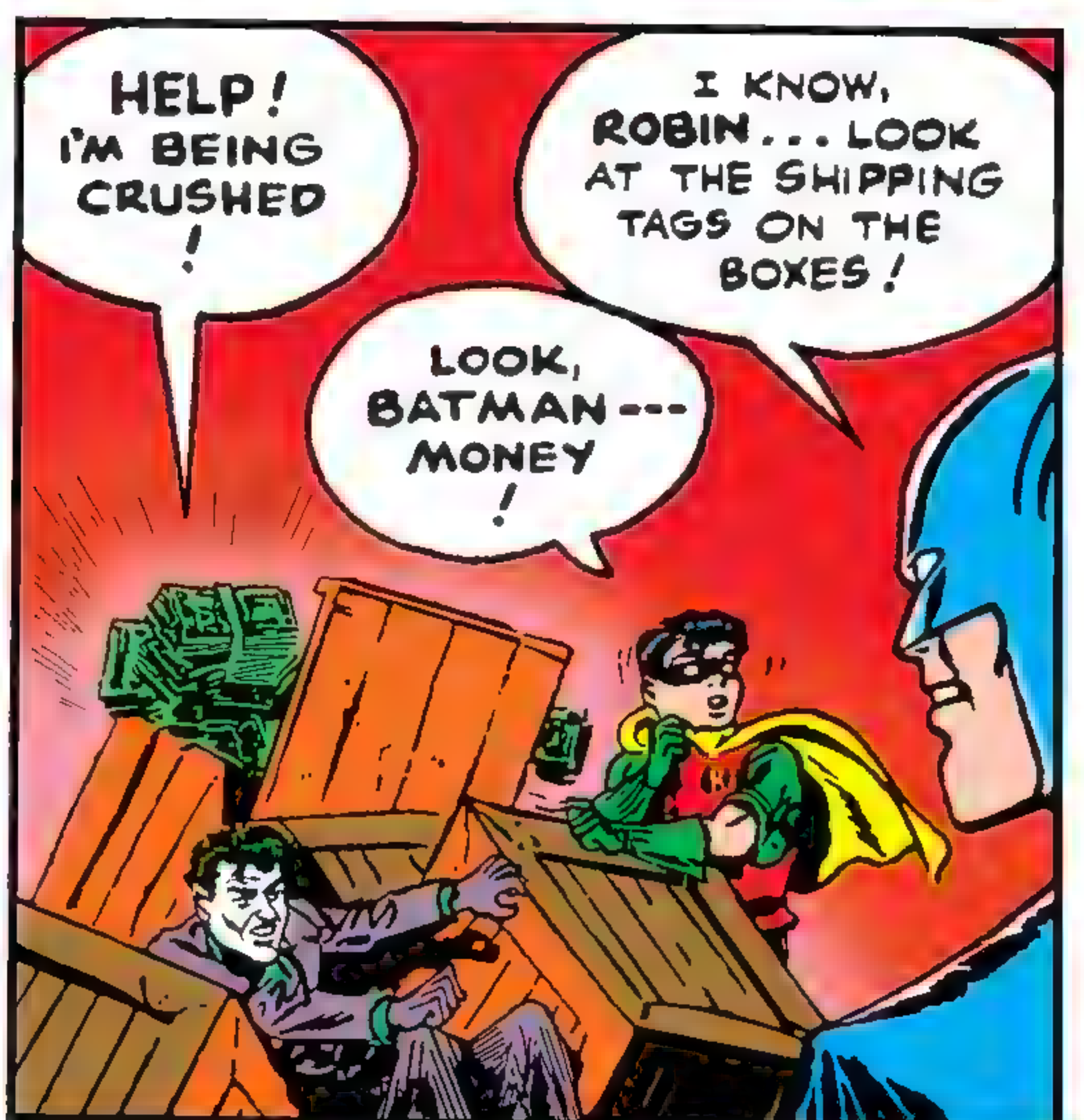
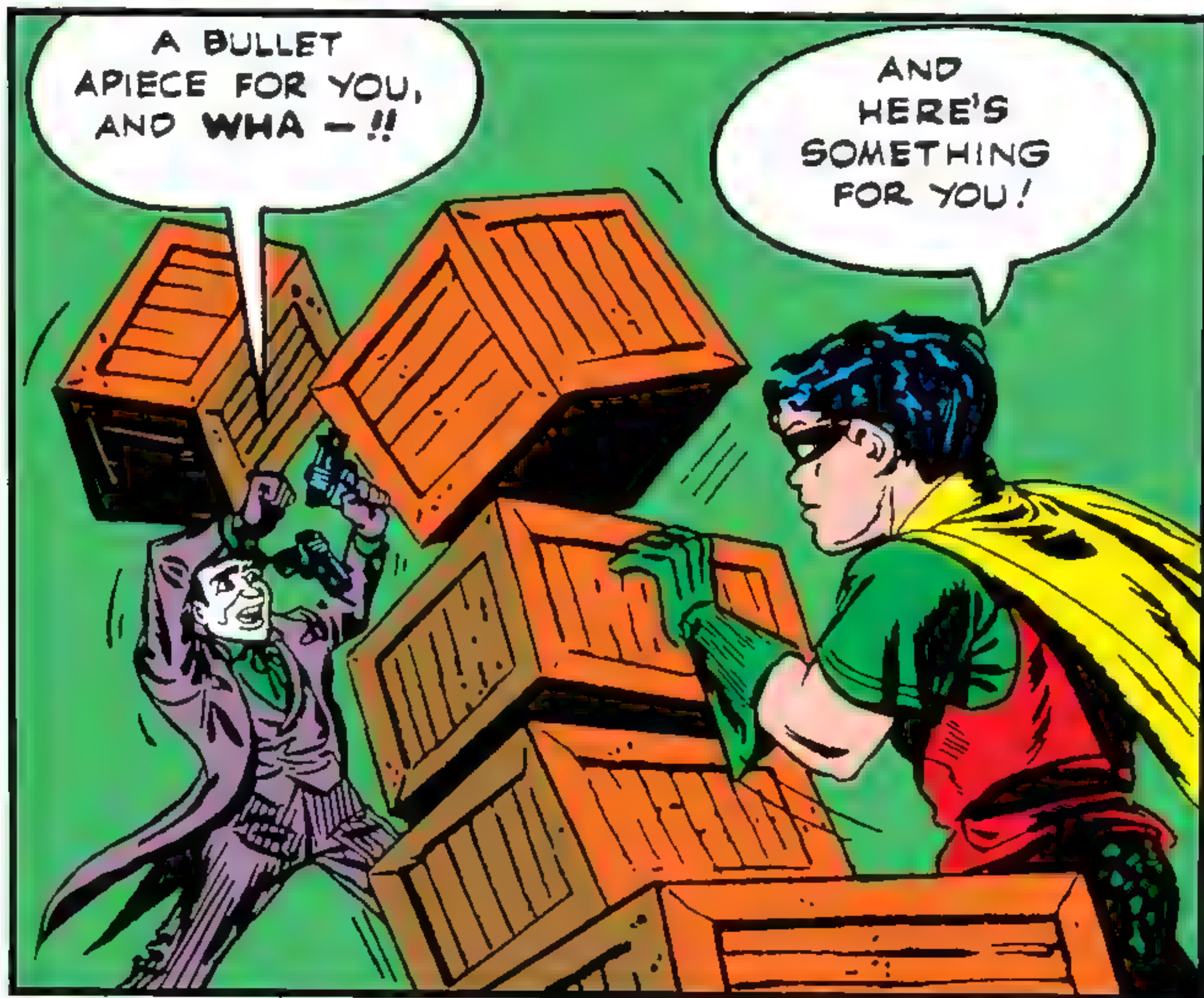
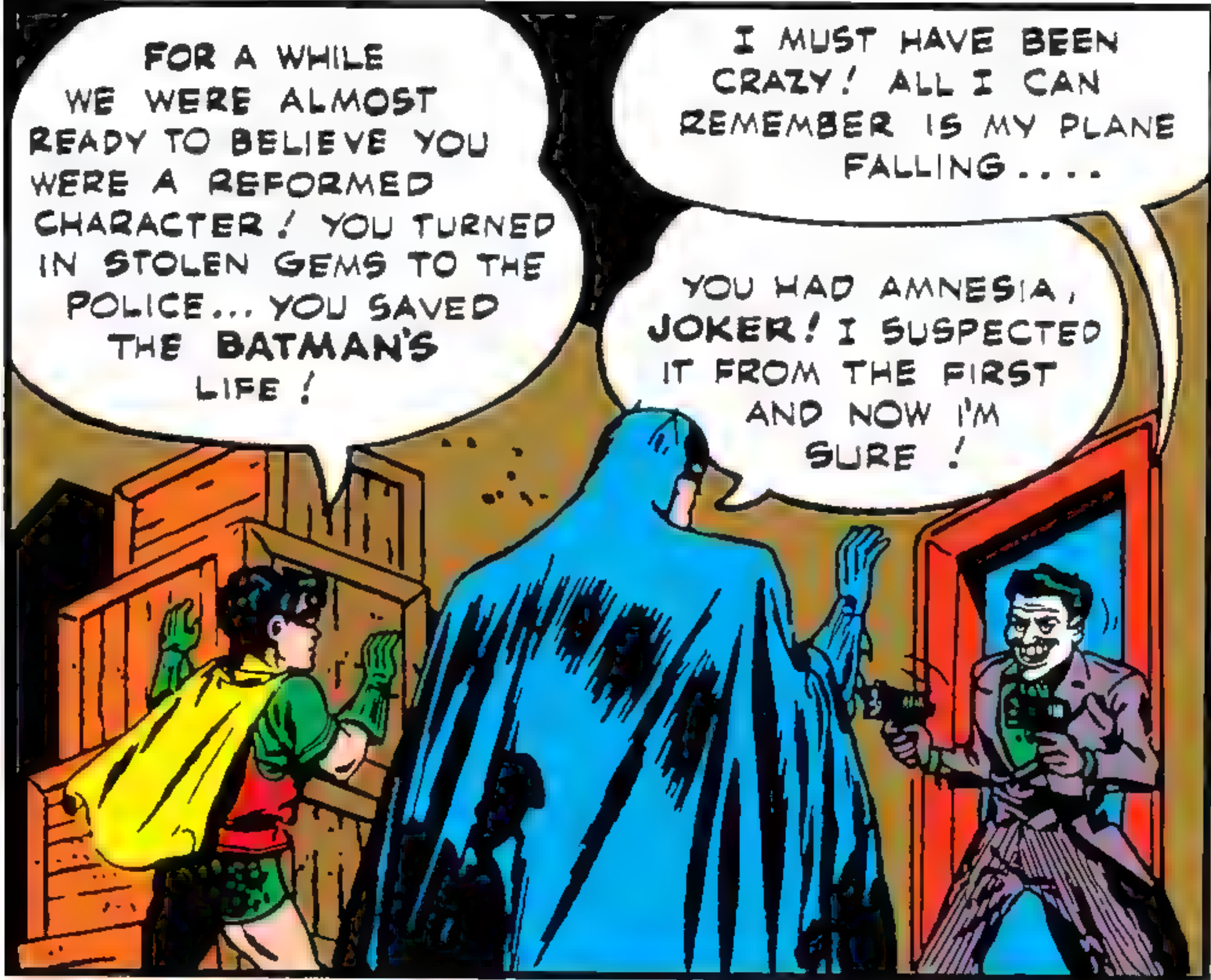
BUT WITH DEATH A HAIRSBREADTH AWAY,
THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** DISCOVER THAT
THEY HAVE AN UNSUSPECTED ALLY!











BATMAN

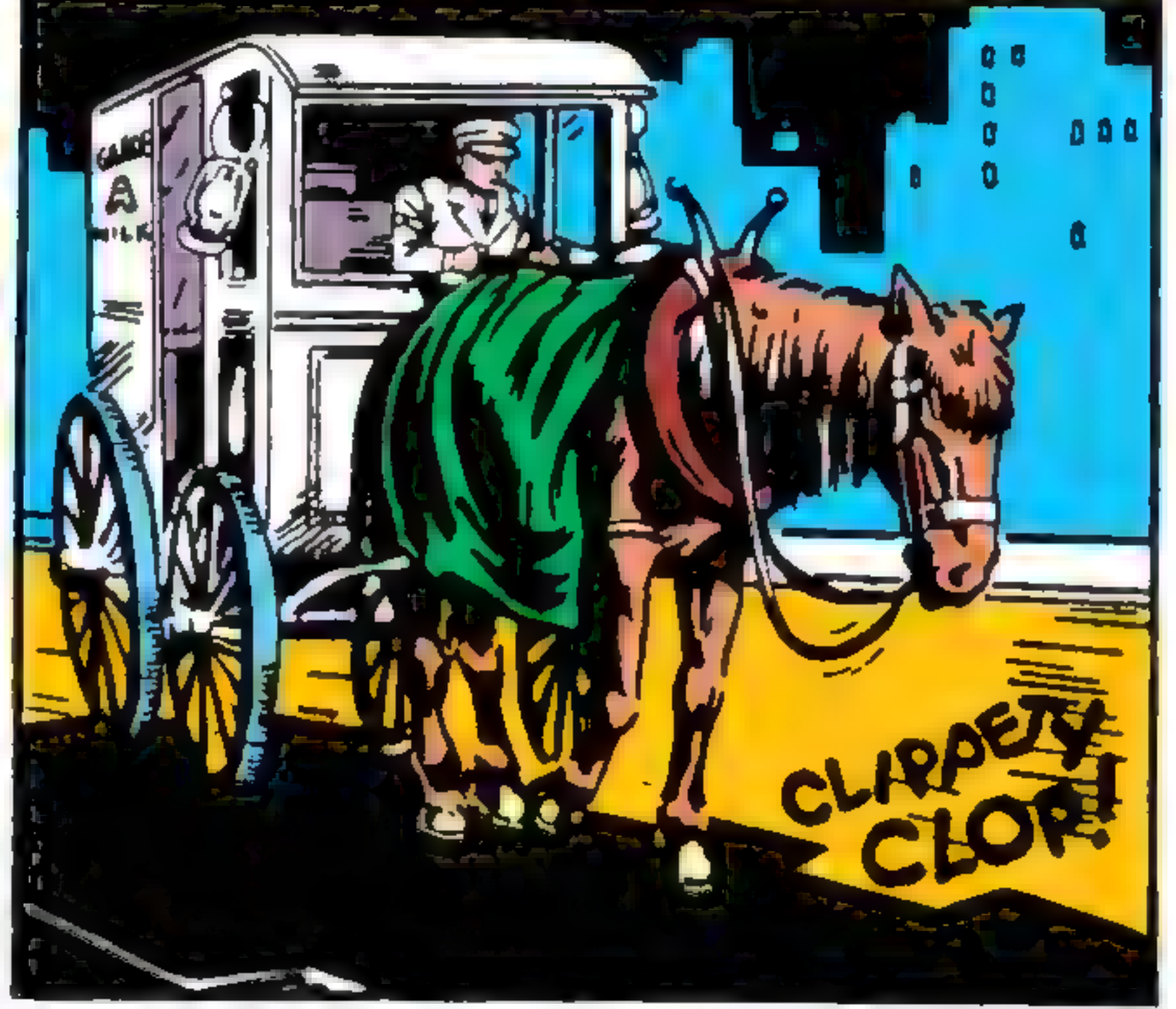
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

ROBBERY AND VIOLENCE RUN RAMPANT AS A NEW, BAFFLING CRIME WAVE SWEEPS OVER GOTHAM CITY - AN EVIL BREW CONCOCTED IN THE FERTILE BRAIN OF AN IN-GENIOUS CRIMINAL! UN-SUSPECTED, UNKNOWN... HE WALKS AMONG HIS VICTIMS - WHILE HIS HIRE-LINGS OBEY HIS COMMANDS AND ESCAPE BEFORE THE VERY EYES OF THE PUZZLED POLICE! EVEN THE AGILE WITS OF **BATMAN AND ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER, ARE PUT TO A SEVERE TEST WHEN THEY TRY TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF ---

"The GRADE A CRIMES!"



THE DARK HOUR BEFORE DAWN... GOTHAM CITY SLEEPS! ALL BUT THE FAITHFUL SERVANTS OF RICH AND POOR ALIKE...THE MILKMEN!

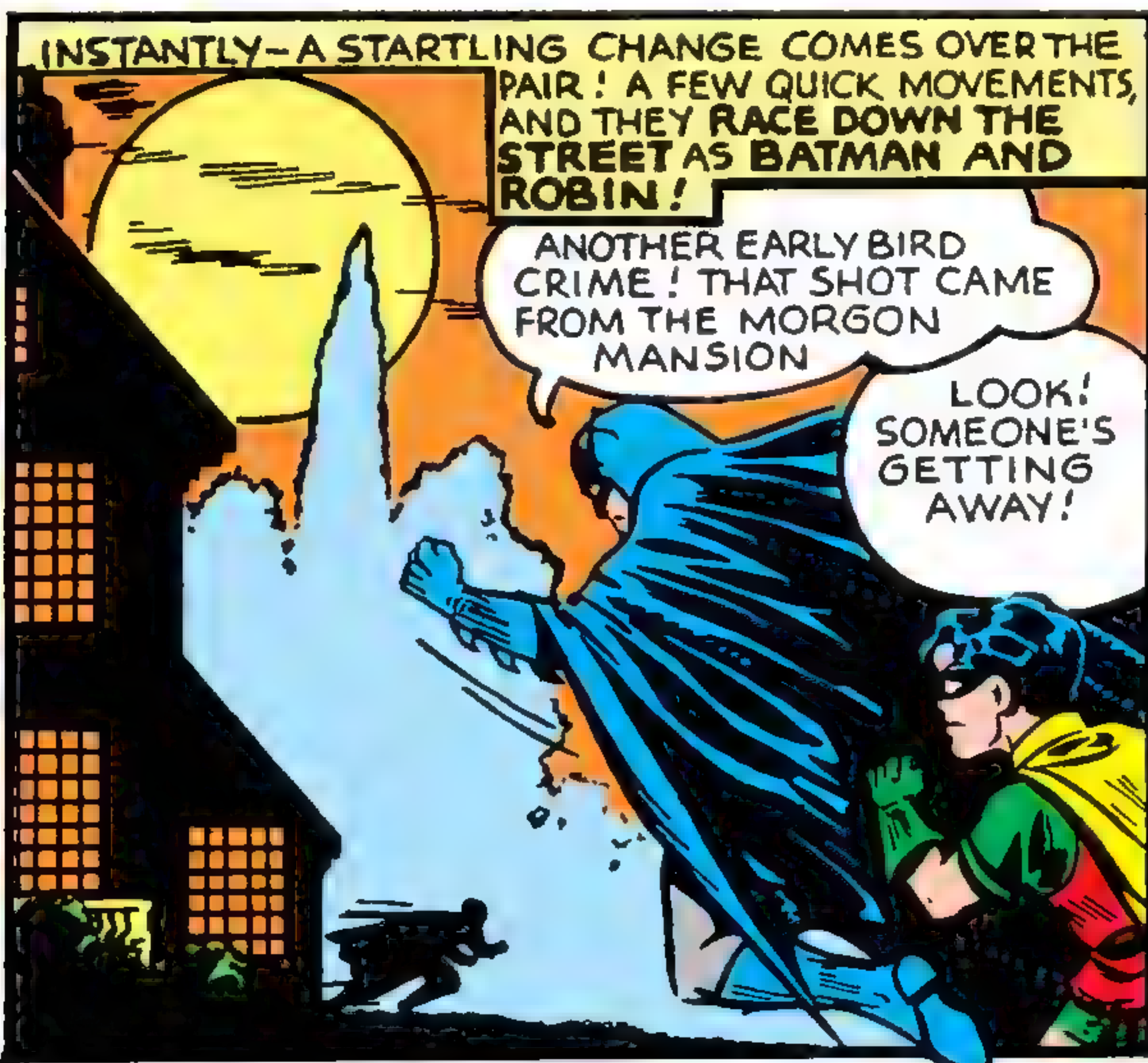
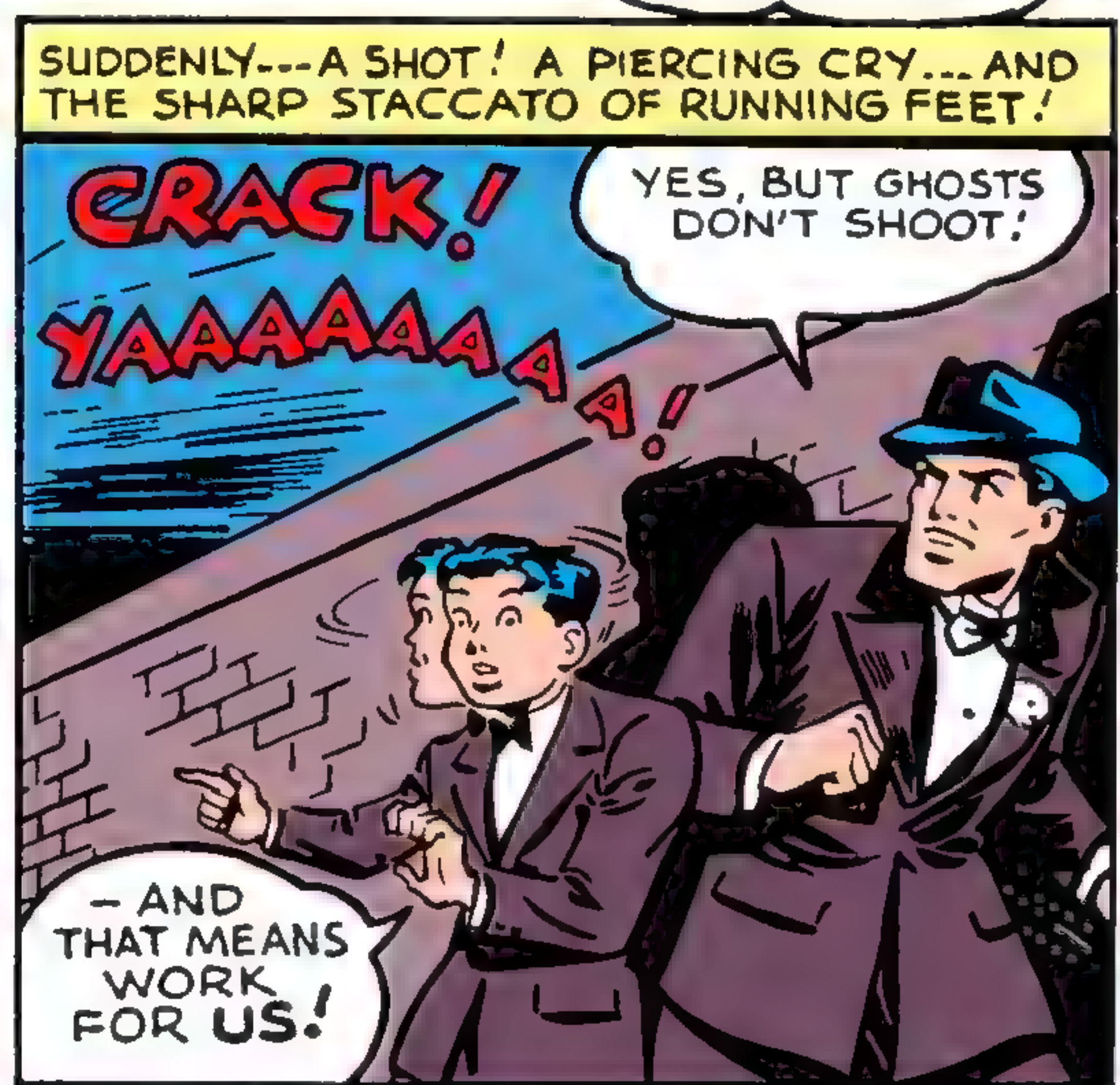


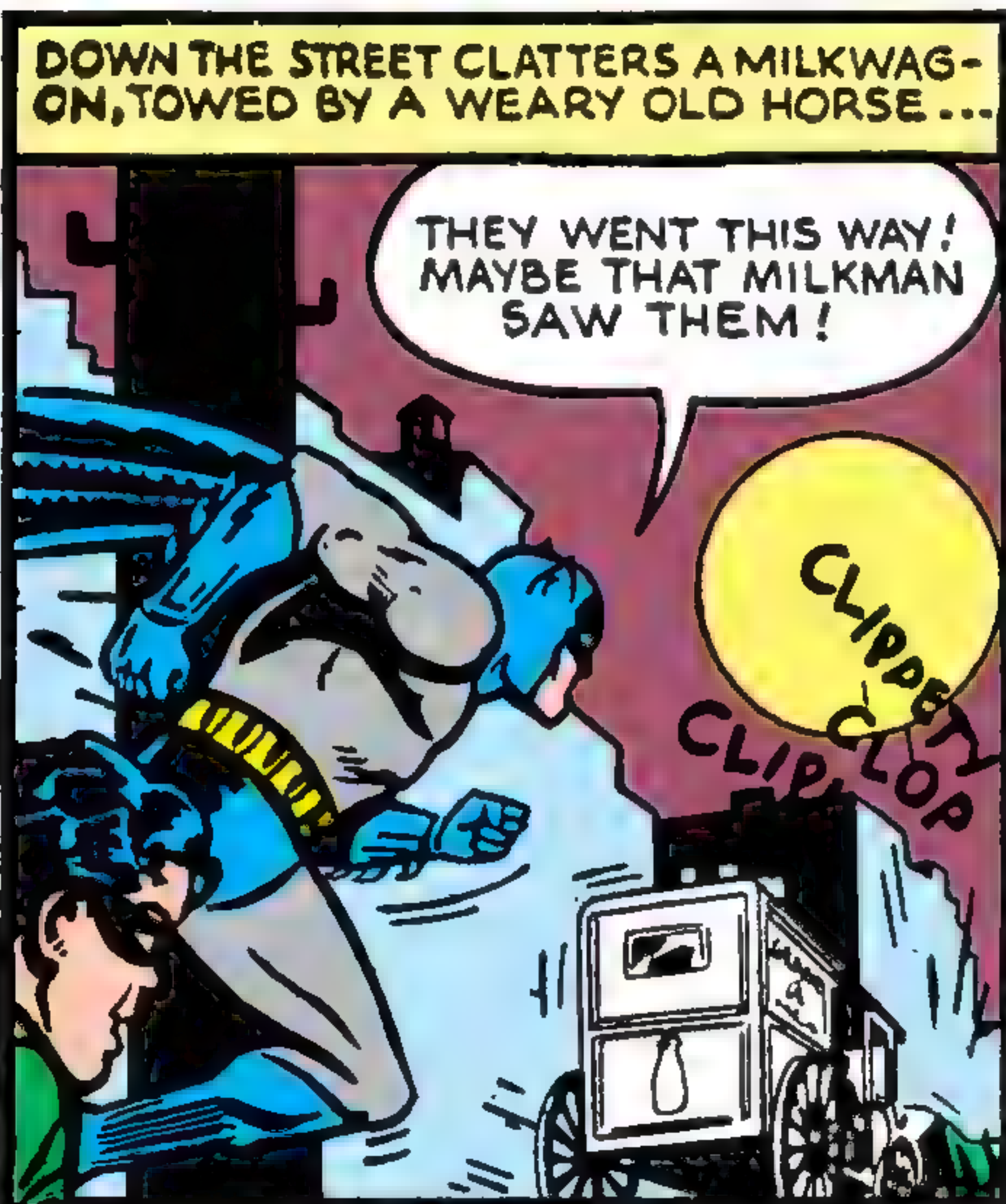
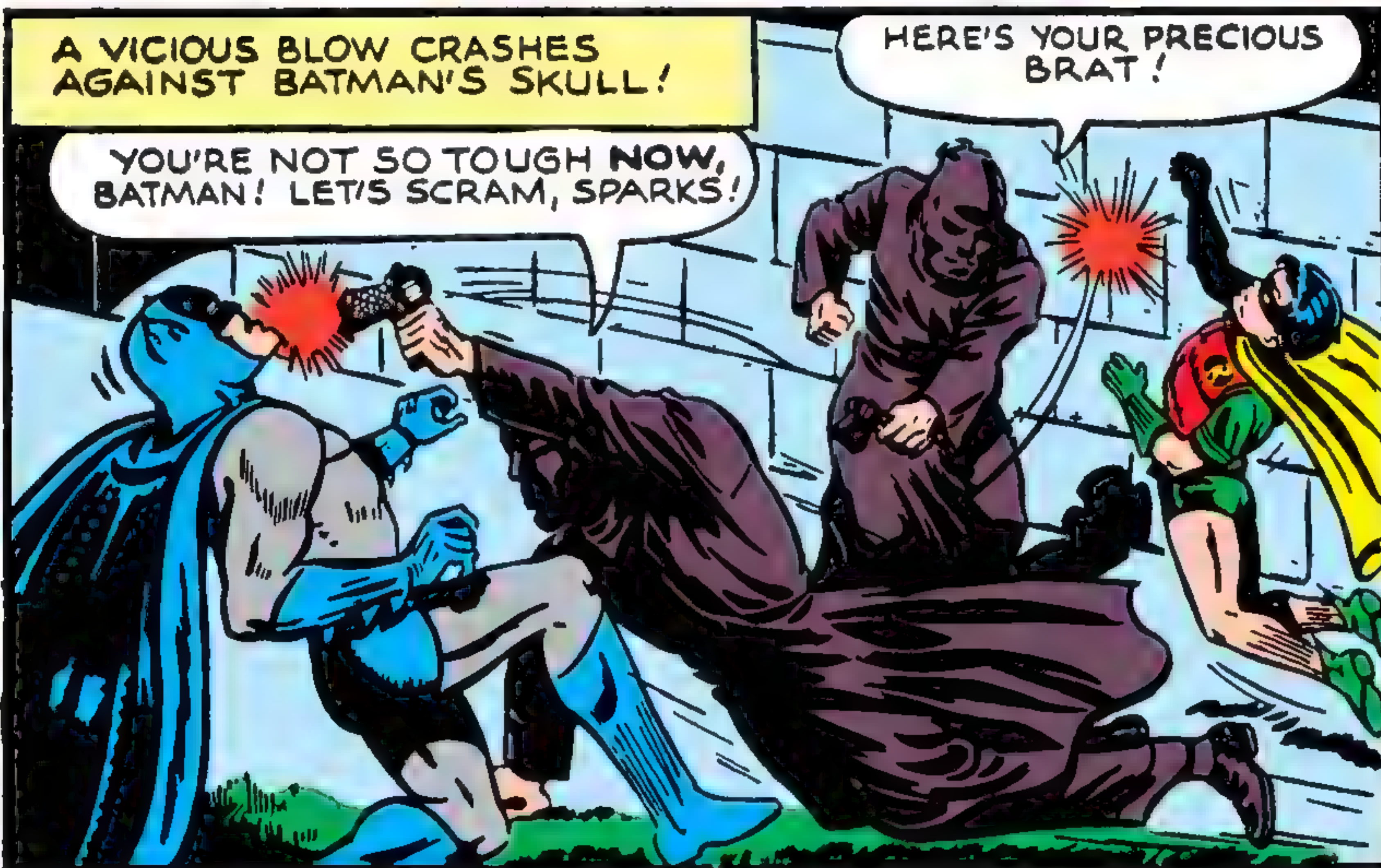
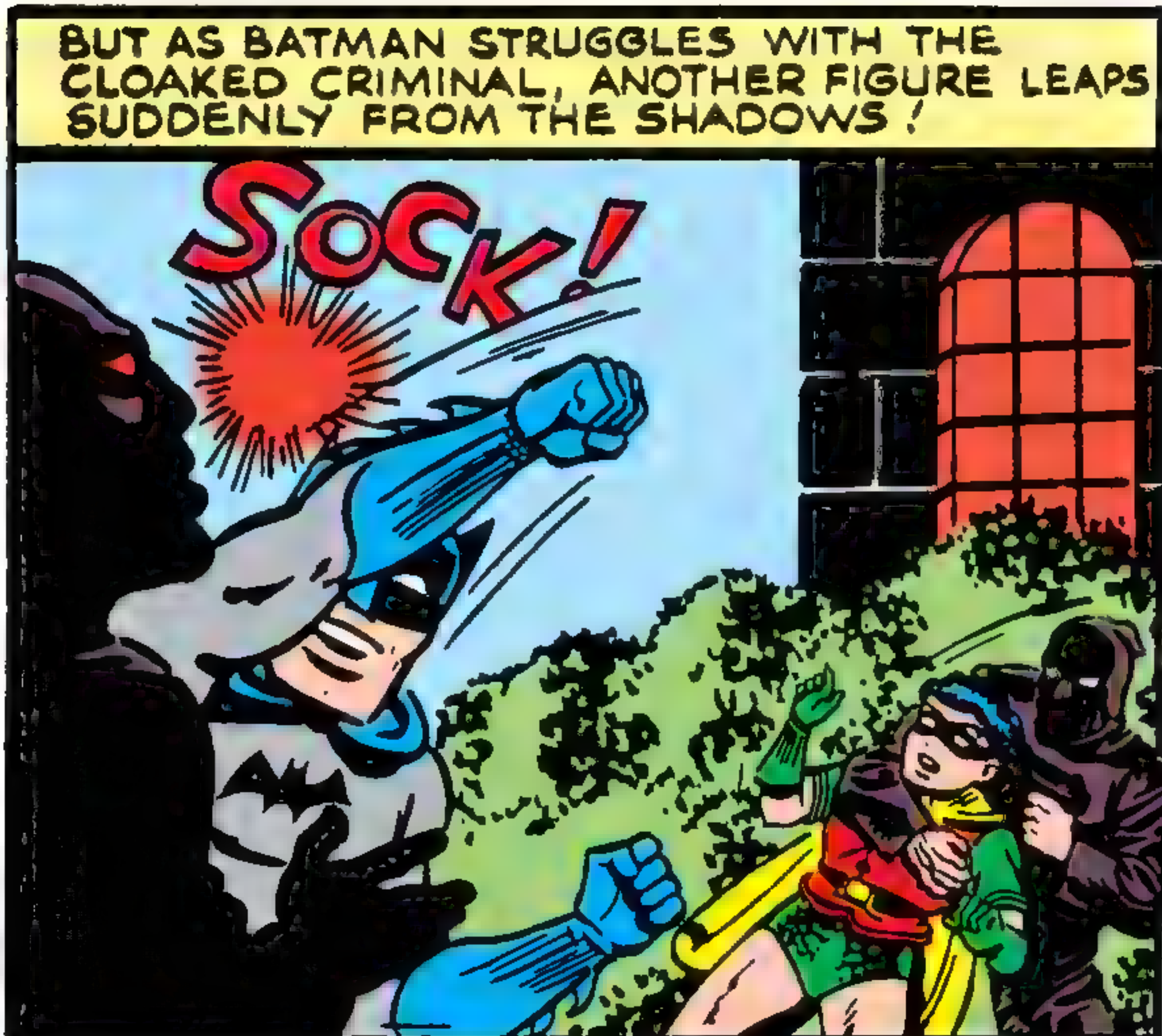


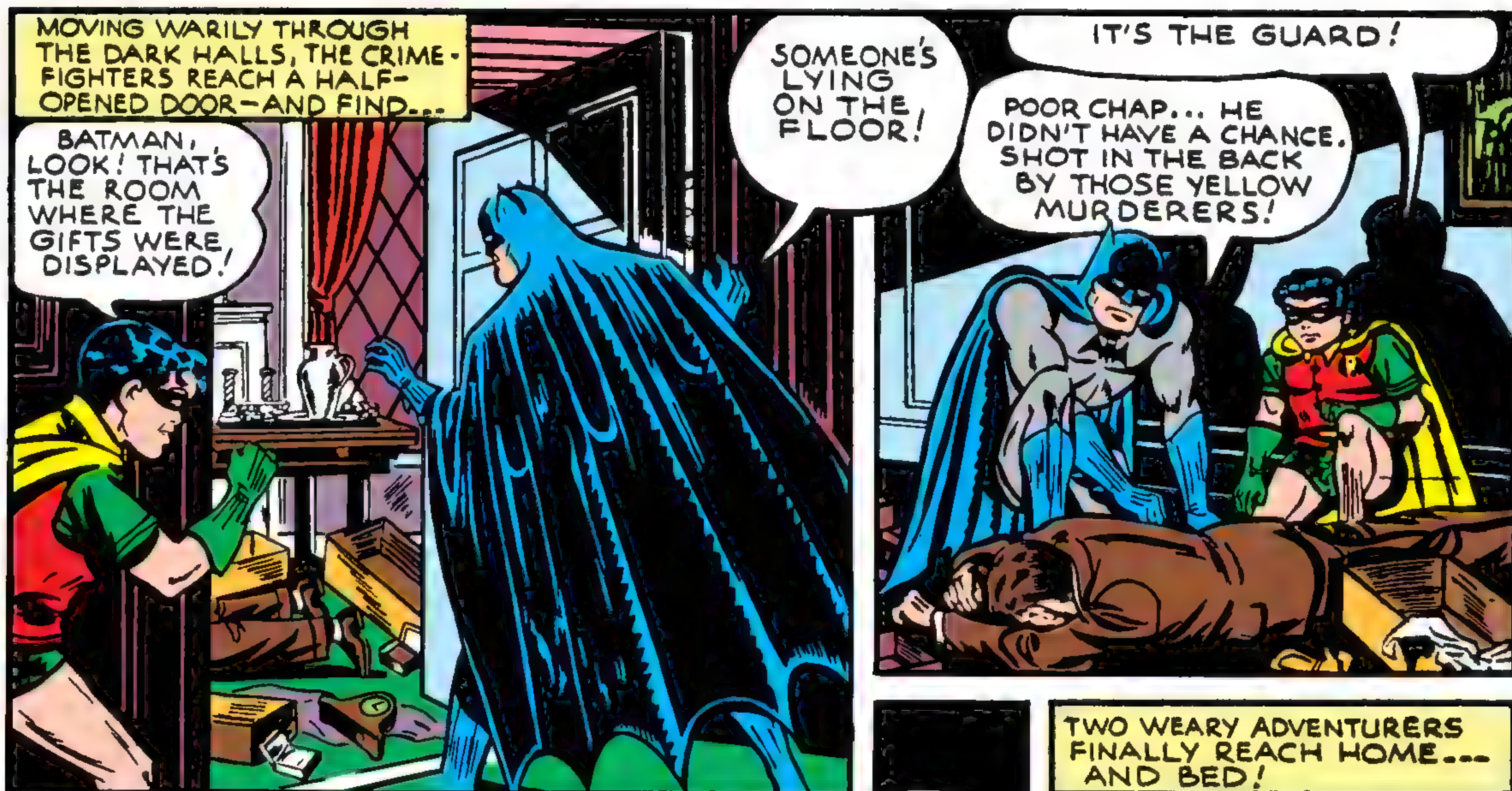
AND, AS ONE NIGHT HE LEAVES THE LAVISH MORGON MANSION, WITH HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON..



THE MYSTERIOUS CRIME WAVE CONTINUES! CLUES? NONE! BUT THERE IS A PATTERN FOR THOSE WHO CAN SEE IT — AND THERE IS ONE WHO CAN! **BATMAN**, THAT NEMESIS OF CRIME WHO CLOAKS HIS IDENTITY BEHIND THE GUISE OF PLAYBOY **BRUCE WAYNE**!







RIGHT! THE OTHER THUG WAS PROBABLY HIDING IN THE BACK OF THE MILK WAGON! NOW TO FIGURE OUT HOW THEY GOT IN SO EASILY... DICK, WE'RE GOING TO A PARTY TONIGHT!

OKAY - BUT THIS NIGHT LIFE IS WEARING ME DOWN!

DAILY BUGLE
MORDON HOME ROBBED
OF WEDDING GIFTS
GUARD SHOT IN BACK
POLICE STILL RAFFLED
GARDEN BLINDS
ARRIVES TODAY
WITH FAMOUS
DORLAI DIAMOND
WILL BE GUEST
DEJOHN WINTHROP
PARTY TO BE
GIVEN IN
MORDON

IN BRUCE WAYNE'S LABORATORY . . .

IT'S ALL CLEAR NOW! THOSE CRIMES ALWAYS OCCUR AFTER A PARTY! THAT MEANS SOMEONE AT EACH PARTY IS THE INSIDE MAN - GETS THE LAYOUT, MAYBE STEALS THE KEYS...

YOU MEAN THE CROOKS WILL PROBABLY STRIKE AT WINTHROP'S AFTER THE SHINDIG, TONIGHT?

SURE! THE DORLAI DIAMOND'S THE BEST BAIT YET! HERE, ROBIN - PREPARE THIS FORMULA WHILE I DO SOME CHECKING UP ON THOSE OTHER PARTIES!

RIGHT!

AS THE MID-NIGHT HOUR CHIMES, AN AWESOME SHAPE WINGS SILENTLY ACROSS THE SKY... THE BATPLANE!

AND, LIKE A GREAT, SILENT BIRD, IT COMES TO REST ON THE ROOF OF A PALATIAL MANSION!

OUR FISHING SHOULD BE DOUBLY GOOD TONIGHT! WHOEVER'S BEHIND THESE CRIMES MUST BE A BIG SHOT IN THE MILK INDUSTRY - OR THOSE MILKMAN CROOKS COULD NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT!

A PRECARIOUS CLIMB DOWN A VINE-TRELLISED WALL...

AND THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF DAIRY AND MILK COMPANY MEN AT TONIGHT'S PARTY!

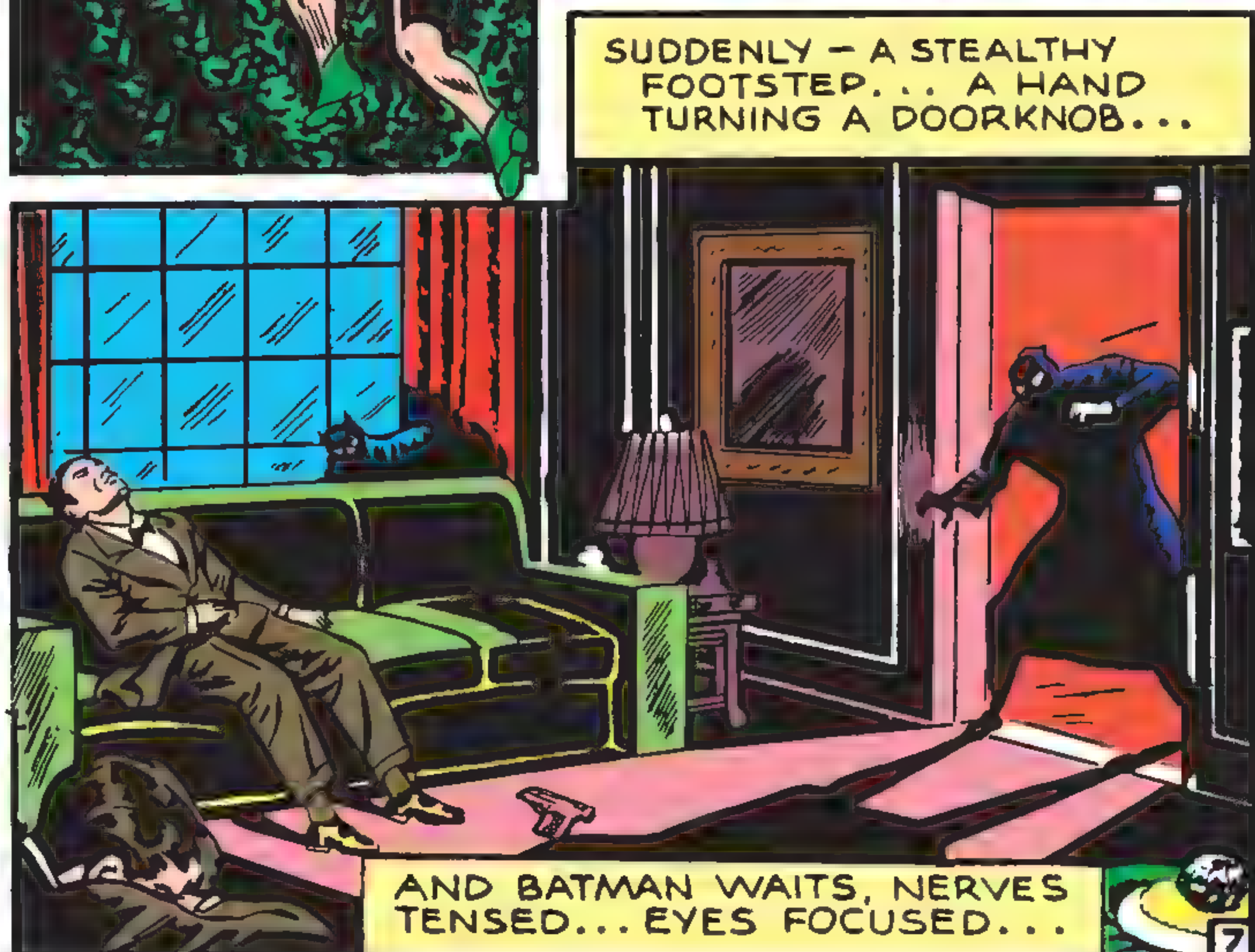
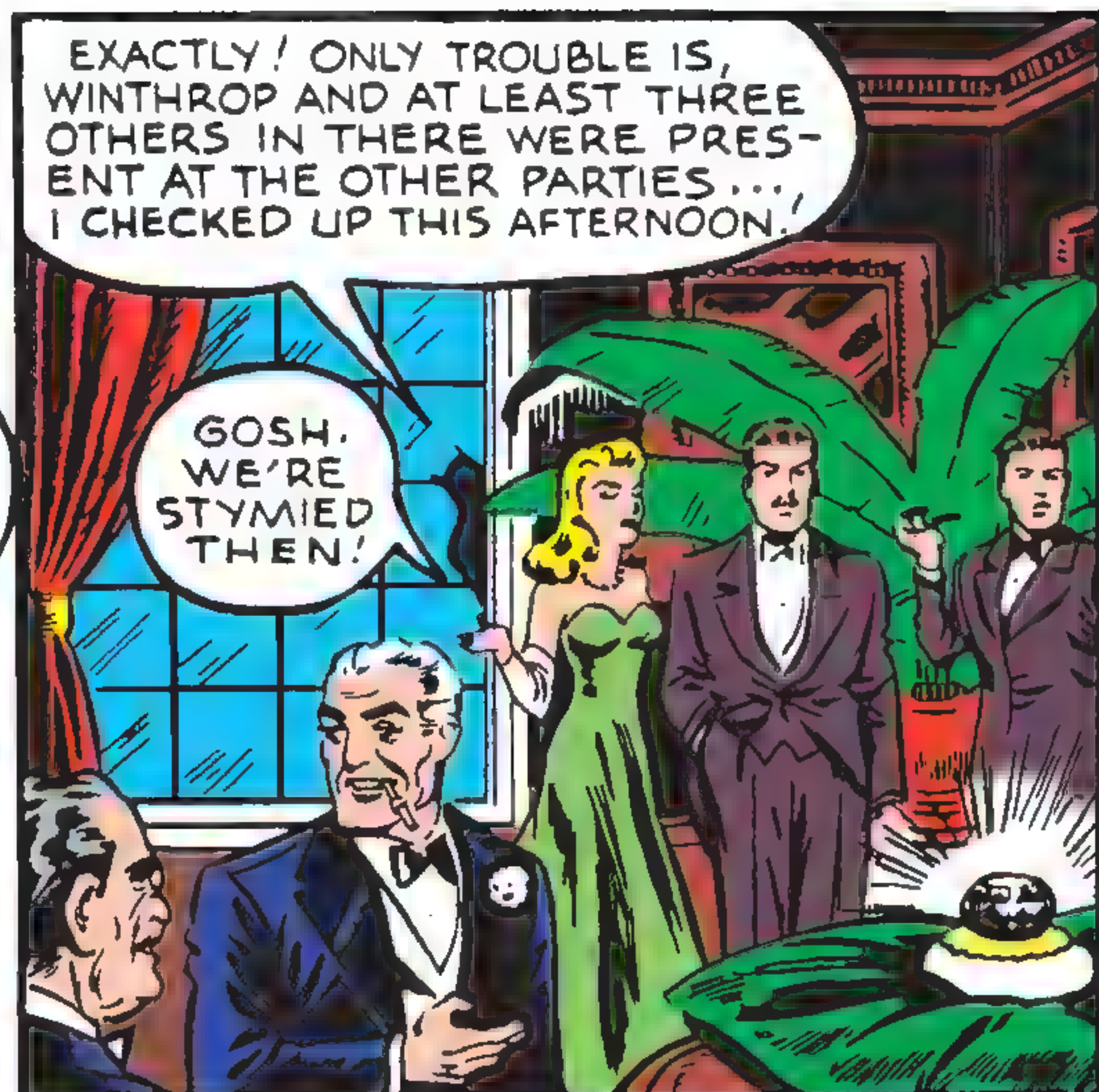
HOW DO YOU KNOW?

... AND TWO MORE DISTINGUISHED GUESTS JOIN THE PARTY... UNSEEN!

S-S-SH! HERE COME SOME PEOPLE. LOOK! IT'S WINTHROP HIMSELF WITH ANOTHER GUEST.

WELL, WINTHROP, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE DORLAI DIAMOND? AS A JEWEL COLLECTOR YOU SHOULD KNOW ITS WORTH!

A RARE GEM, BILL! ALMOST PRICELESS! I'M KEEPING IT MIGHTY WELL GUARDED!



LIKE AN EVIL GNOME OF NIGHT, THE CLOAKED MARAUDER STEALS UP ON THE HELPLESS GUARDS!

JUST SO'S YOU WON'T LOOK DRUGGED, I'LL PUMP SOME LEAD INTO YA!

CAN'T LET THEM SHOOT THE GUARDS! HAVE TO CHANGE MY PLANS SOMEWHAT!

AN AGILE, CAT-LIKE LEAP...AND A LEAN FIGURE SPRINGS FROM THE SHADOWS!

EOW! I'M SEEING THINGS!

I HOPE I'M INTRUDING!

YES! YOU'RE SEEING STARS!

WITHOUT WARNING, A GLARING BEAM OF LIGHT STABS OUT FROM NOWHERE --- BLINDING BATMAN!

AND YOU'VE SEEN TOO MUCH FOR YOUR OWN HEALTH!

WHAT..!

A BULLET WHINES THROUGH THE AIR...

GOT HIM!

CRACK

CRUMPLED FIGURE LIES UPON THE FLOOR! CAN IT BE? HAS THE CHAMPION OF JUSTICE FOUGHT HIS LAST BATTLE AGAINST EVIL?

IT'S BATMAN AGAIN! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY THIS TIME!

HE DON'T LOOK LIKE HE'LL EVER GO ANYPLACE AGAIN! BUT WE'LL MAKE SURE!

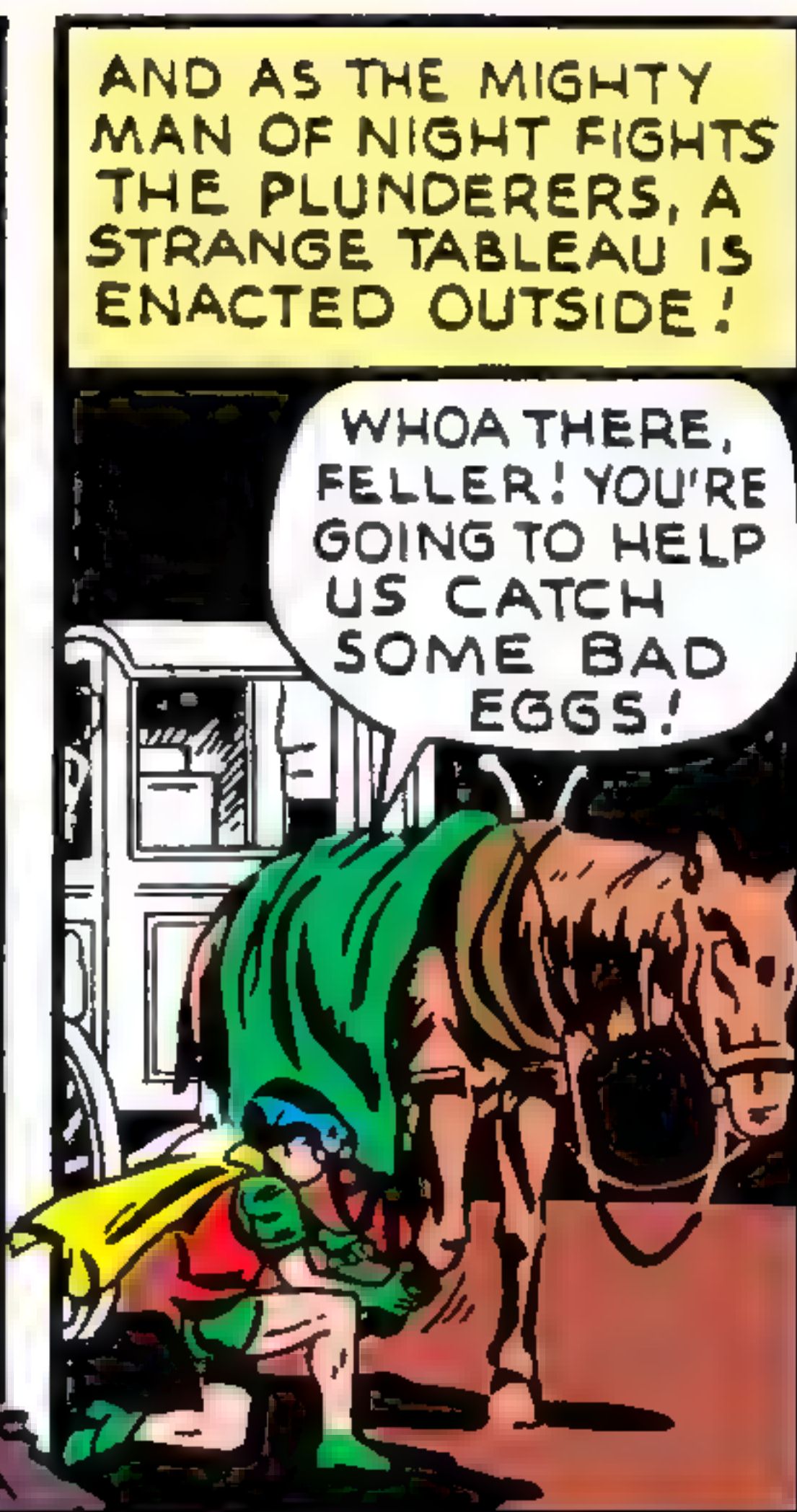
BUT BATMAN IS VERY MUCH ALIVE!

I'M GOING PLACES RIGHT NOW!

HELP! HE AIN'T DEAD!

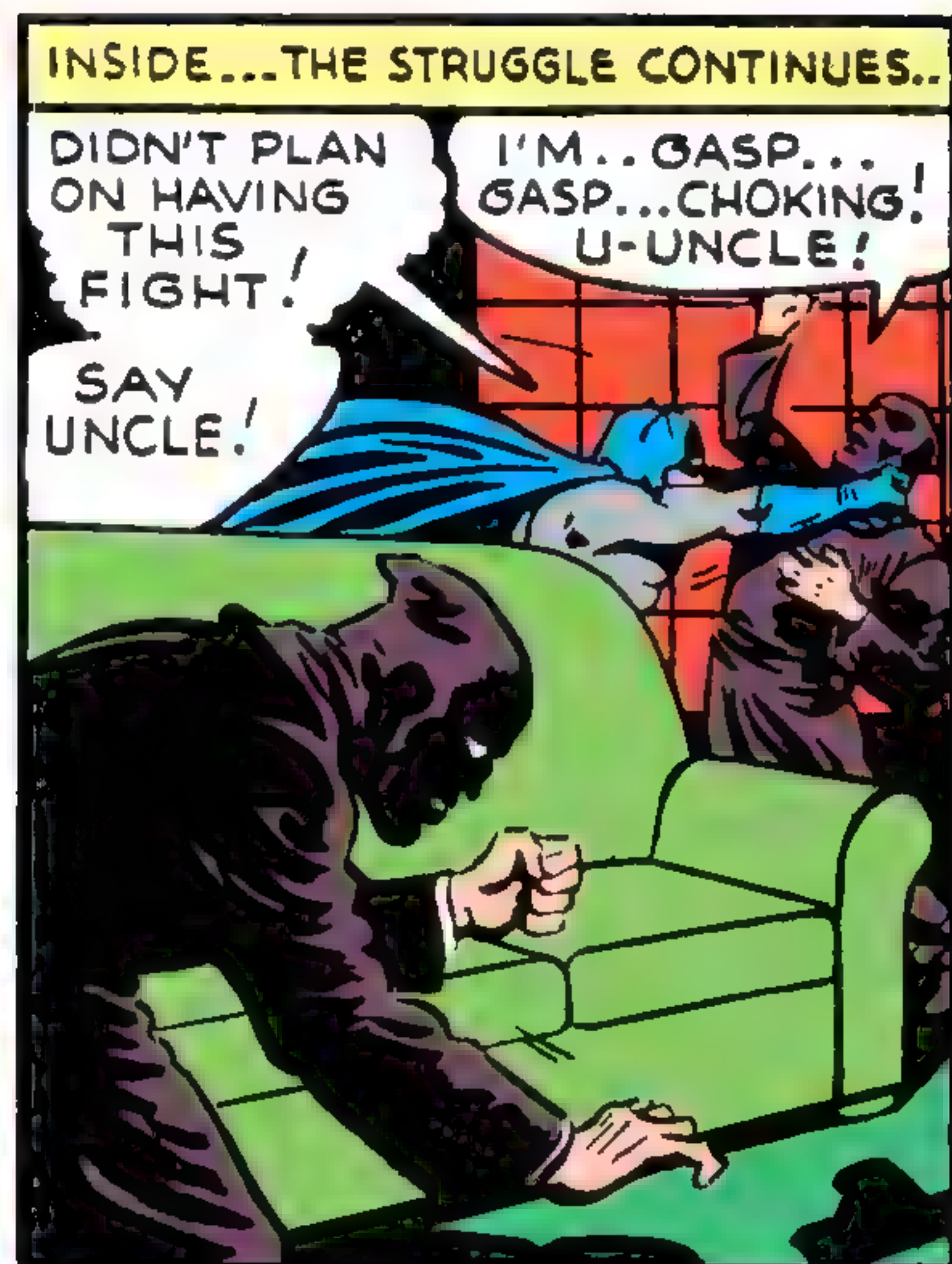


I'M NO GHOST, BROTHER! JUST AN OLD ARMY TRICK - PRETEND YOU'RE SHOT - THROW ENEMY OFF GUARD!



AND AS THE MIGHTY MAN OF NIGHT FIGHTS THE PLUNDERERS, A STRANGE TABLEAU IS ENACTED OUTSIDE!

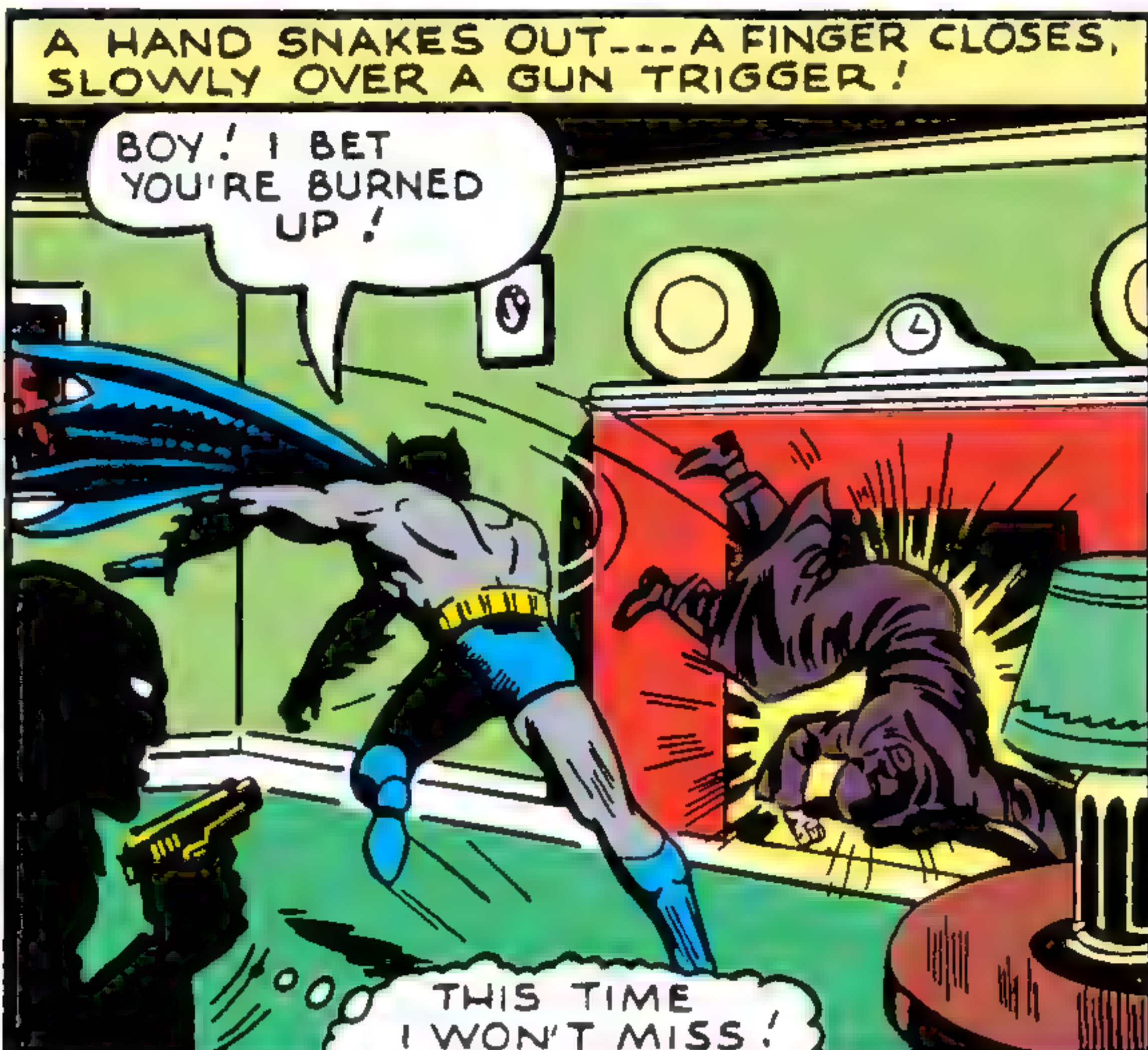
WHOA THERE, FELLER! YOU'RE GOING TO HELP US CATCH SOME BAD EGGS!



INSIDE...THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES... DIDN'T PLAN ON HAVING THIS FIGHT!

SAY UNCLE!

I'M... GASP... GASP... CHOKING! U-UNCLE!



A HAND SNAKES OUT... A FINGER CLOSSES, SLOWLY OVER A GUN TRIGGER!

BOY! I BET YOU'RE BURNED UP!

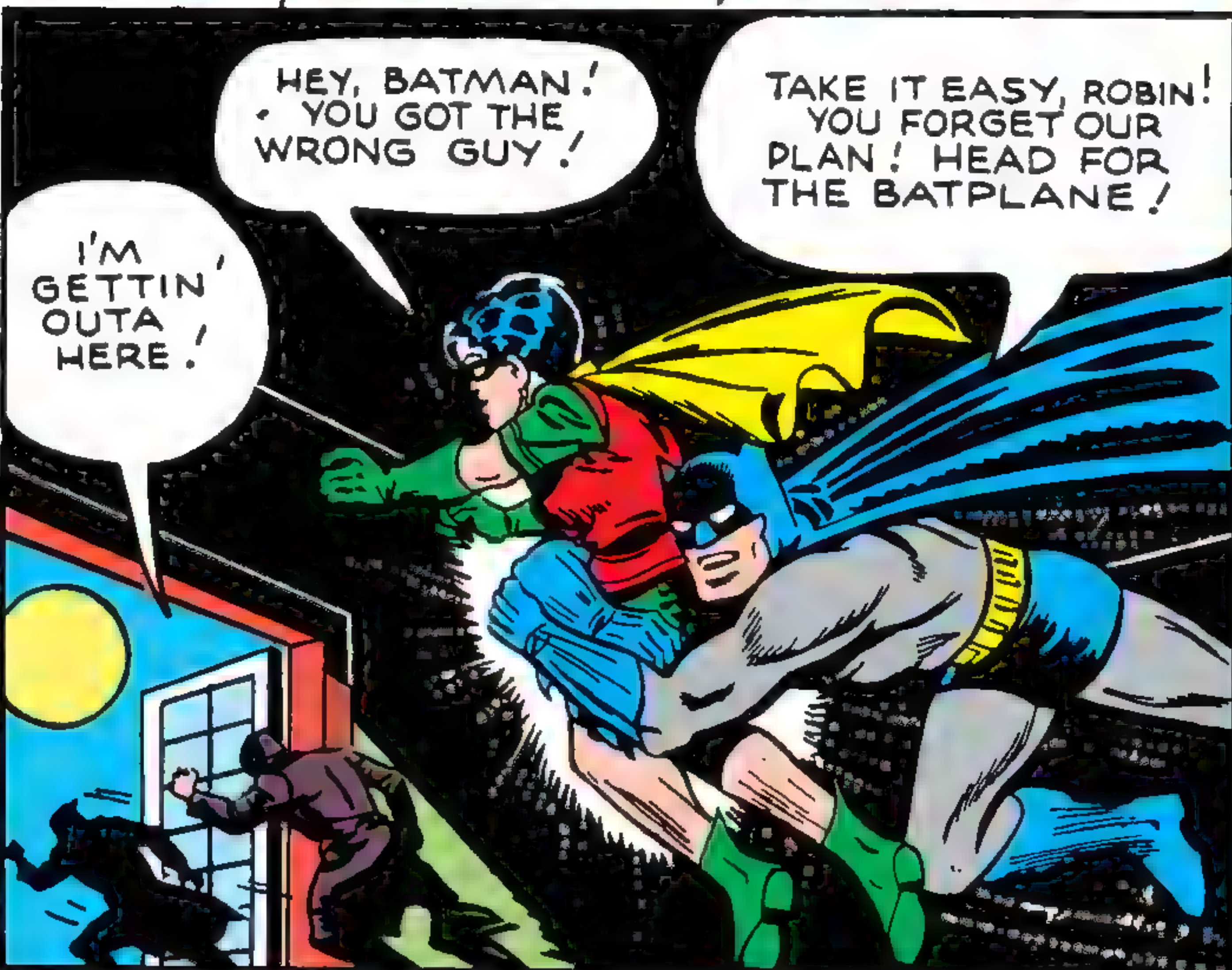
THIS TIME I WON'T MISS!



A MINIATURE STREAK OF LIGHTNING FLASHES ACROSS THE ROOM!

SNUG AS A THUG IN A RUG!

NICE TIMING, ROBIN!



HEY, BATMAN! YOU GOT THE WRONG GUY!

TAKE IT EASY, ROBIN! YOU FORGET OUR PLAN! HEAD FOR THE BATPLANE!

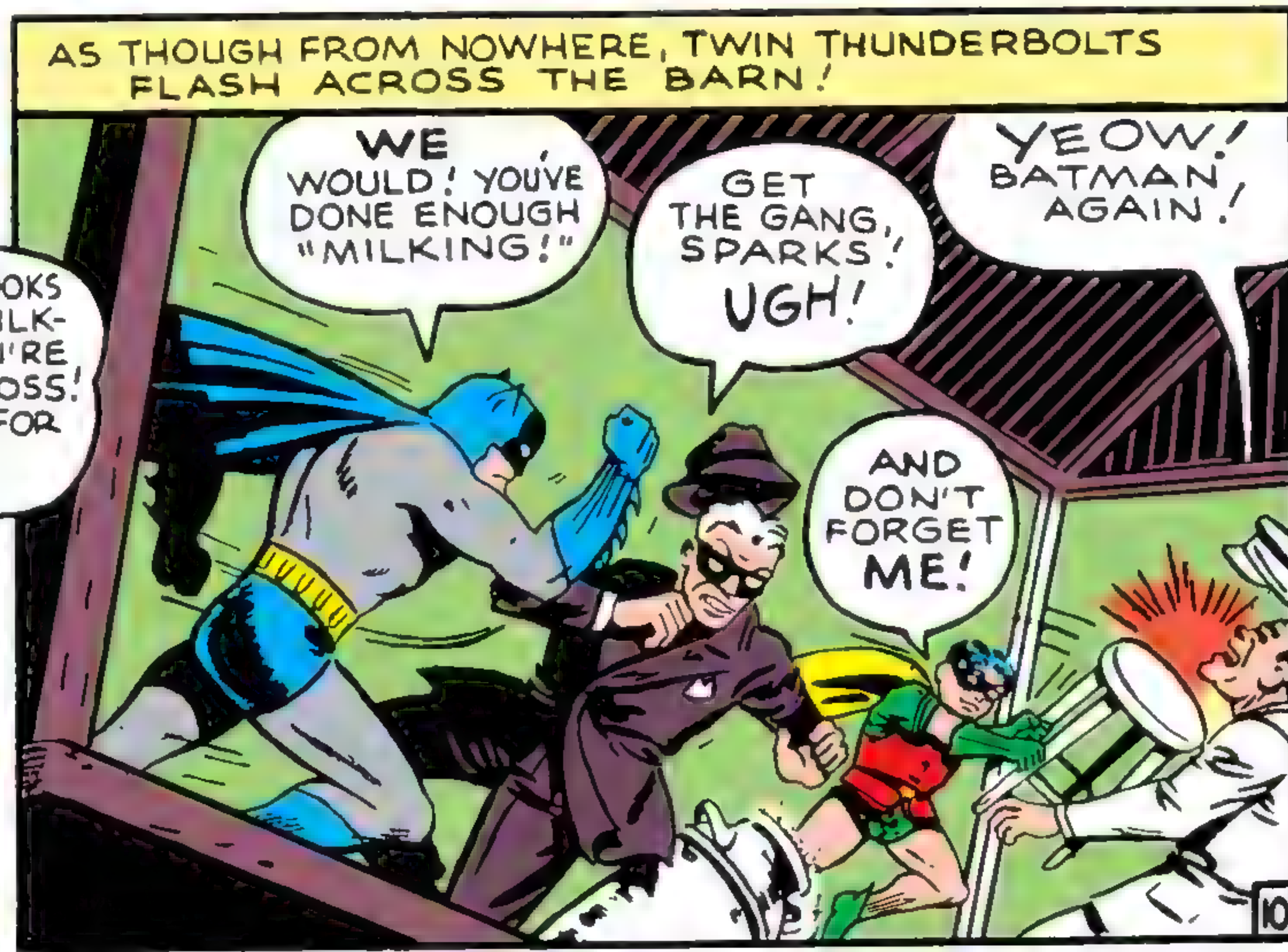
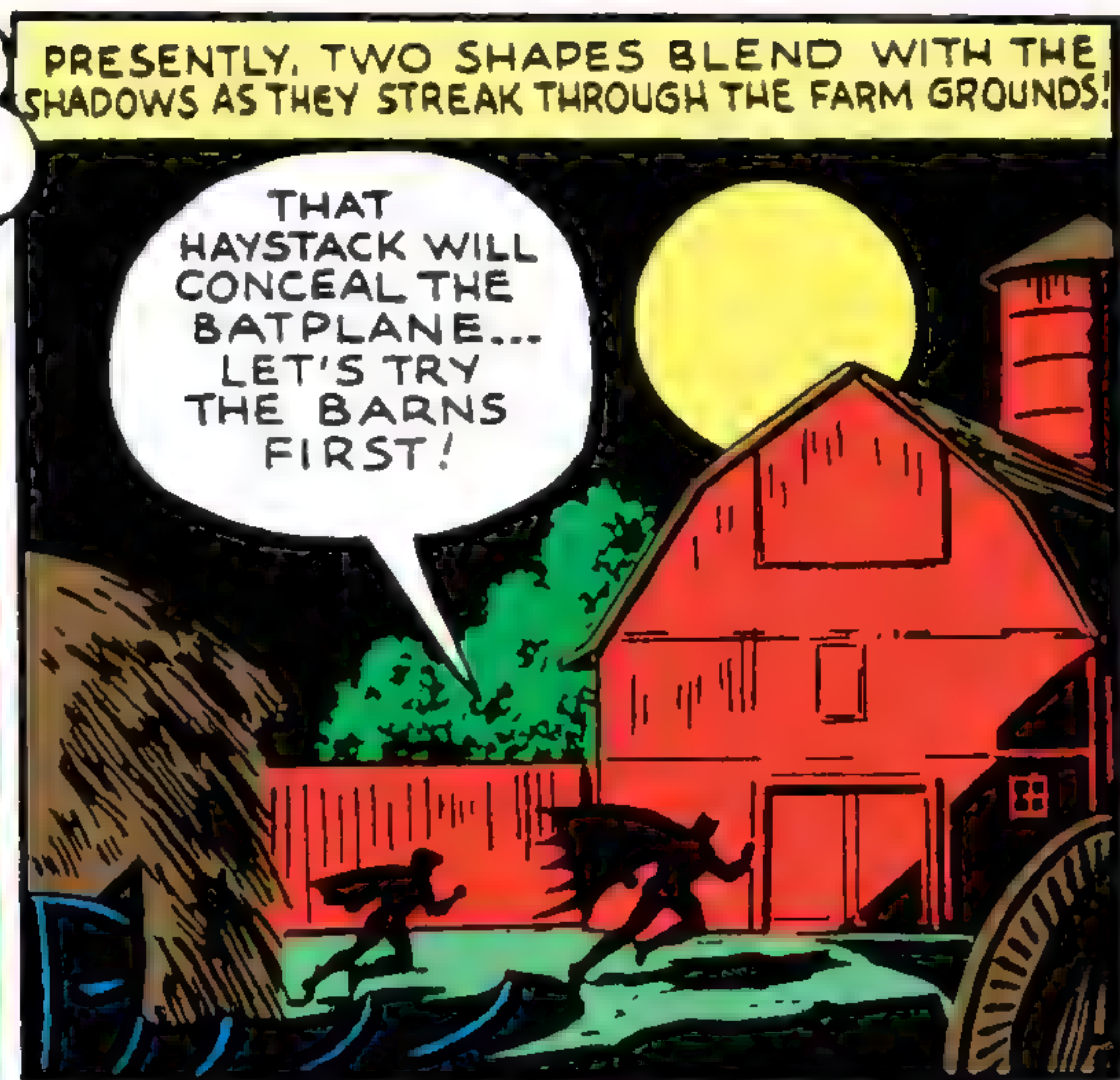
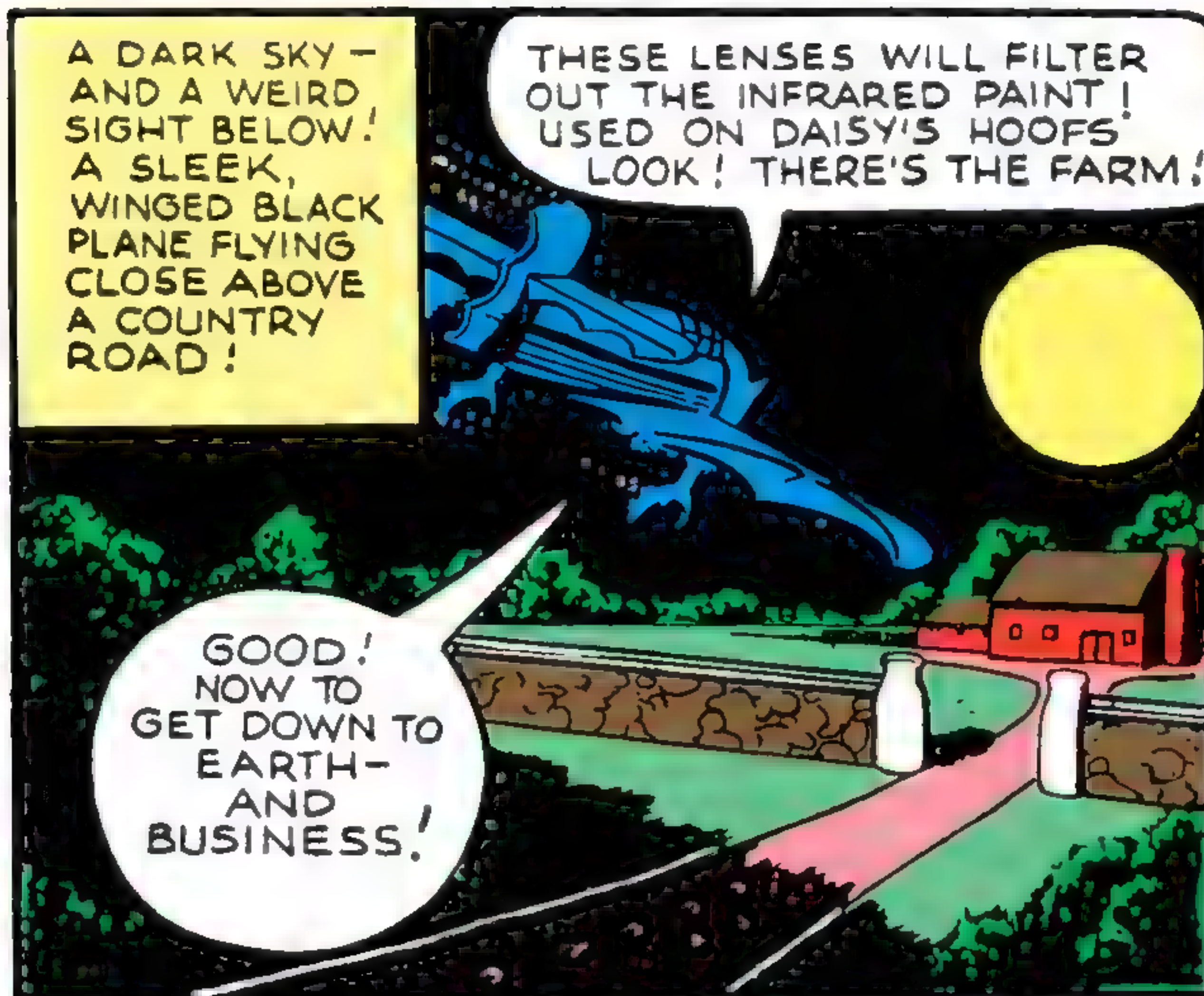
I'M GETTIN' OUTA HERE!

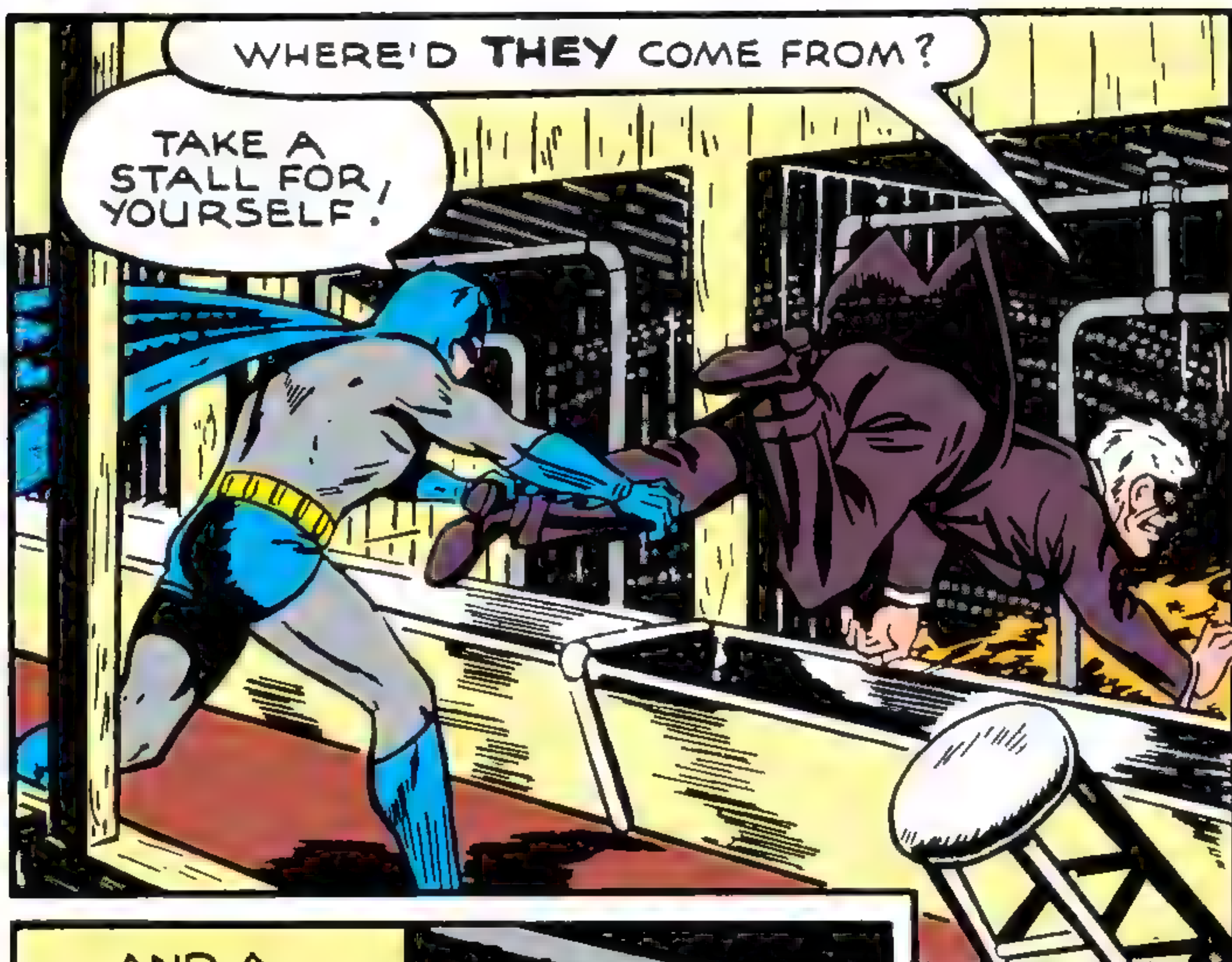


GET IT NOW, ROBIN? THEY'LL HEAD STRAIGHT FOR THE DAIRY STABLES - AND I'LL WAGER THAT'S THE HIDEOUT WHERE OUR CHIEF PRIZE IS!

SORRY, BATMAN, I LOST MY HEAD!

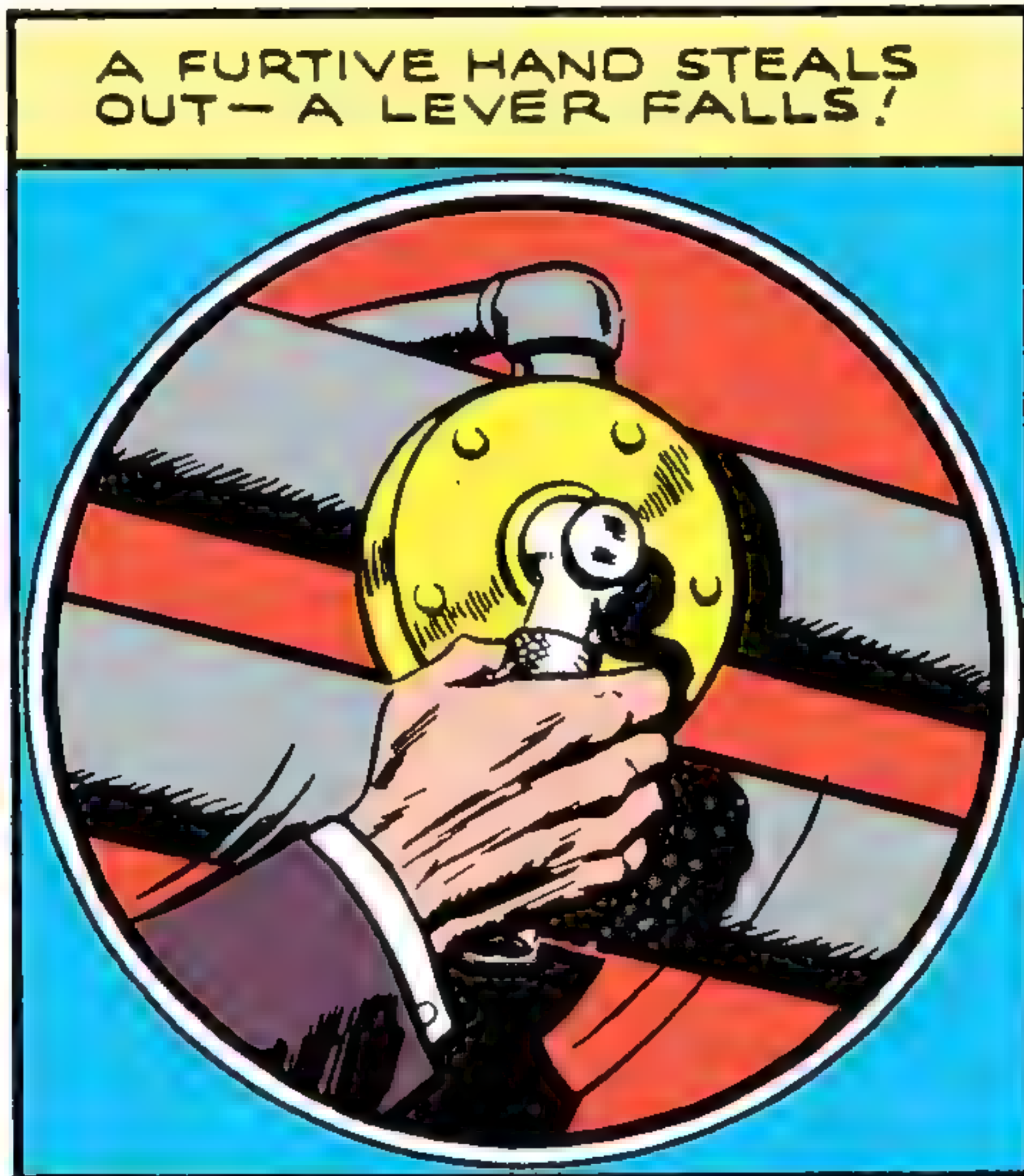
GIT UP THERE, DAISY!



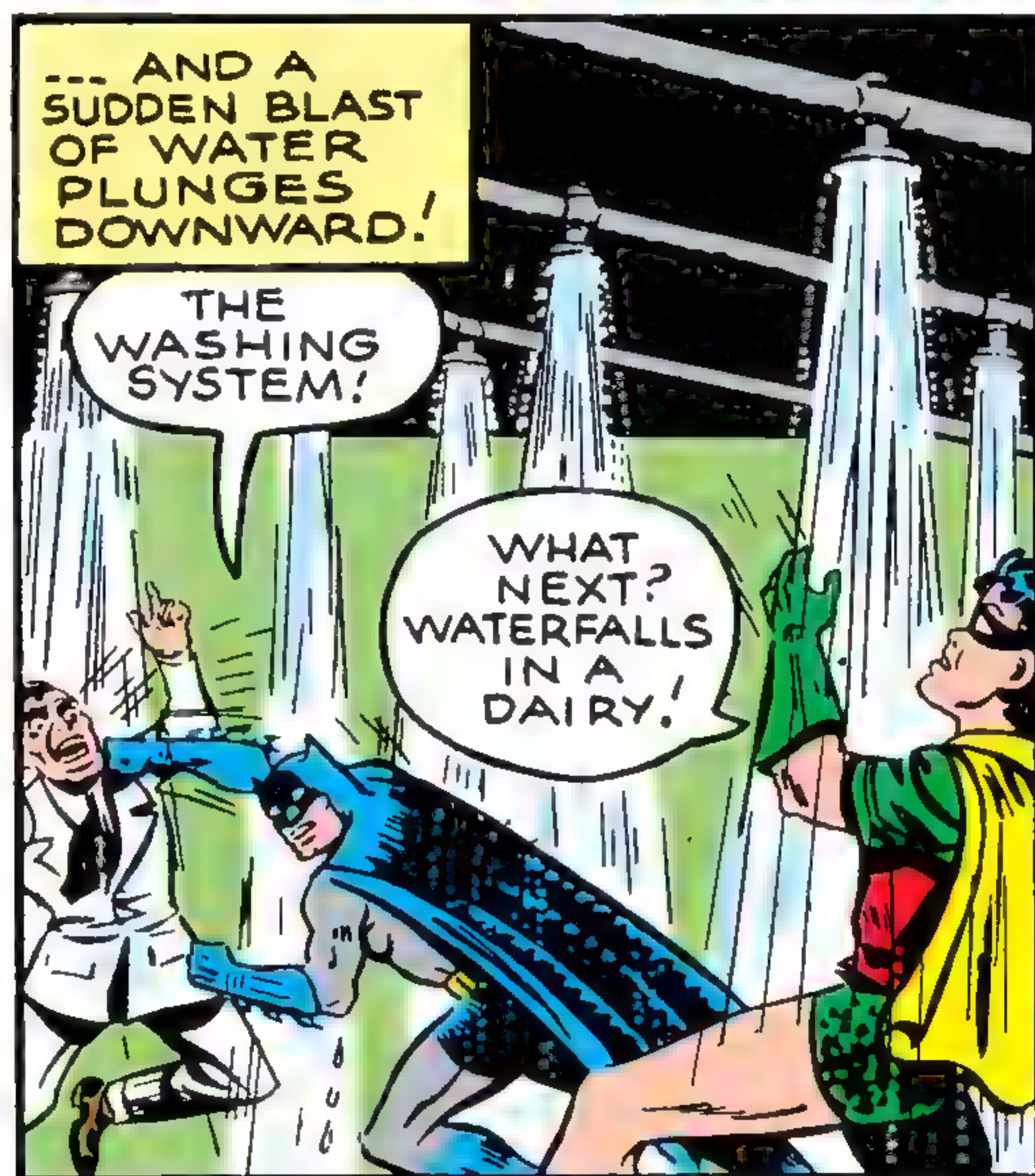


WHERE'D THEY COME FROM?

TAKE A
STALL FOR,
YOURSELF.



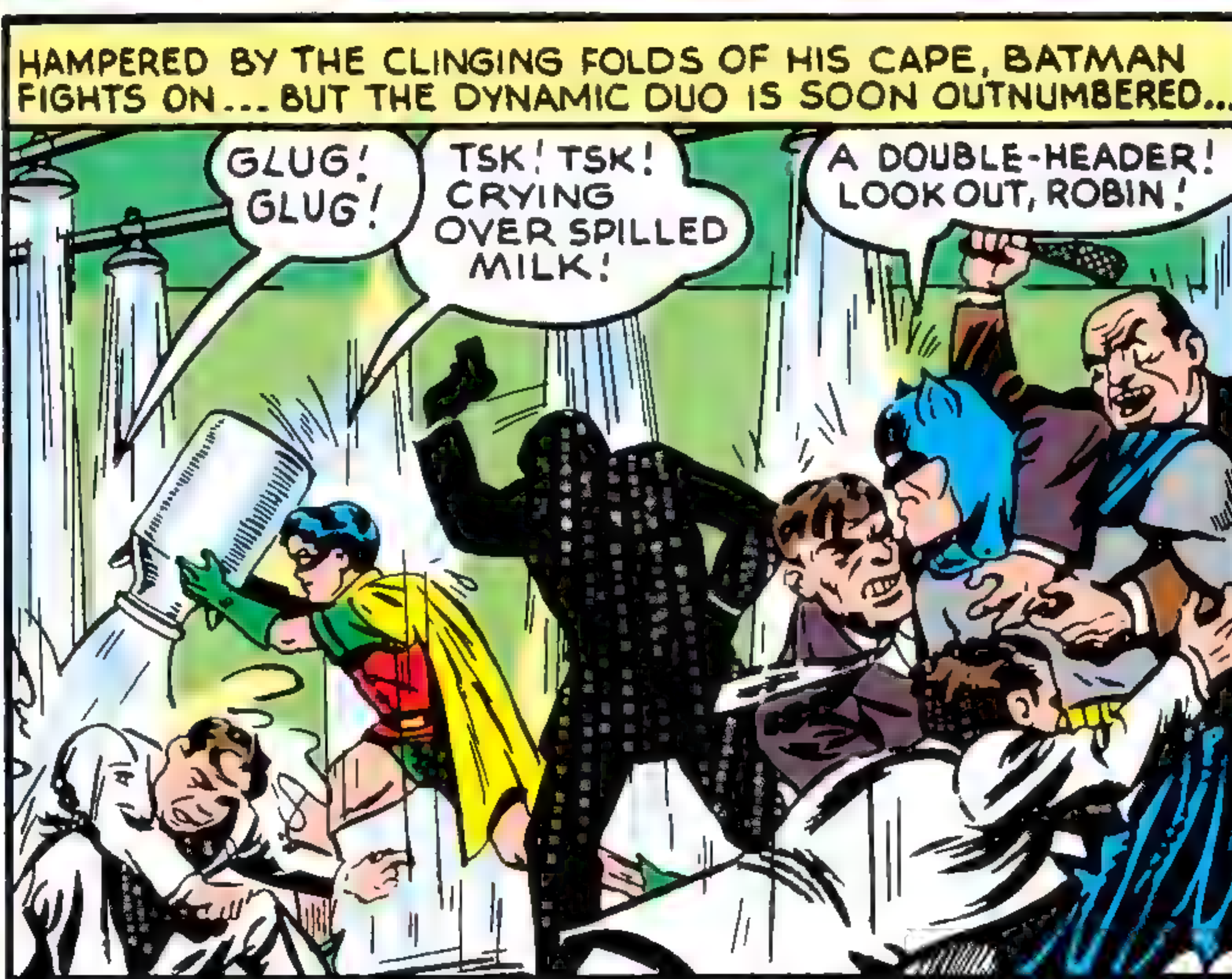
A FURTIVE HAND STEALS
OUT—A LEVER FALLS!



... AND A
SUDDEN BLAST
OF WATER
PLUNGES
DOWNWARD!

THE
WASHING
SYSTEM!

WHAT
NEXT?
WATERFALLS
IN A
DAIRY!



HAMPERED BY THE CLINGING FOLDS OF HIS CAPE, BATMAN
FIGHTS ON... BUT THE DYNAMIC DUO IS SOON OUTNUMBERED...

GLUG!
GLUG!

TSK! TSK!
CRYING
OVER SPILLED
MILK!

A DOUBLE-HEADER!
LOOK OUT, ROBIN!

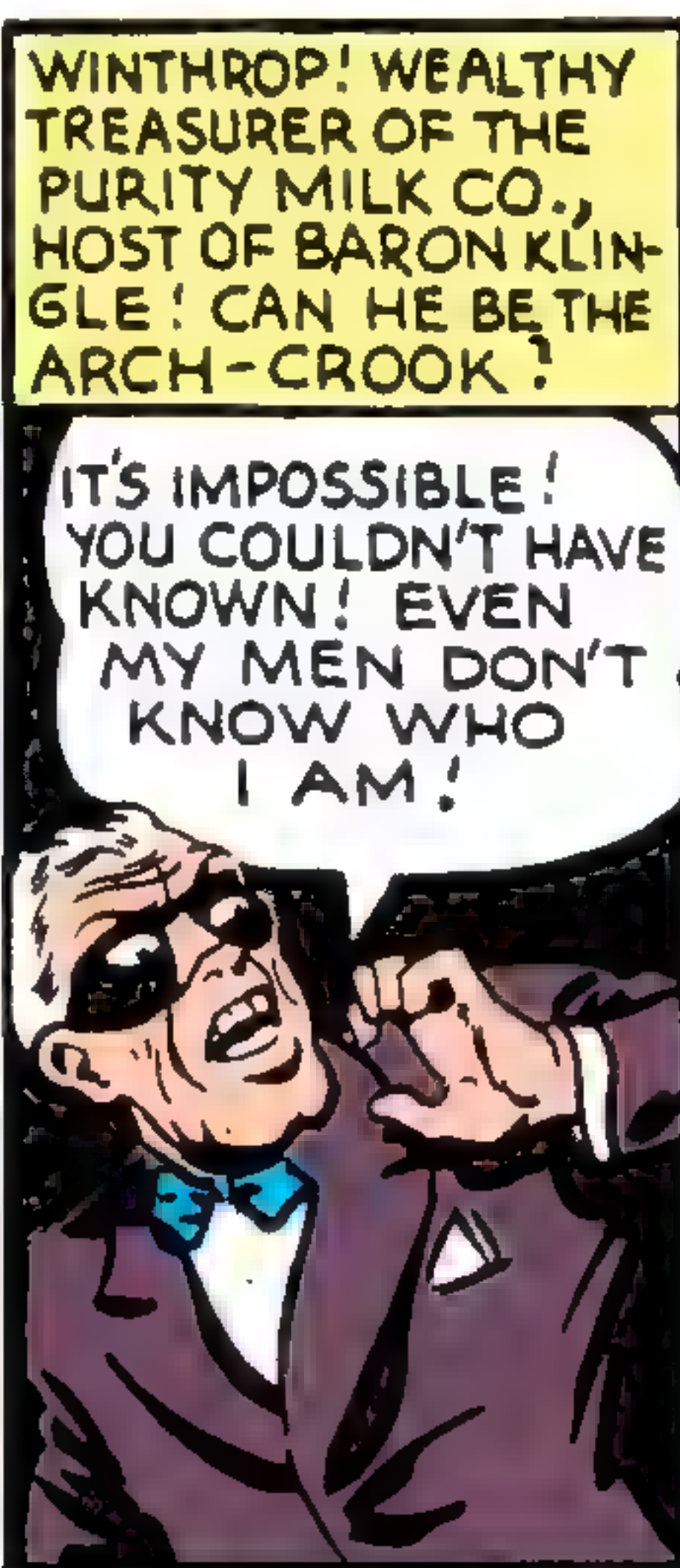


...AND FINALLY OVERPOWERED!

WELL, WELL! NOBLE FIGHTING
DESERVES A NOBLE END!
TRIGGER, TAKE
THEM TO THE PAS-
TEURIZING PLANT!

YOU CAN
DROP THAT
MASK, WIN-
THROP! I CAN
SEE RIGHT
THROUGH YOU!

BUT... BUT...
IT CAN'T BE!



WINTHROP! WEALTHY
TREASURER OF THE
PURITY MILK CO.,
HOST OF BARON KLIN-
GLE! CAN HE BE THE
ARCH-CROOK?

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
YOU COULDN'T HAVE
KNOWN! EVEN
MY MEN DON'T
KNOW WHO
I AM!



I ADMIRE YOUR
CLEVER SLEUTHING,
BATMAN! WHAT
ELSE DID YOU
FIGURE
OUT?

IT WAS EASY, WINTHROP!
THE JOBS WERE HELPED
FROM THE INSIDE! YOU
WERE PRESENT AT EACH
PARTY! YOU GOT THE
SKELETON KEY... YOU
DRUGGED THE GUARDS! AND
YOU ARE THE JEWEL COL-
LECTOR! ONLY AN EXPERT
WOULD HAVE SELECTED
THE JEWELS YOU TOOK!

WHEN ONE OF YOUR THUGS LEFT A WHITE BUTTON BEHIND... THE REST WAS EASY! NO ONE SUSPECTED A MILKMAN, BUT A MILKMAN WAS ALWAYS AROUND!

TOO BAD YOU CAN'T REPORT YOUR FINDINGS! WHEN THIS THERMOMETER READS 145 DEGREES, YOU AND THE KID ARE GOING INTO THE VAT! GRADE A PASTEURIZED CORPSES!

BUT BATMAN HOLDS A DANGEROUS ACE! THE LIVE-STEAM HOSE FOR CLEANING THE VATS!

NOT SO FAST, WINTHROP! DON'T MOVE, ANYONE! ONE STEP AND YOU'LL LOOK LIKE STUFFED SHIRTS IN A STEAM LAUNDRY!

YEOW! IF HE TURNS THAT KNOB, WE'RE GONERS!

BOYS! LET ME OUTA HERE!

WHILE THE CROOKS FLEE IN CONFUSION, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS WORK SWIFTLY TO FREE THEMSELVES!

RUN! HE'LL STEAM US LIKE CLAMS!

THIS IS OUR ONLY CHANCE, ROBIN! BUT IF WE DON'T HURRY, WE'LL BE SCALDED TO DEATH.

...GEE! BATMAN... I'M TRYING! THERE-GOT IT!

BURSTING OUT OF THEIR BONDS-THE FIGHTING FURIES RACE AFTER THE FLEEING CROOKS!

PHEW! IT WAS GETTING STUFFY IN THERE!

THERE THEY GO-TOWARD THE BARN!

I'LL CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE SILO AND KEEP MY EYES, PEELED.

THE DOOR'S LOCKED TIGHT! OHO! BETTER HURRY! THEY'RE NOT LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN THAT HAY... MUST BE A TRAP DOOR!

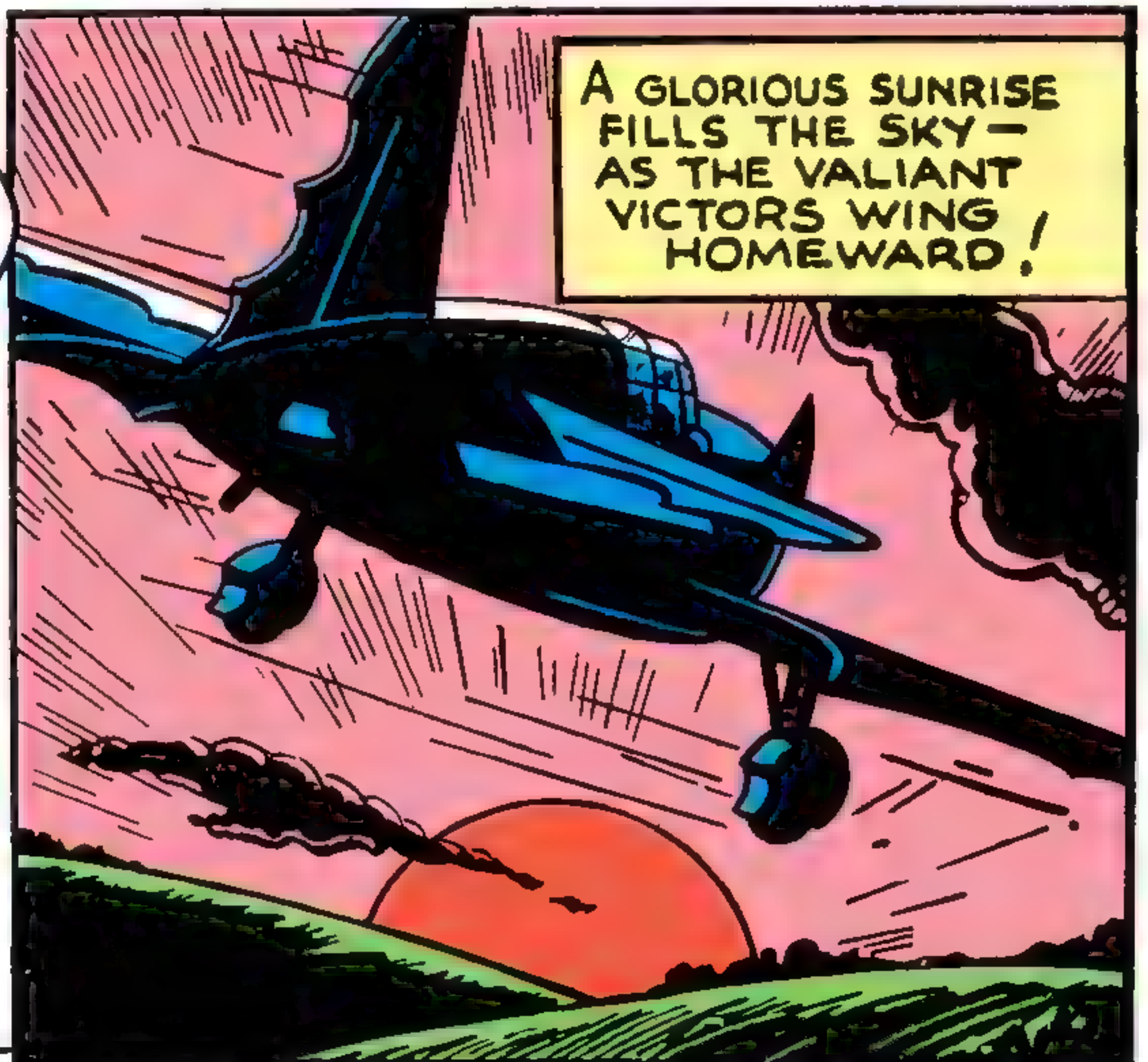
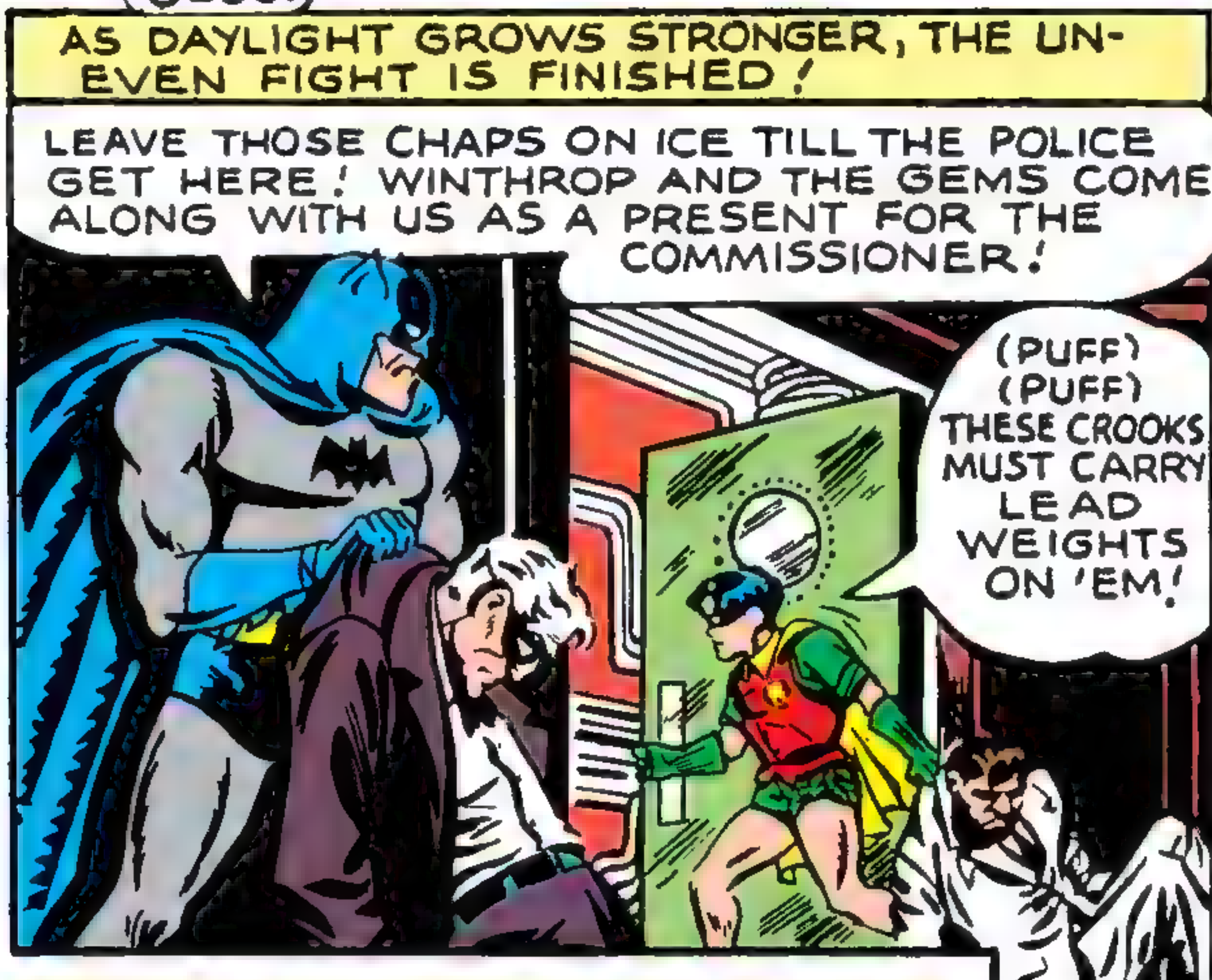
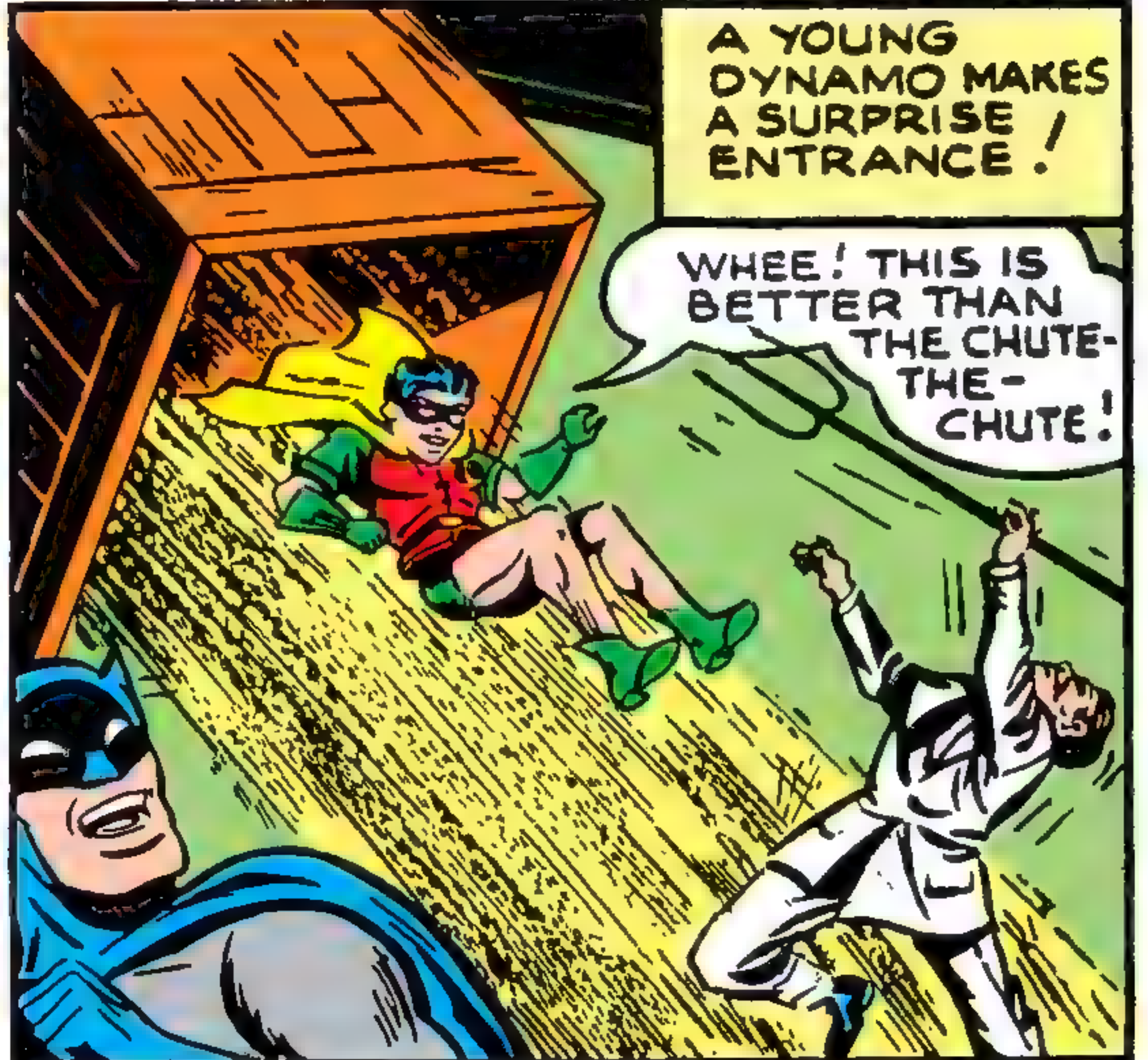
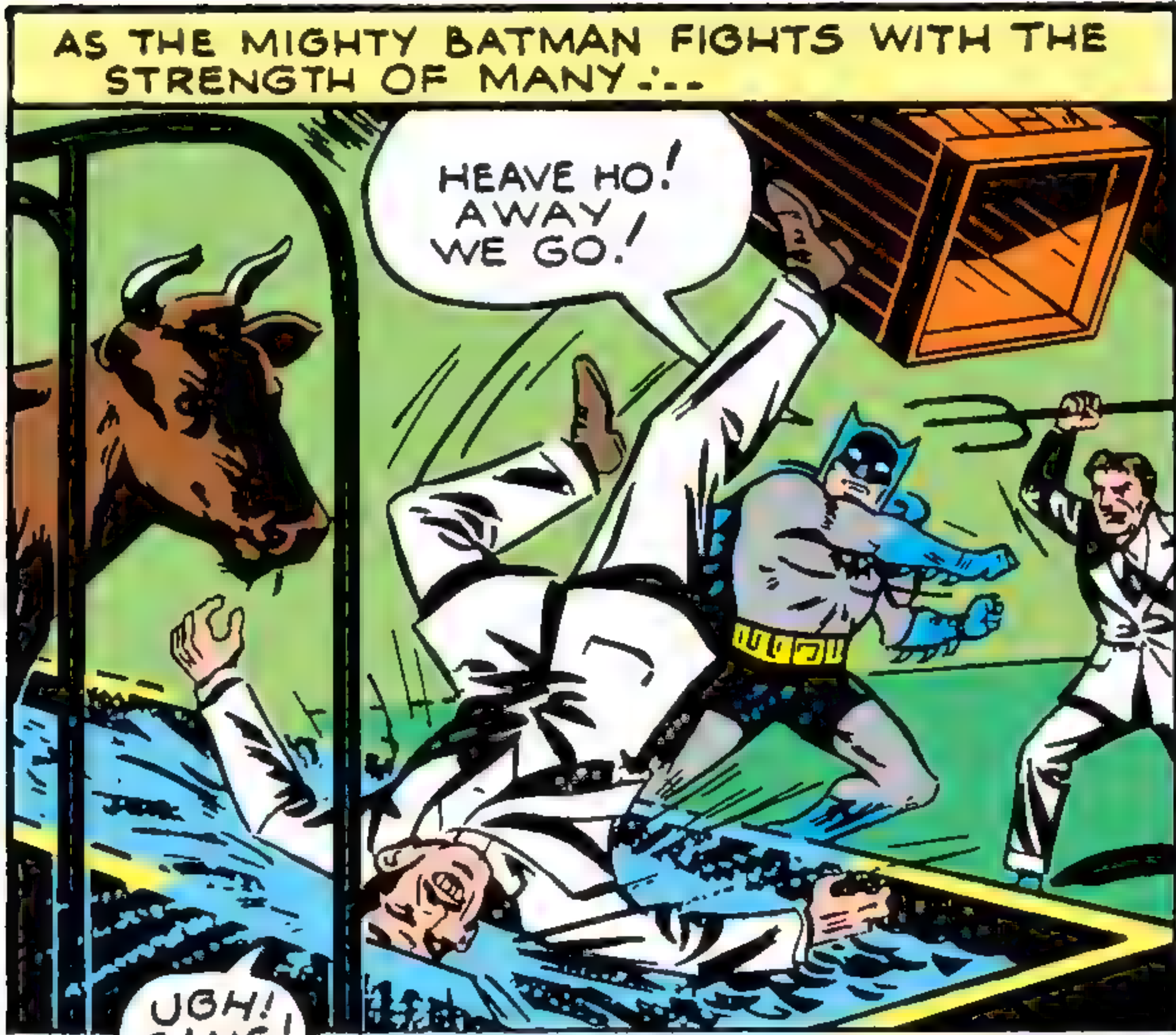
LIKE A GIANT, WINGED BIRD OF NIGHT, THE ACROBATMAN CRASHES THROUGH THE BARN WINDOW!

...WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE!

HELP! THERE ARE BATS IN HERE!

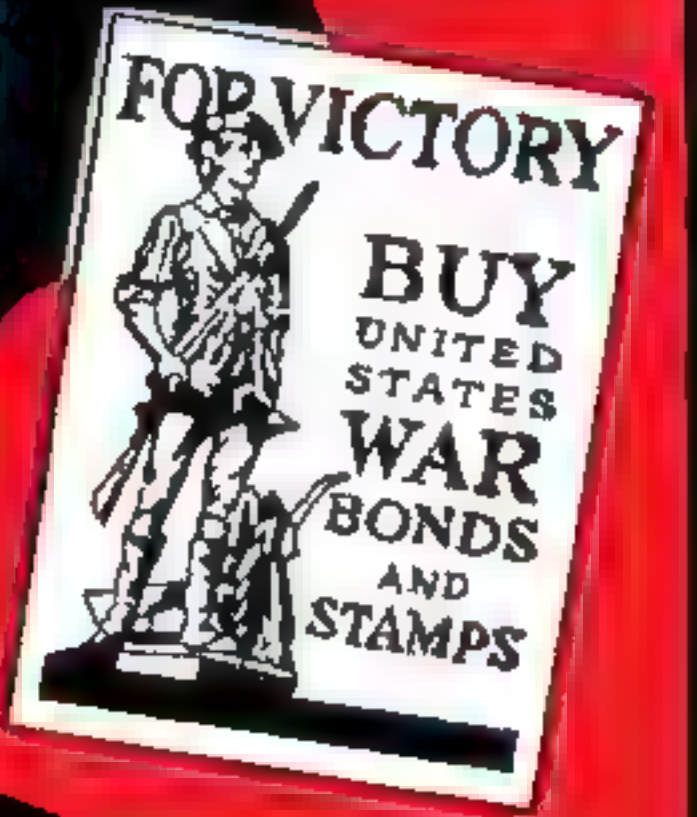
TWO HEELS GET THE BOOT!

OUCH!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -



IT'S ABOUT TIME SOMEONE PAID SOME ATTENTION TO ME--THE PAPER ON WHICH THIS **BATMAN** MAGAZINE IS PRINTED! AND IF YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING EXCITING ABOUT A SHEET OF NEWSPRINT THAT WOULDN'T RATE A SECOND LOOK EXCEPT FOR THE WORDS AND PICTURES -- WHY, THAT JUST PROVES YOU HAVEN'T BEEN AROUND! EVER SINCE I WAS A TALL YOUNG SPRUCE TREE IN THE BIG WOODS I'VE SEEN THINGS THAT WOULD CURL YOUR WHISKERS, IF ANY--AND THEN, I SAW THE BATTLING **BATMAN** AND THE RECKLESS **ROBIN** PUNCH THEIR WAY RIGHT ALONG WITH ME FROM LOGGING CAMP TO PULP MILL TO THE THUNDERING PRESS ROOM! LIFE, DEATH, THRILLS, CHILLS--YOU'LL LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT ALL OF THEM AS YOU TURN THE PAGES AND READ -- "THE ADVENTURES OF THE BRANDED TREE!!"



MARK WELL THIS TREE WITH THE DAGGER-SHAPED SCAR CUT DEEP IN THE LIVING WOOD...

... FOR HERE BEGINS A DEADLY NORTH WOODS DRAMA OF RAZOR-EDGED WITS AND STEEL-HARD WEAPONS!

AY WONDER WHAT THIS DAGGER MARK BANE MEAN, SCOTTY?

FOOSH, YONSON-- I DINNA DOOBT IT MEANS NAETHIN' AT ALL! SOME DAFT HUNTSMAN HACKED IT HAVIN' NA BETTER WOR- R-R-RK!

AH, WEEL-- TWILL MAKE GOOD PULP PAPER AT THE MILL, FOR A' IT'S UGLY CAR-R-R-RVIN'!

AY BANE GLAD HUNTING SEASON OVER! WOODS NOT BANE SAFE FOR LUMBER-YACKS WHEN CITY FALLERS YUMP AROUND SHOOTING EVERYT'ING IN SIGHT!

BUT OLAF YONSON HAS SPOKEN TOO SOON-- FOR A CERTAIN BREED OF "CITY FALLERS" DOES NOT RECOGNIZE ANY CLOSED SEASON ON ITS ILLICIT HUNTING EXPEDITIONS...

IT'S RIGHT CLOSE BY... KEEP YOUR EYES SKINNED FOR THE SIGN OF THE DAGGER!

LISSEN--I HEAR SOMEBODY CHOPPIN'!

WHY'D THEY HAFTA PICK THAT TREE OUT OF THE WHOLE FOREST? YA DON'T THINK THEY'RE WISE, DO YA, BULL?

SHUT UP AND GET READY TO PLUG 'EM WIT' DAT SILENCED RIFLE! WE'LL DO OUR T'INKIN' AFTER WE'VE FINISHED DIS JOB!

A MUFFLED POP-- AND A STEEL-JACKETED SLUG BORES INTO A MAN'S DEFENSELESS BACK!

AAAA-A-A-A...

EH? MON, WHAT AILS YE?

REACH FOR DA SKY, OR YA'LL GET A TASTE O' DA SAME!

WHY, YE MUR-R-R-RDERIN' SONS O' SATAN-- YE'LL NA HAE THE SATISFACTION O' SEEIN' THE PRIDE O' GLEN CAMERON GROVEL AFORE YER COWARDLY WEAPONS!

I'LL BREAK YE WITH BARE FISTS - AAA-A-A-A...

OKAY-- YA'RE ASKIN' FOR IT!

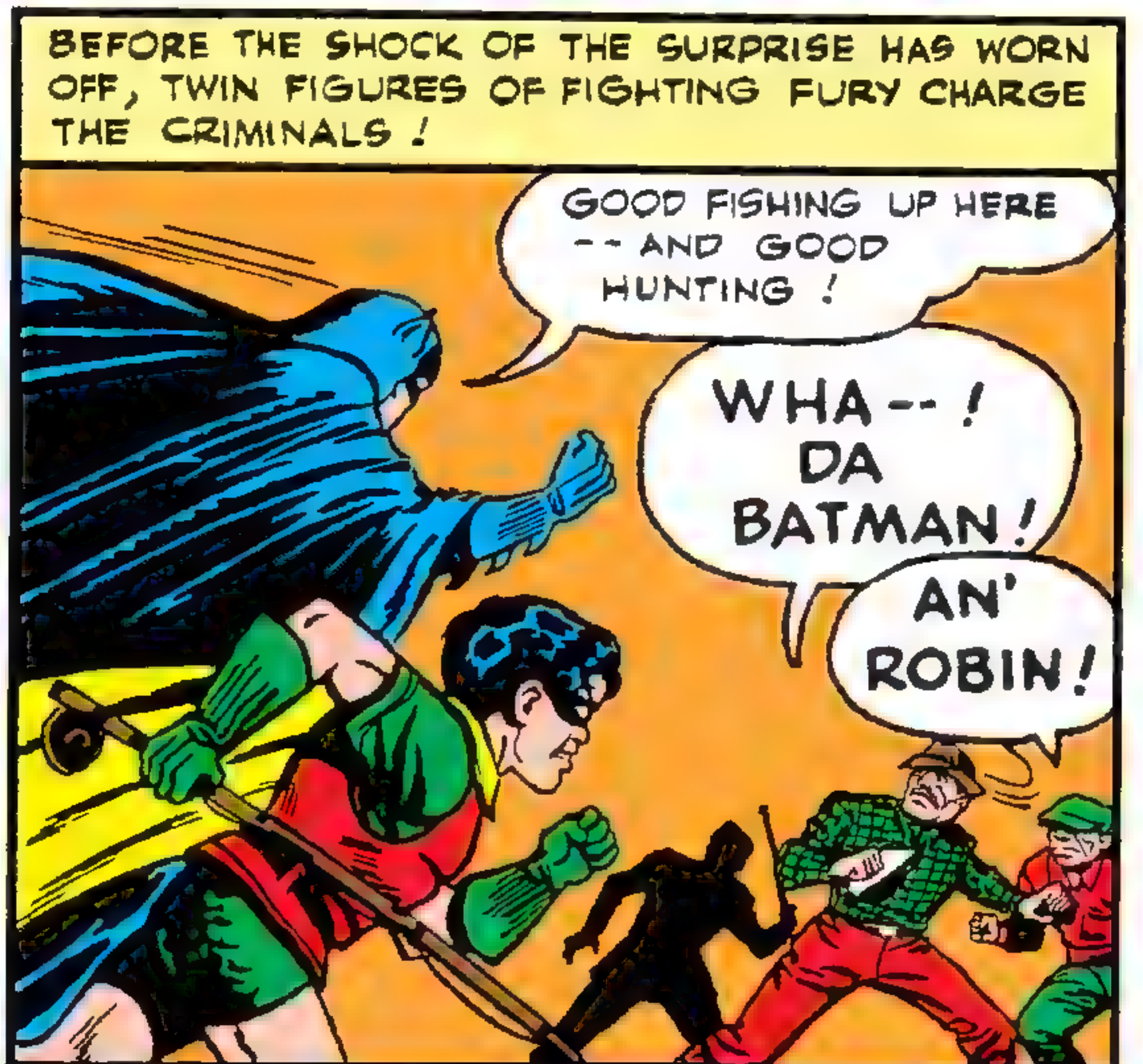
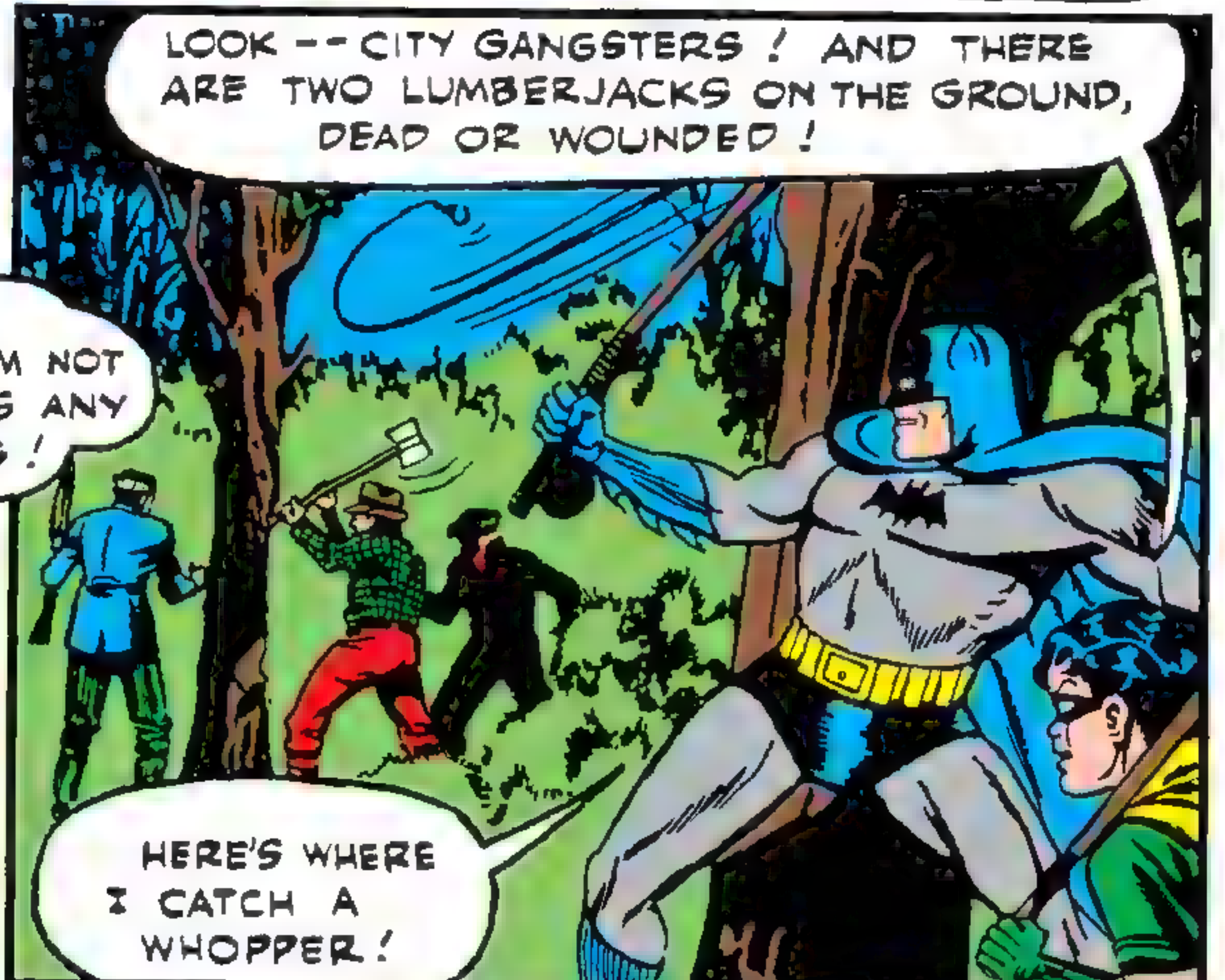
WHY DIDN'T YA LET ME USE THIS? THEY'LL HEAR THAT SHOT AT THE LOGGIN' CAMP!

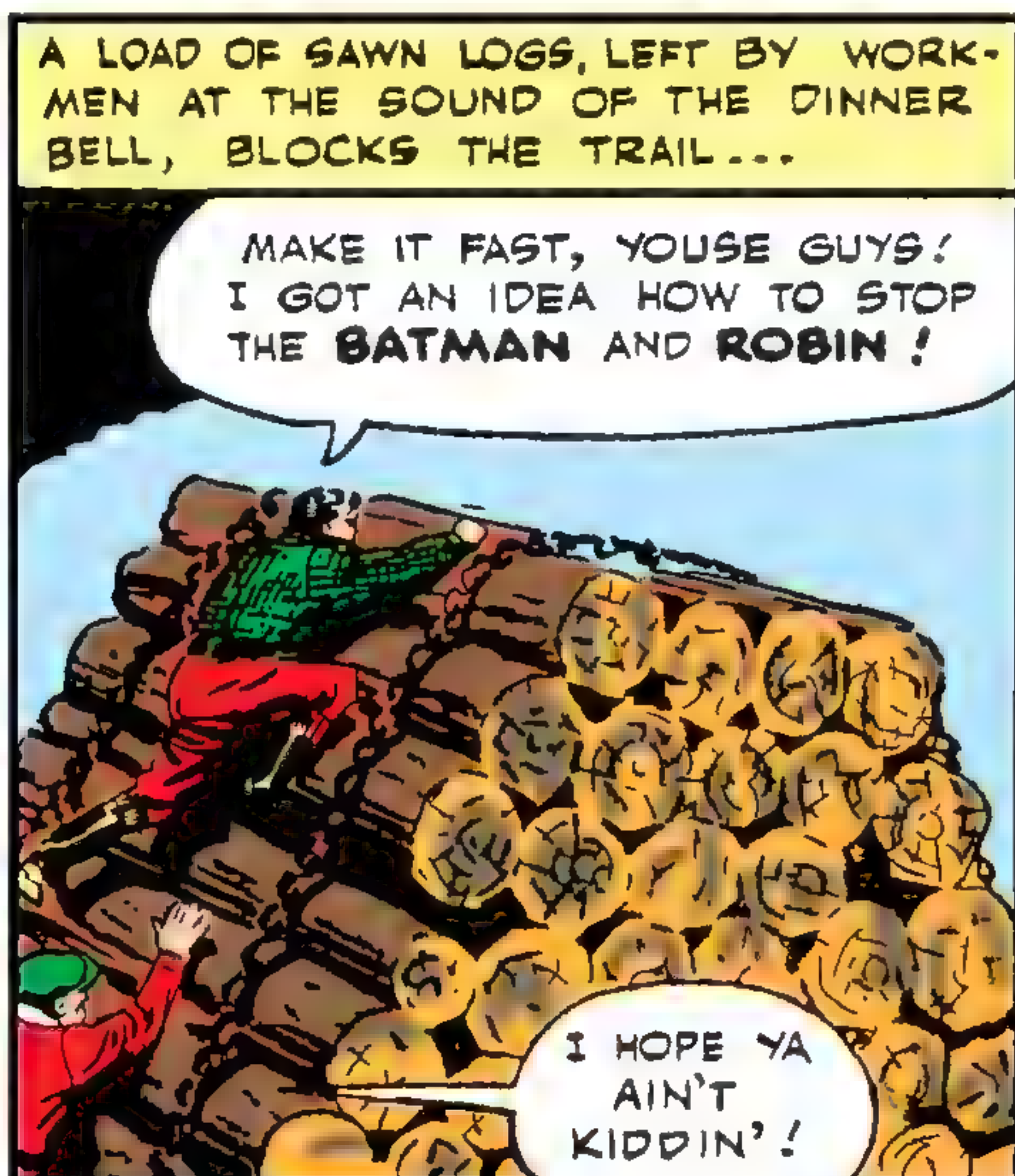
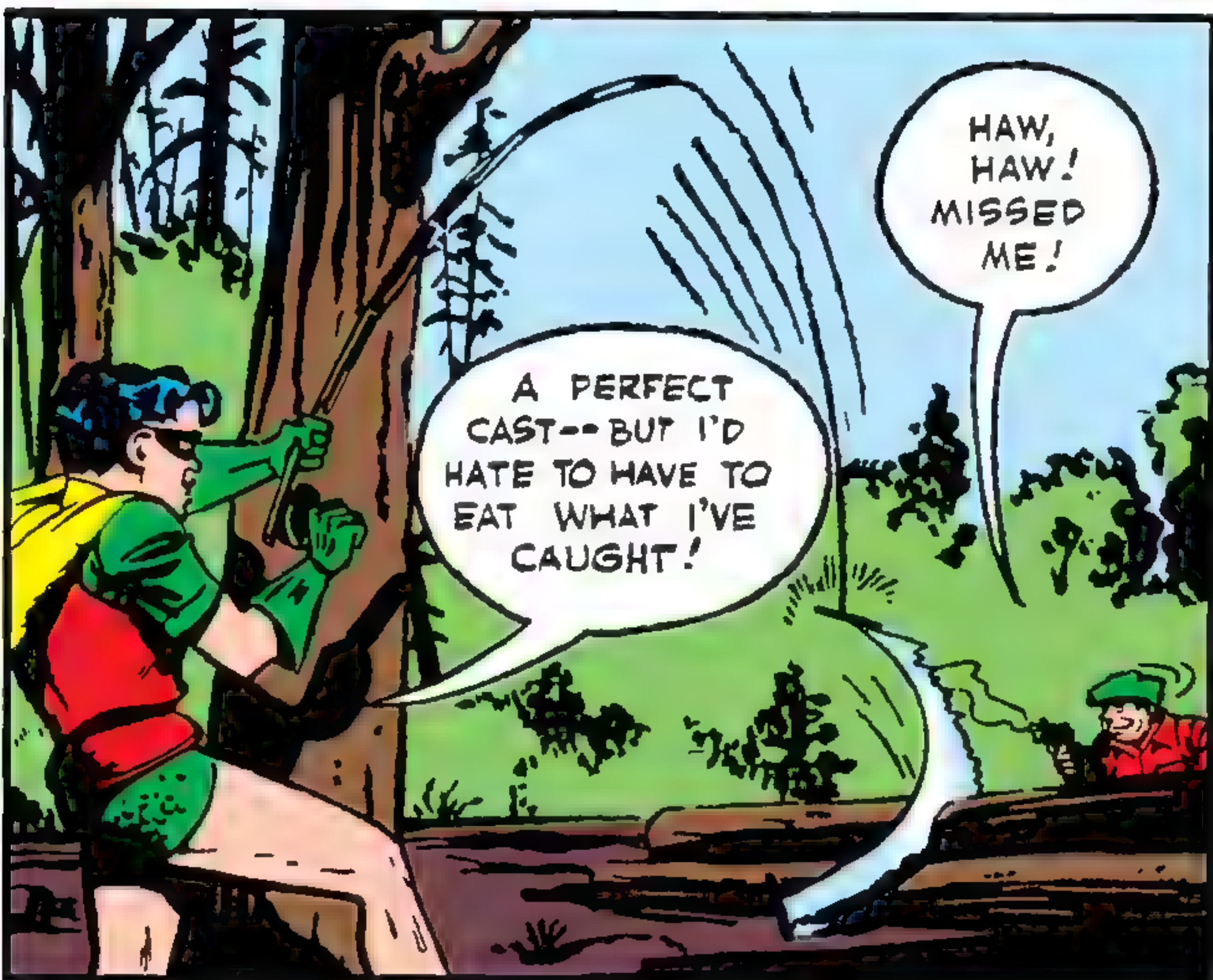
NOT FAR AWAY, TWO OTHER "CITY FALLERS" HAVE INVADDED THE BIG WOODS IN SEARCH OF NOTHING MORE SINISTER THAN RELAXATION --



-- BRUCE WAYNE, WEALTHY SPORTSMAN, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON!

OUTER GARMENTS FLUNG ASIDE, THE PAIR BECOMES THE FAMOUS CRIME-CRUSHING TEAM OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!





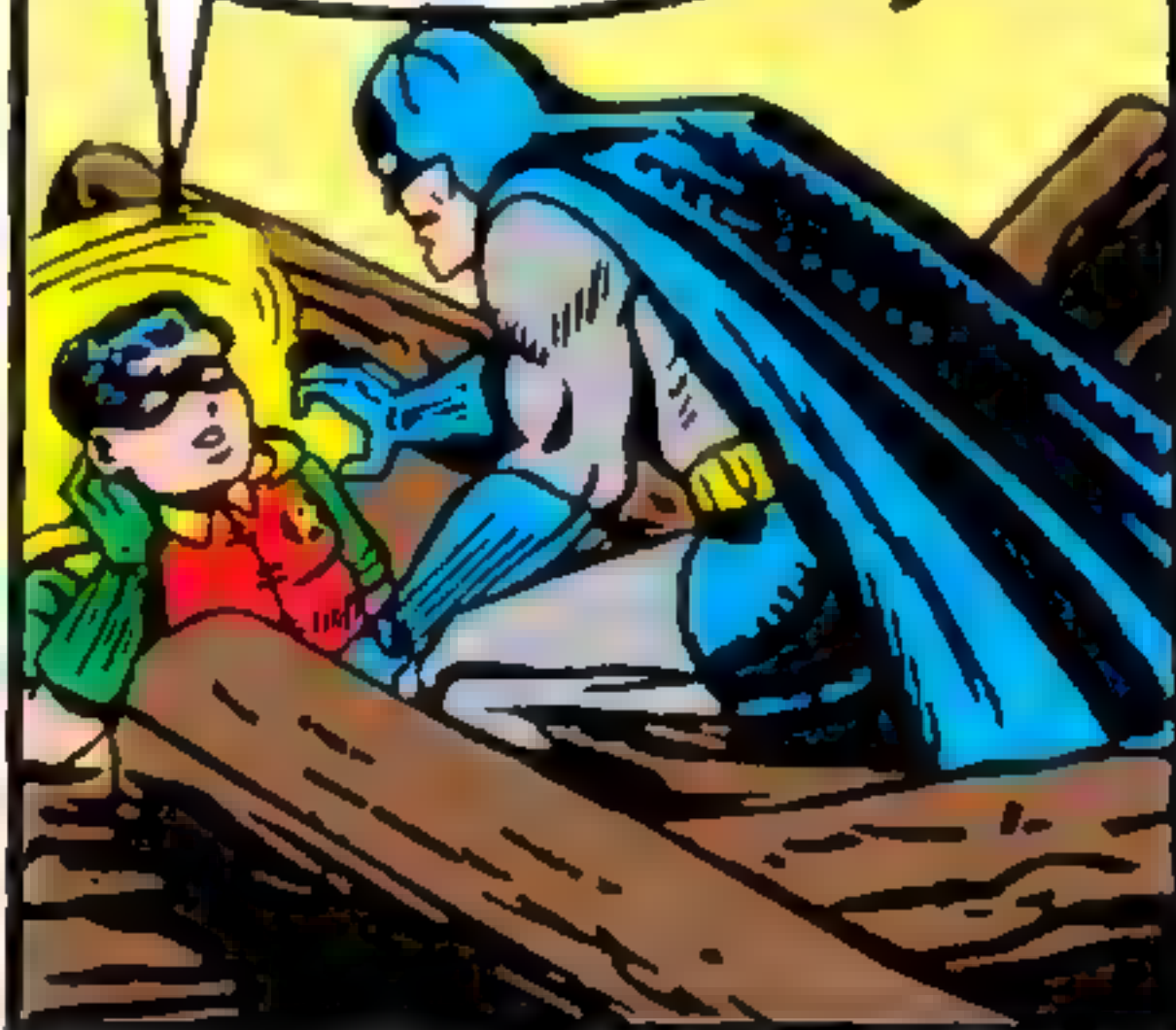


--- TROUBLE FOR YOU!

MINUTES LATER...

ROBIN! SAY SOMETHING! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, FELLA?

HUH?... HANG ONTO MY HEAD, BATMAN--- IT WON'T STOP SPINNING!



LATER, WHEN FIRST AID HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED TO THE ONE LIVING VICTIM OF THE COWARDLY SHOOTING...

THAT'LL HAVE TO DO TILL WE CAN GET YOU TO A DOCTOR, SCOTTY!

THEY GOT AWAY AND OLAF IS DEAD! HAVEN'T YOU ANY IDEA WHAT THEY WERE AFTER?

WEEL, YE MIGHT TAKE A LOOK AT THOT TREE WE WERE WOR-R-KIN' ON... IT WAS MARKED W/ A DAGGER, YE KEN!



BUT THE DAGGER-BRANDED TREE HAS ALREADY STARTED ITS JOURNEY TO THE MILL...

OUI, M'SIEU BATMAN-- PIERRE AN' I SEE ZE MARK BUT WE SINK NOZZING OF EET!

WE FEENISH CUTTING DOWN ZE TREE, AN' SAW EET UP, AN' SEND EET DOWN TO ZE RIVER!



THEN WE'D BETTER LOOK IN THE RIVER!

YOU WOULD NOT FIND IT EEN A LIFETIME, M'SIEU! ZERE ARE T'OUSAN'S OF LOGS, EACH EXACTLY LIKE ZE OZZER!

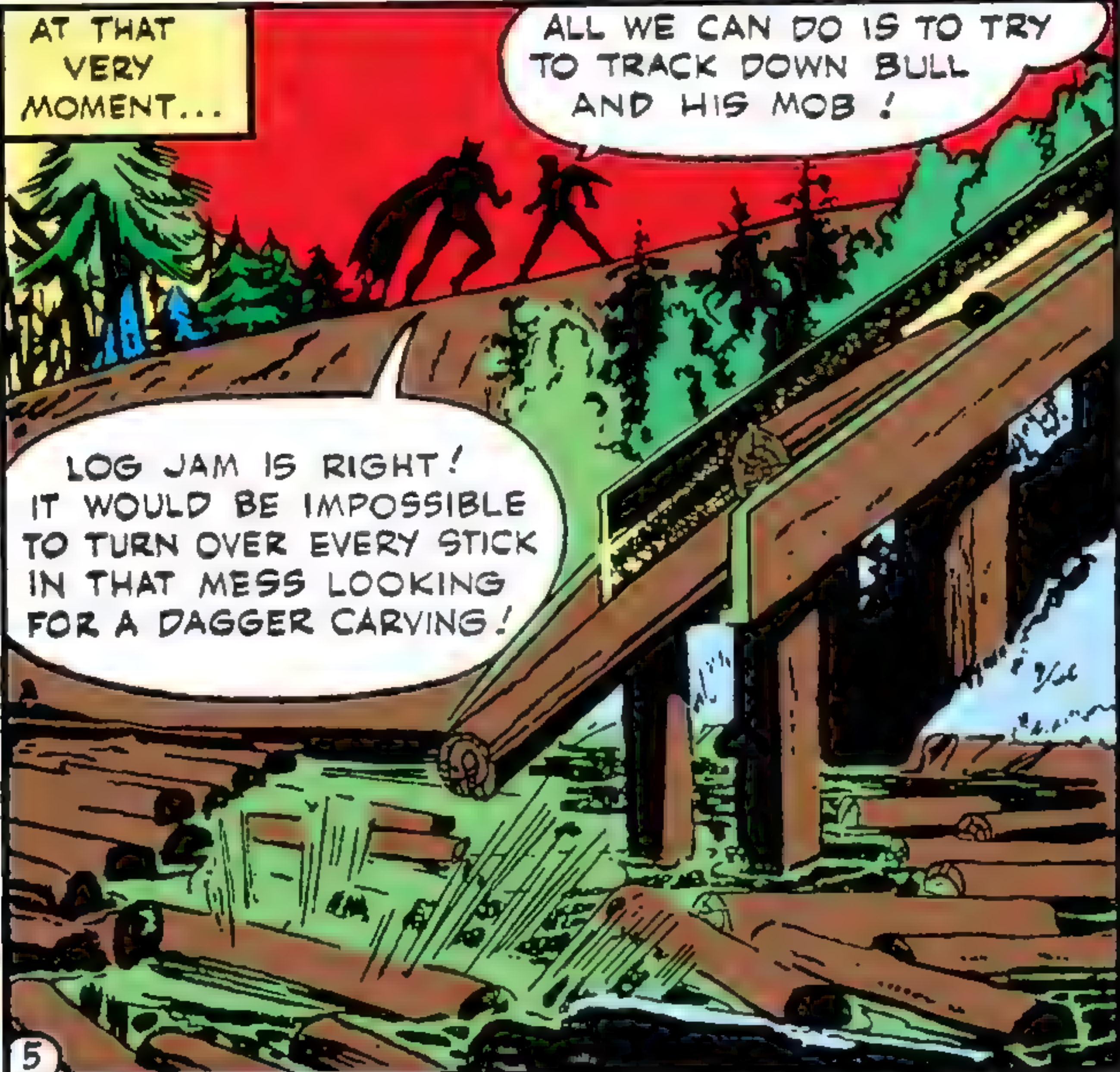
BATMAN, IT LOOKS AS IF WE'RE STUCK IN A LOG JAM!



AT THAT VERY MOMENT...

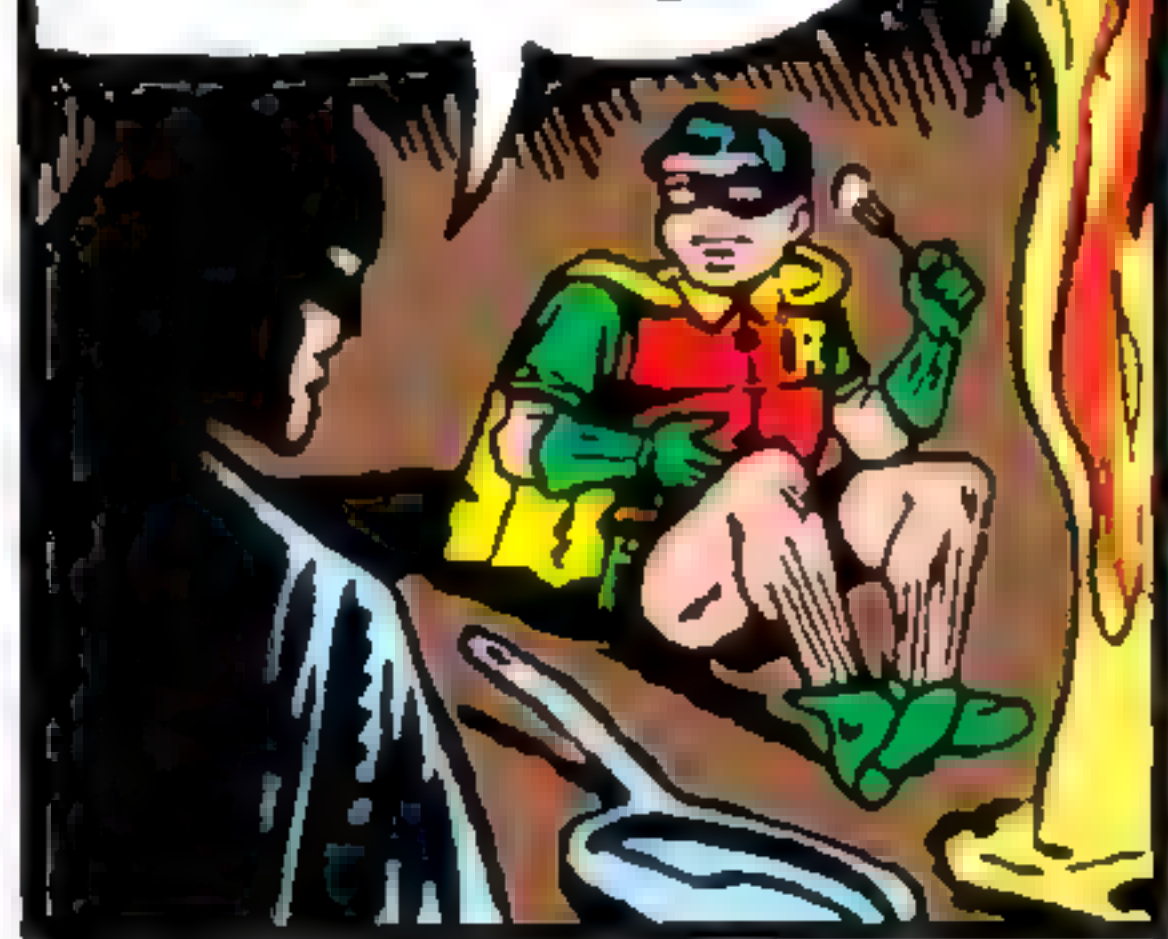
ALL WE CAN DO IS TO TRY TO TRACK DOWN BULL AND HIS MOB!

LOG JAM IS RIGHT! IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TURN OVER EVERY STICK IN THAT MESS LOOKING FOR A DAGGER CARVING!



ANYWAY, THESE FISH DIDN'T GET AWAY-- AND THEY TASTE TWICE AS GOOD NOW THAT WE'VE WORKED UP AN APPETITE!

DO THEY?... I'VE BEEN SO BUSY, TRYING TO THINK WHY GANGSTERS SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN ONE PARTICULAR TREE OUT OF A MILLION. I HAVEN'T NOTICED!



WHAT STRANGE SECRET, SYMBOLIZED BY THIS SINISTER SIGN OF THE DAGGER, HAS LURED DESPERATE MEN FROM THEIR UNDERWORLD HAUNTS TO COMMIT MURDER IN THE DEEP WOODS? LET'S SEE IF WE CAN FIND A CLUE IN THE GRIM EVENTS YET TO COME...



THAT NIGHT, VIOLENCE FLARES IN A NEARBY TOWN...

SURE I WORK ON THE LOGS AT THE PAPER MILL! WHY? ...OOOoo...

YA MEAN YA USED TO WORK THERE!

COME ON-- WE GOTTA KNOCK A COUPLE MORE OFFA DA PAYROLL!

THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

EMPLOYMENT OFFICE
PERKINS PAPER COMPANY

YOU'RE ALL HIRED! THREE OF OUR LOG HANDLERS MET WITH MYSTERIOUS ACCIDENTS LAST NIGHT AND ARE LAID OFF!

AIN'T THAT A COINCIDENCE?

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MAKE SURE THE LOGS KEEP GOING UP THAT BELT INTO THE MILL!

WOTTA BREAK! WE CAN'T MISS DA LOG WE'RE AFTER!

YOUR JOB IS TO WATCH THE LOGS AS THEY MOVE TOWARD THE CHOPPER, AND TAKE OUT THE ONES WITH KNOTS OR ROTTED PLACES, CUT THE IT SOUNDS SPOILED PLACES OUT FASCINATIN'! WITH THIS SAW AND PUT THE LOGS BACK!

CHEE-- A GUY WOULDN'T STAND MUCH CHANCE IF HE FELL IN!

HE'D BE CHOPPED TO BITS, AND WHISKED UP THAT SUCTION PIPE INTO THE DIGESTER VAT, WHERE SULFURIC ACID WOULD FINISH THE JOB!

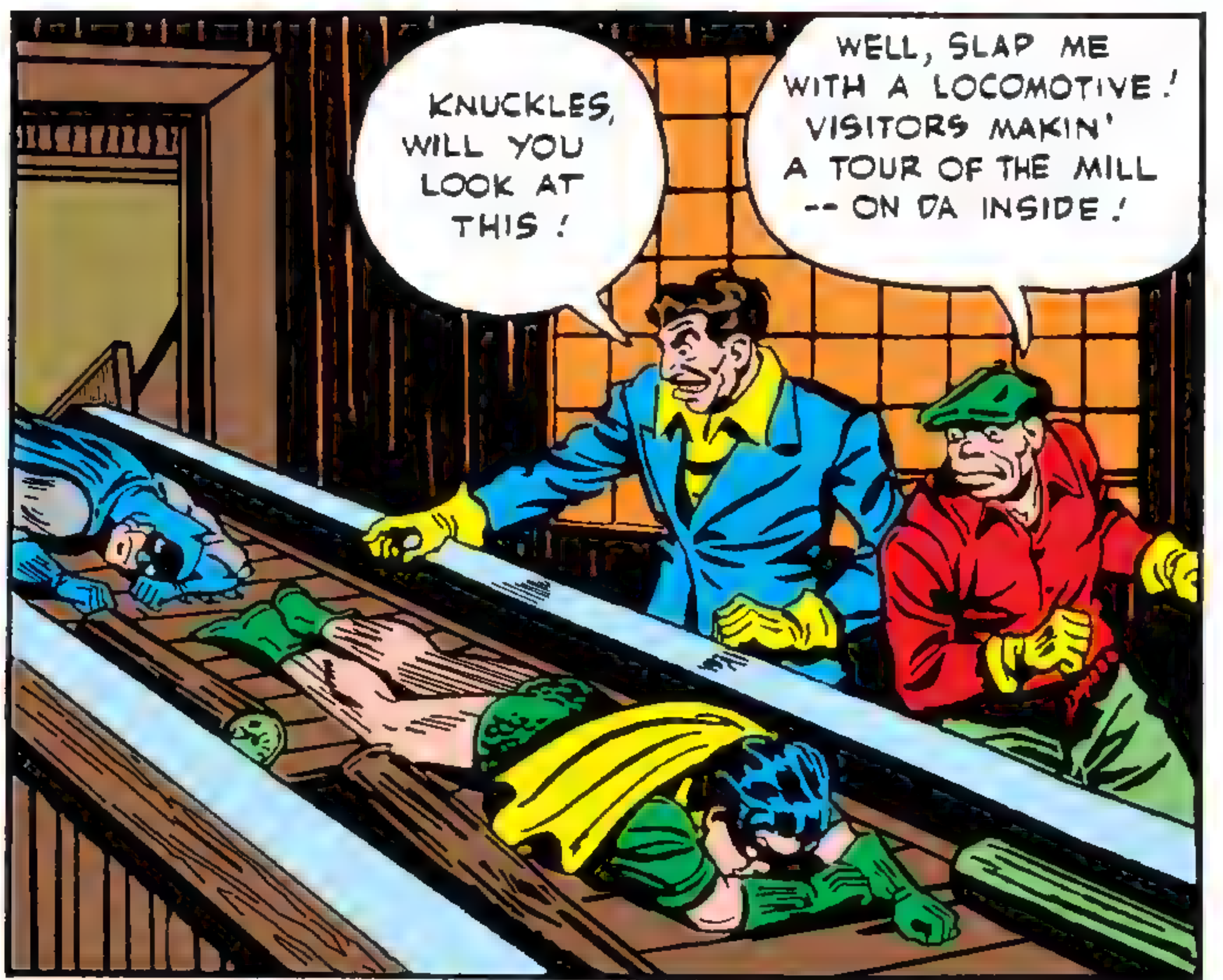
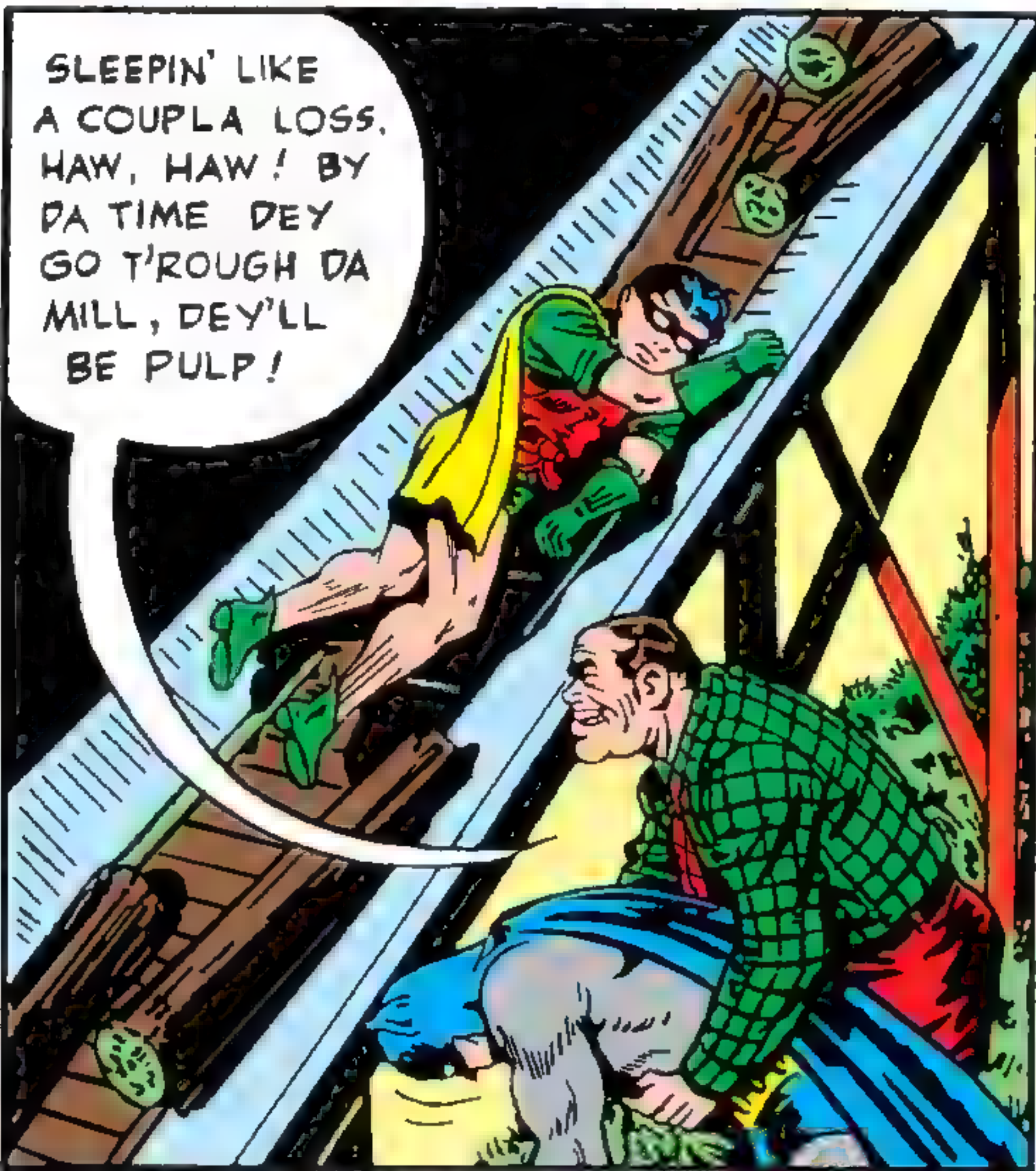
FROM THE DIGESTER, THE SOLUTION GOES THROUGH BLEACHING AND TINTING VATS AND INTO THE PAPER MACHINES! IT COMES OUT OF THE ROLLERS AT THE END AS FINISHED PAPER!

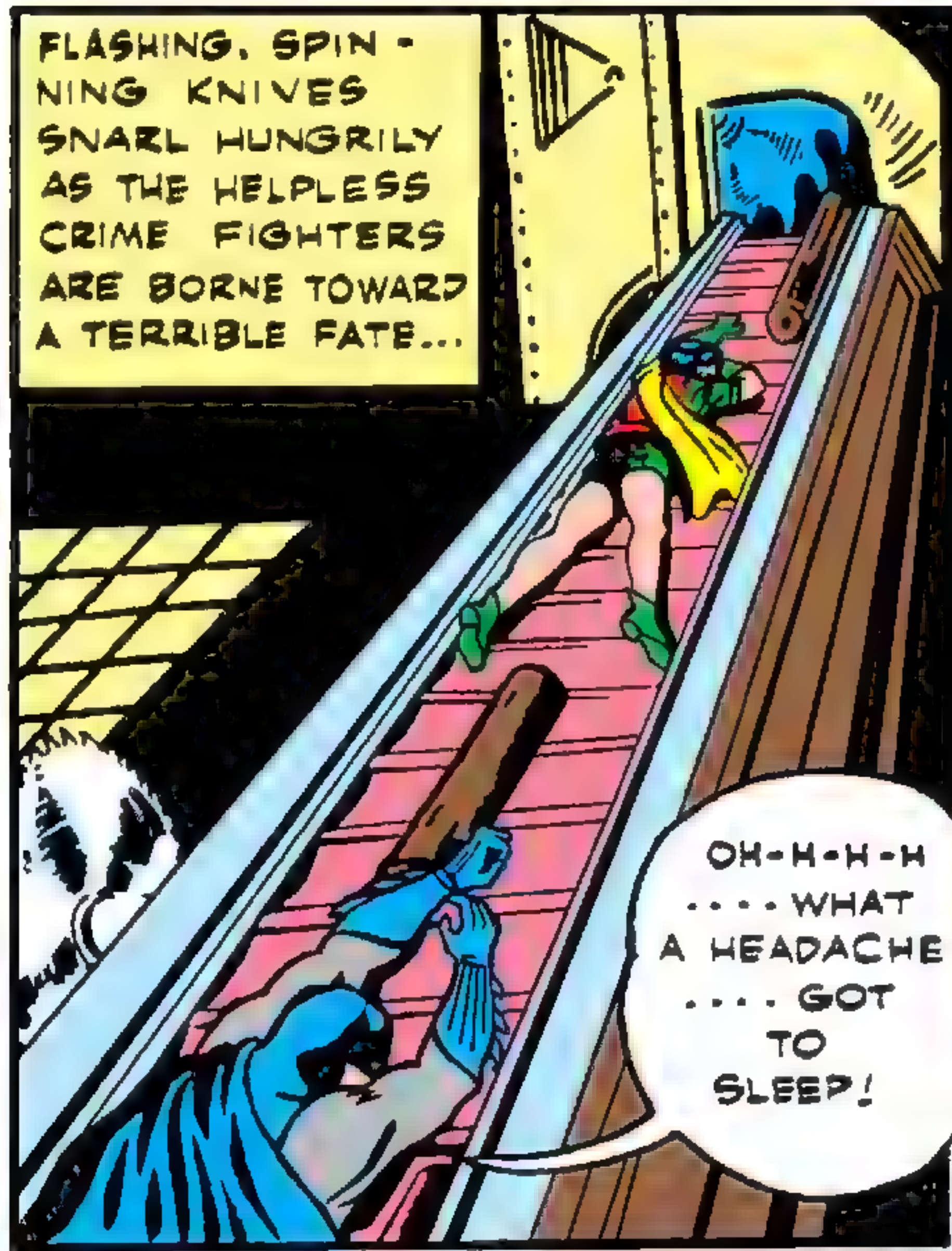
DO TELL!

MEANWHILE, AT THE LOCAL POLICE STATION...

NO, I AIN'T SEEN NO SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS-- BUT SOMEBODY BEAT UP THREE O' THE PAPER MILL WORKERS AN' SENT 'EM TO THE HOSPITAL LAST NIGHT!

HMMM--THAT MEANS THE PAPER MILL WILL HAVE TO HIRE THREE NEW MEN! I GET THE PICTURE!





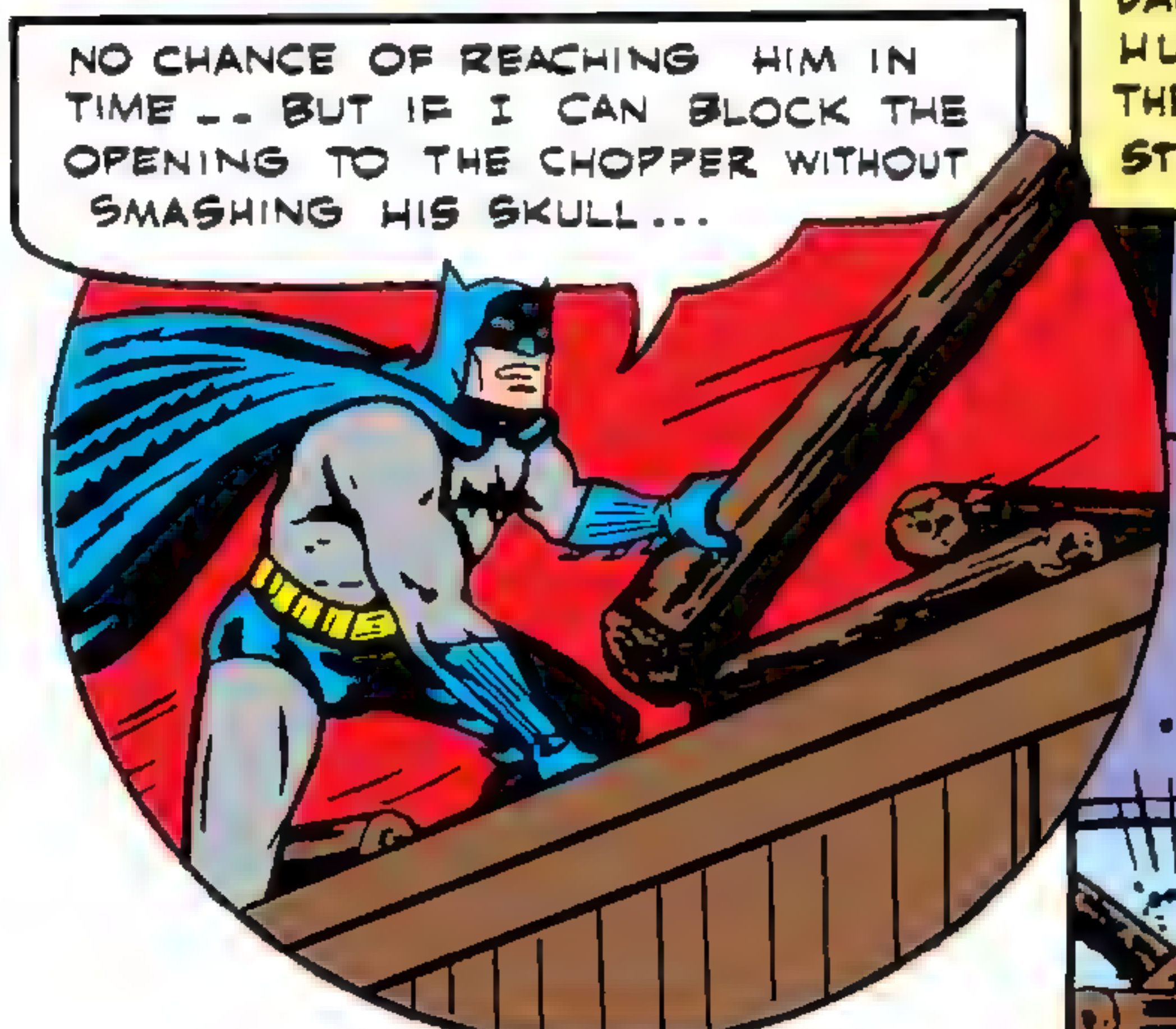
FLASHING, SPIN-
NING KNIVES
SNARL HUNGRILY
AS THE HELPLESS
CRIME FIGHTERS
ARE BORNE TOWARD
A TERRIBLE FATE...

OH-H-H-H
.... WHAT
A HEADACHE!
.... GOT
TO SLEEP!



WAKE UP, BATMAN! SPLIT
SECONDS CAN MEAN THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE
AND DEATH!

WHA---!
A LOG CONVEYOR IN
A PULP MILL!
.... ROBIN!



NO CHANCE OF REACHING HIM IN
TIME -- BUT IF I CAN BLOCK THE
OPENING TO THE CHOPPER WITHOUT
SMASHING HIS SKULL...

SUPPLE SINEWS ARE TAXED
TO THEIR UTMOST AS THE
DARK-CLAD WARRIOR
HURLS LOGS FASTER THAN
THE WHIRLING TEETH OF
STEEL CAN CHEW THEM?!



IF EVER A LOG JAM WAS
NEEDED, NOW'S THE
TIME!



WH-WHAT'S
HAPPENING?
....

OH, OH --
DA **BATMAN**
DON'T LIKE THE
IDEA O' GOIN'
T' ROUGH DA MILL!



COME ON,
FELLA --
WE'VE GOT
A LITTLE
CHORE TO
DO!

DIS IS YOUR
FAULT! YA
SHOULDA HAD SENSE
ENOUGH TA GIVE 'EM
AN EXTRA WHACK
AS DEY WENT BY!...
GIMME DAT CYLINDER!

GREAT SCOTT--
IT ALMOST
HAD ME!



YOU SKUNKS ARE GOING
THROUGH THE MILL
THIS TIME -- ON A
PERSONALLY CON-
DUCTED TOUR!

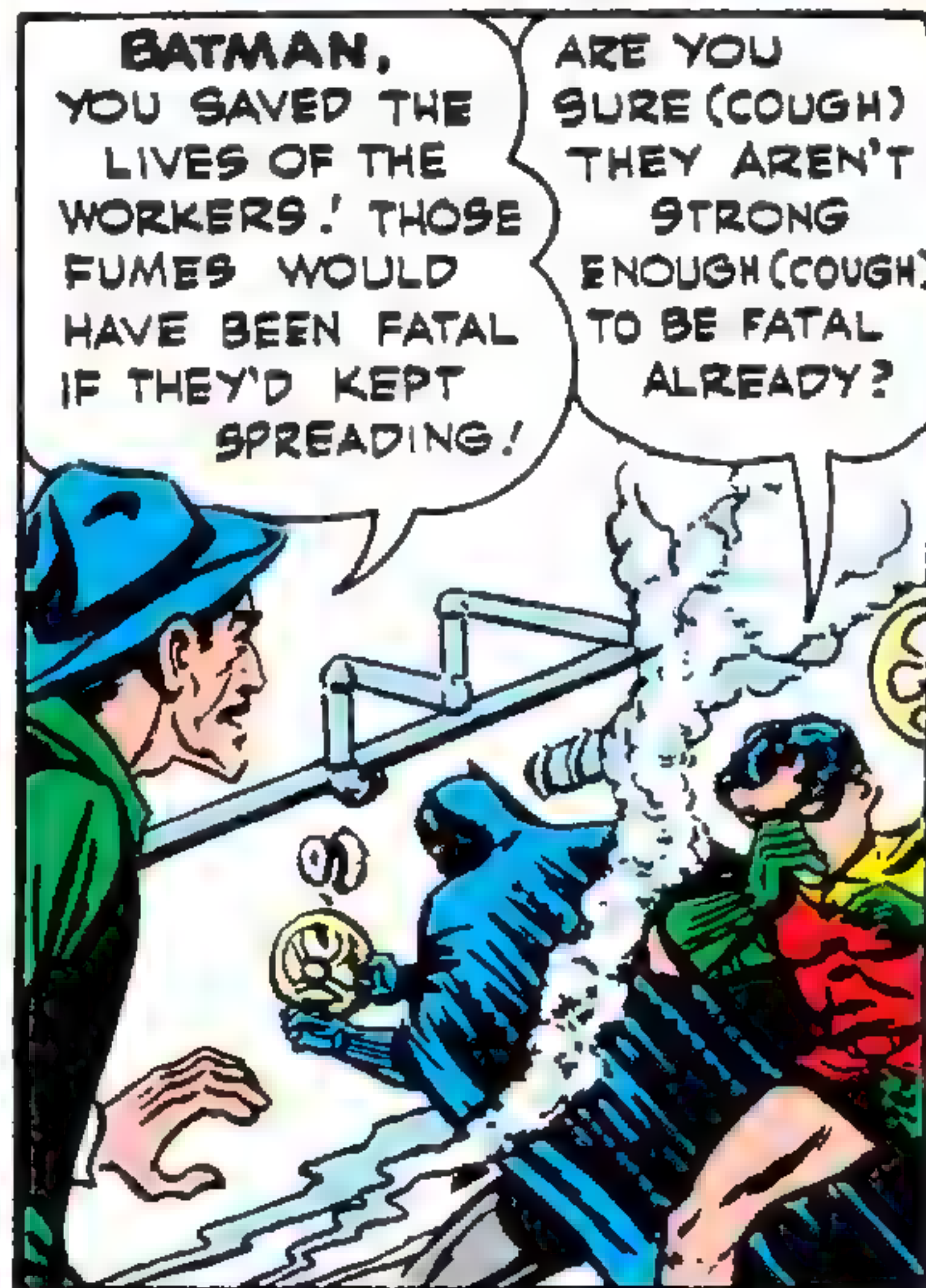
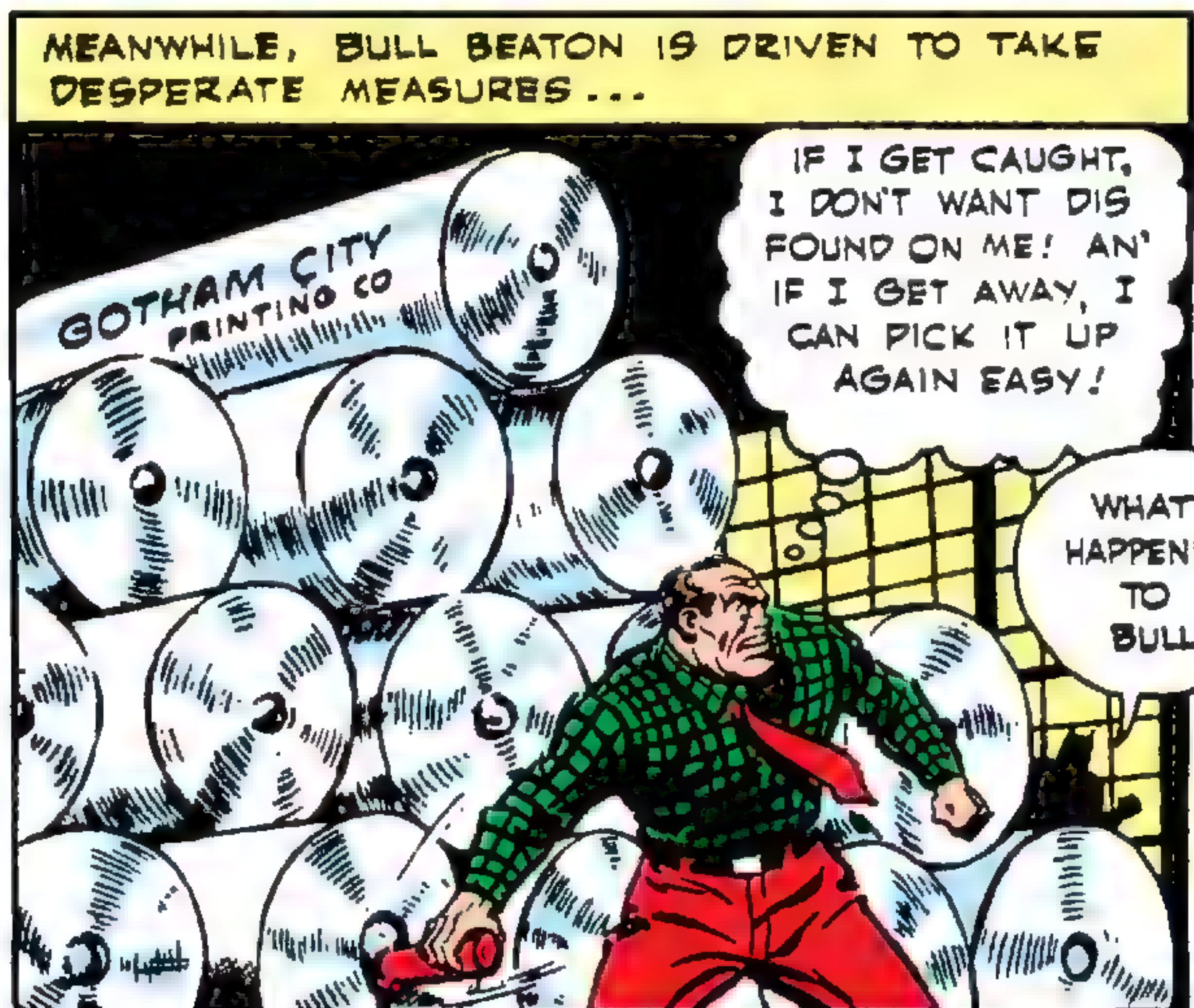
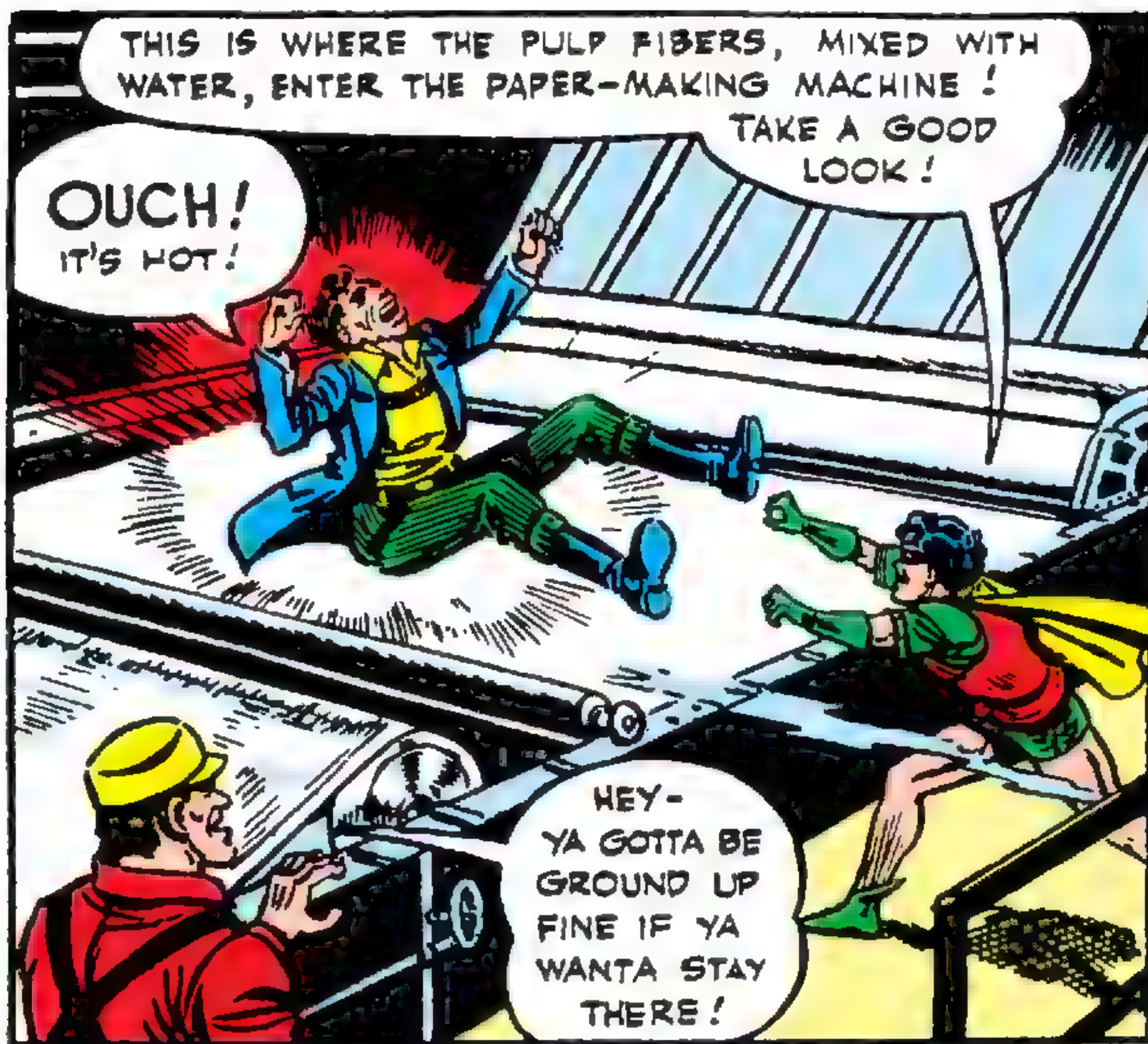
AND IF WE
MISS
ANYTHING, WE'LL
DO IT TWICE!

GET 'EM
BEFORE
THEY GET
US!



THIS IS THE WAY THEY
TRIM THE LOGS BEFORE
THEY TURN THEM INTO
PULP! GET IT?

YEOW



BUT A CAREFUL SEARCH FAILS TO REVEAL EITHER THE MYSTERIOUS CYLINDER OR THE FUGITIVE CRIMINALS --- AND TWO DAYS LATER ...

I THOUGHT THAT FISHING TRIP WOULD DO YOU GOOD, BRUCE -- BUT YOU'VE BEEN NERVOUS AS A CAT EVER SINCE WE GOT BACK!

I'LL GIVE YOU THREE GUESSES WHY!

I KNOW... IT BURNS ME UP, LOSING THOSE KILLERS TWICE IN A ROW AND NOT BEING ABLE TO FIND THAT CYLINDER THEY LEFT BEHIND!

THEY DIDN'T TAKE IT WITH THEM -- BUT I'M NOT SO SURE THEY LEFT IT UP THERE EITHER! I THINK BULL PUT SOMETHING EXTRA CLEVER OVER ON US!

NEWSPRINT FROM THE PERKINS MILL! MAYBE IT'S THE SAME WE SAW BEING MADE!

HUH?... I WONDER...?

PERKINS PAPER CO

MIDNIGHT -- AND THE NIGHT WATCHMAN AT THE PRINTING PLANT HAS UNEXPECTED VISITORS...

TAKE US TA DA PRESS-ROOM, SEE? OR D'YA WANT SOMEBODY TA TAKE YA TA A CEMETERY?

D-DON'T SHOOT! I'LL T-TAKE YOU ANYWHERE YOU SAY!

AH -- HERE WE ARE! DA SMARTEST TRICK O' DA YEAR, IF I DO SAY IT MESELF!

OKAY, POP-TAKE A REST!

YOU'RE A GENIUS, BULL!

IT AIN'T HERE!

NOT HERE, EITHER... GOSH -- WHAT IF IT GOT LOST?

KEEP YER SHIRTS ON!

A FORTUNE! FROM NOW ON, WE'RE ALL BIG SHOTS!

I'M GONNA BUY A TICKET TO SOMEPLACE WHERE DA BATMAN WON'T NEVER CATCH UP WIT' ME!

I'M GONNA BUY ME A YACHT!

A GOOD IDEA, SQUIDGE -- BUT A TRIFLE LATE!

NOW LET'S GO OUT AN' CELEBRATE OUR -- HUH? ... DAT SHADDER ...

LIKE A GREAT BIRD OF PREY A MANTLED FIGURE SWOOPS -- THE BATMAN!

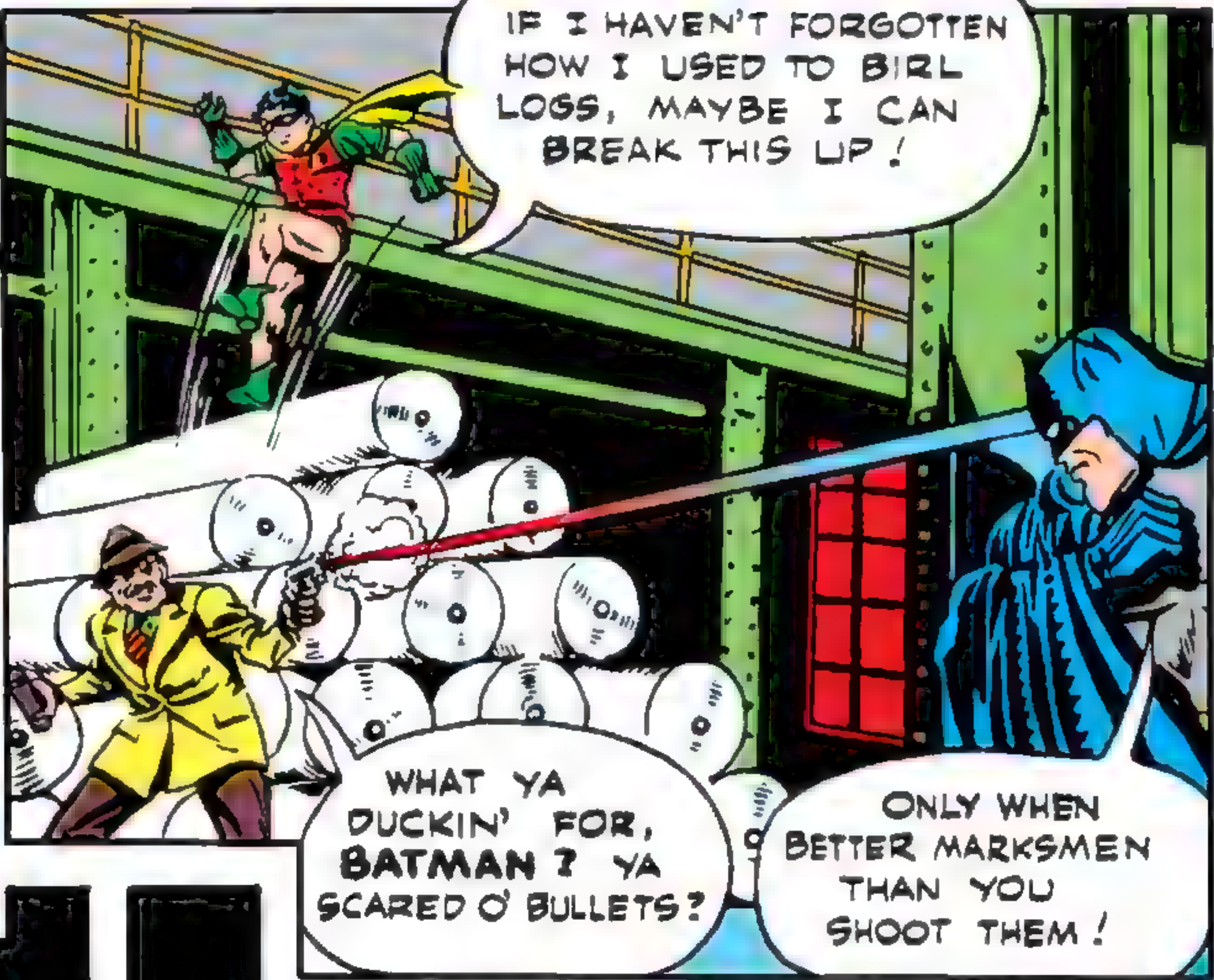


NO! NO! IT CAN'T BE TRUE!



BUT IT IS TRUE, MY FINE-FEATHERED FELONS!

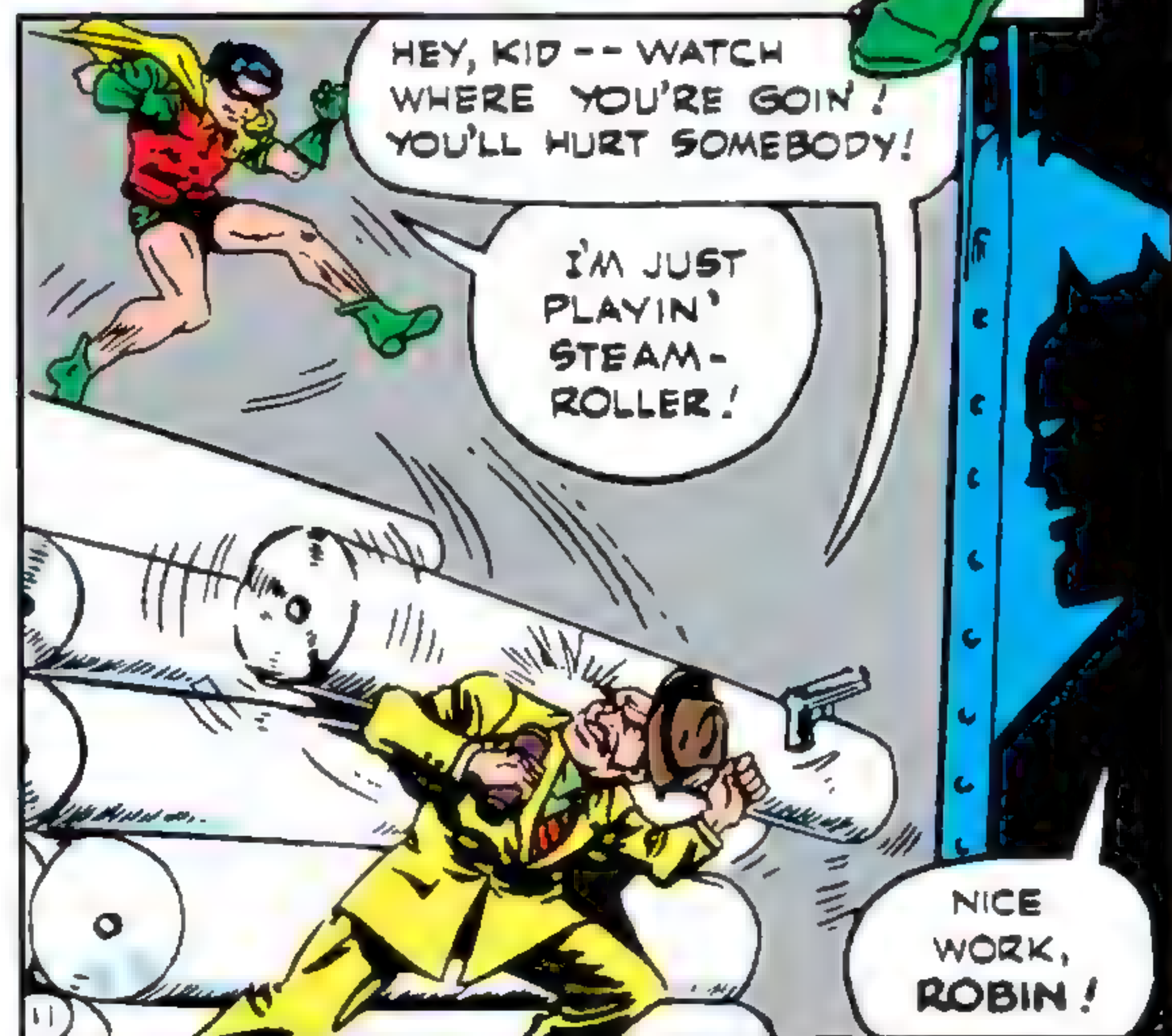
A FEW OUNCES OF LEAD WILL TIP THE BALANCE OUR WAY!



IF I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN HOW I USED TO BIRL LOGS, MAYBE I CAN BREAK THIS UP!

WHAT YA DUCKIN' FOR, BATMAN? YA SCARED O' BULLETS?

ONLY WHEN BETTER MARKSMEN THAN YOU SHOOT THEM!



HEY, KID -- WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOIN'! YOU'LL HURT SOMEBODY!

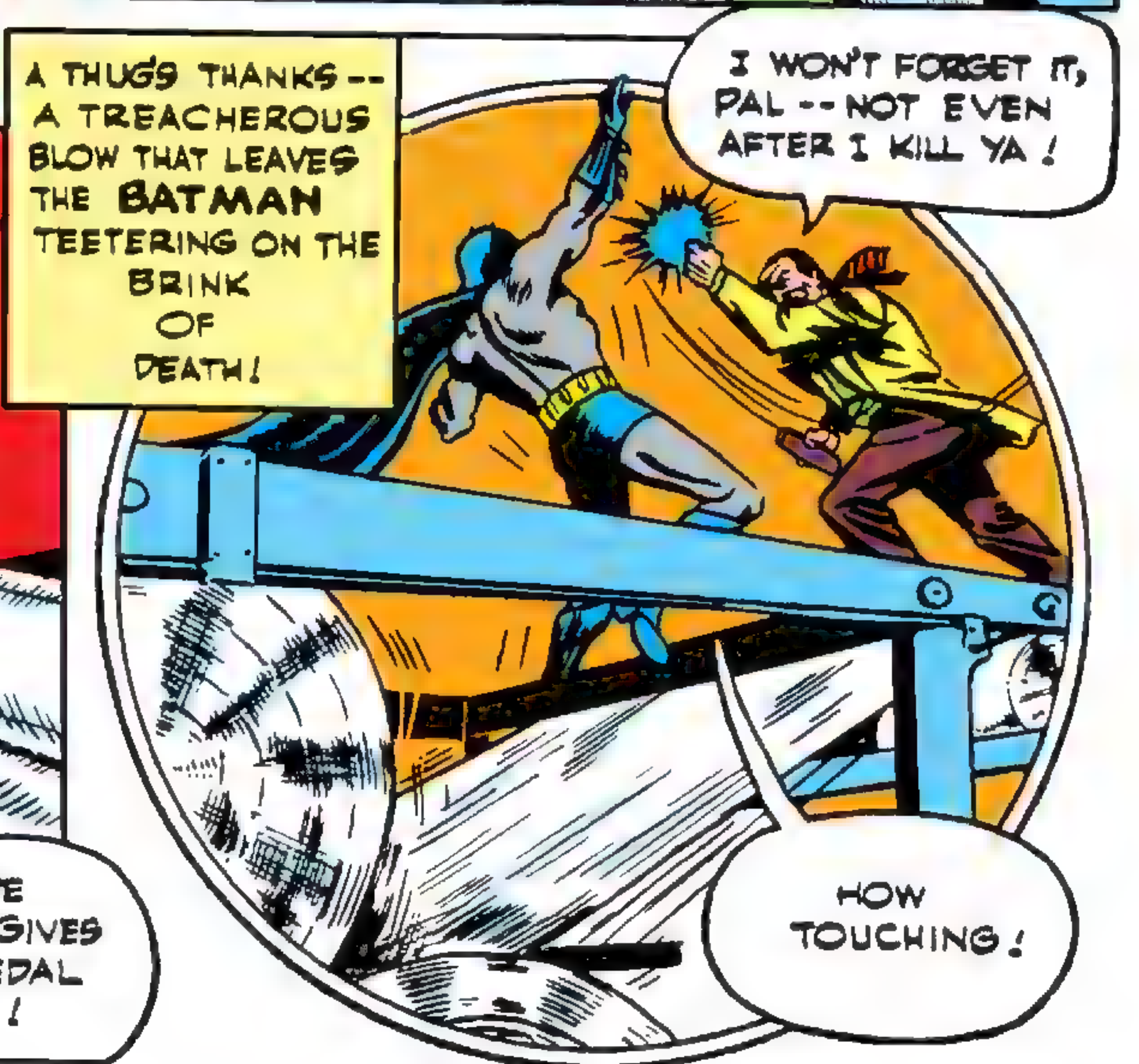
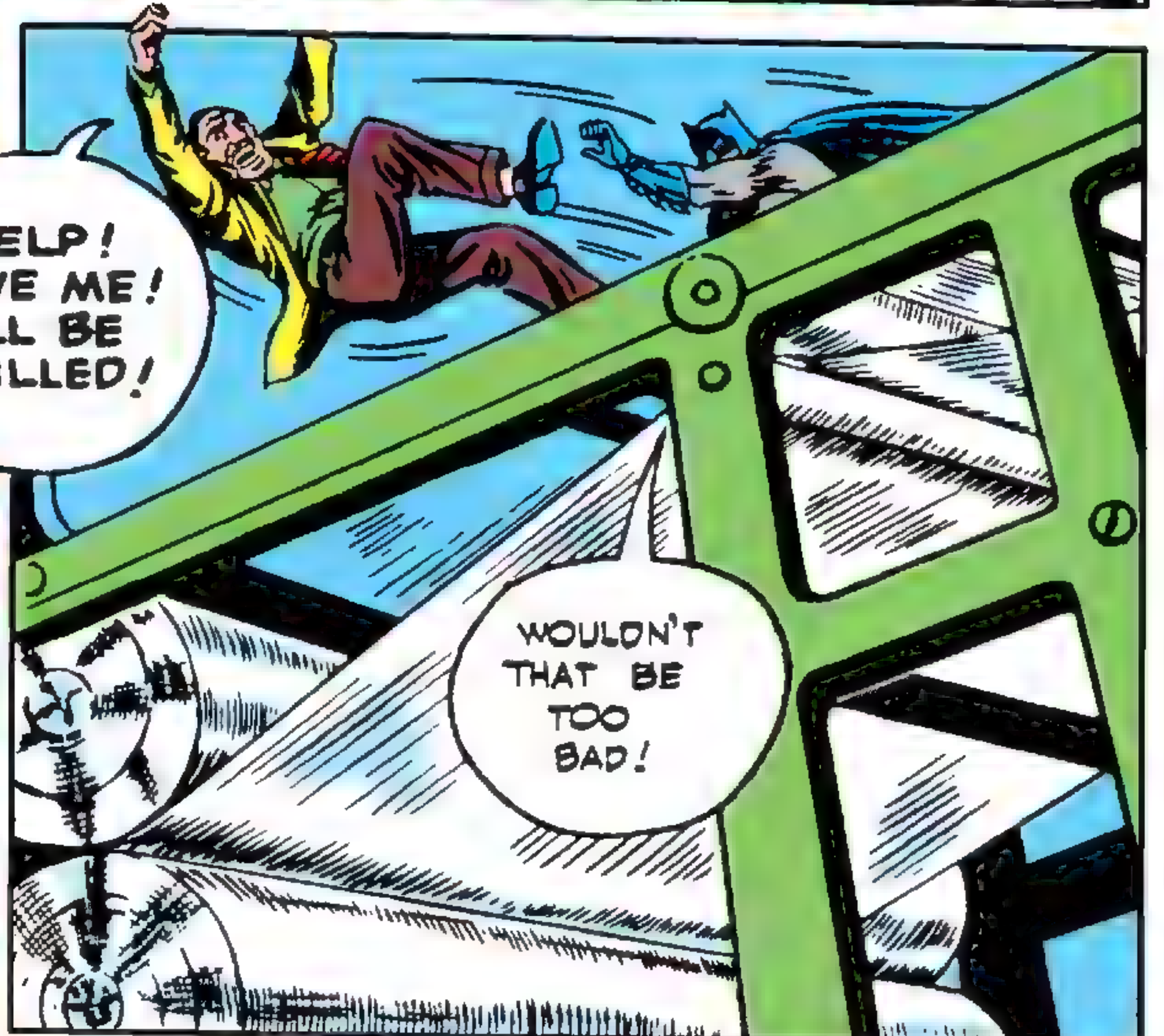
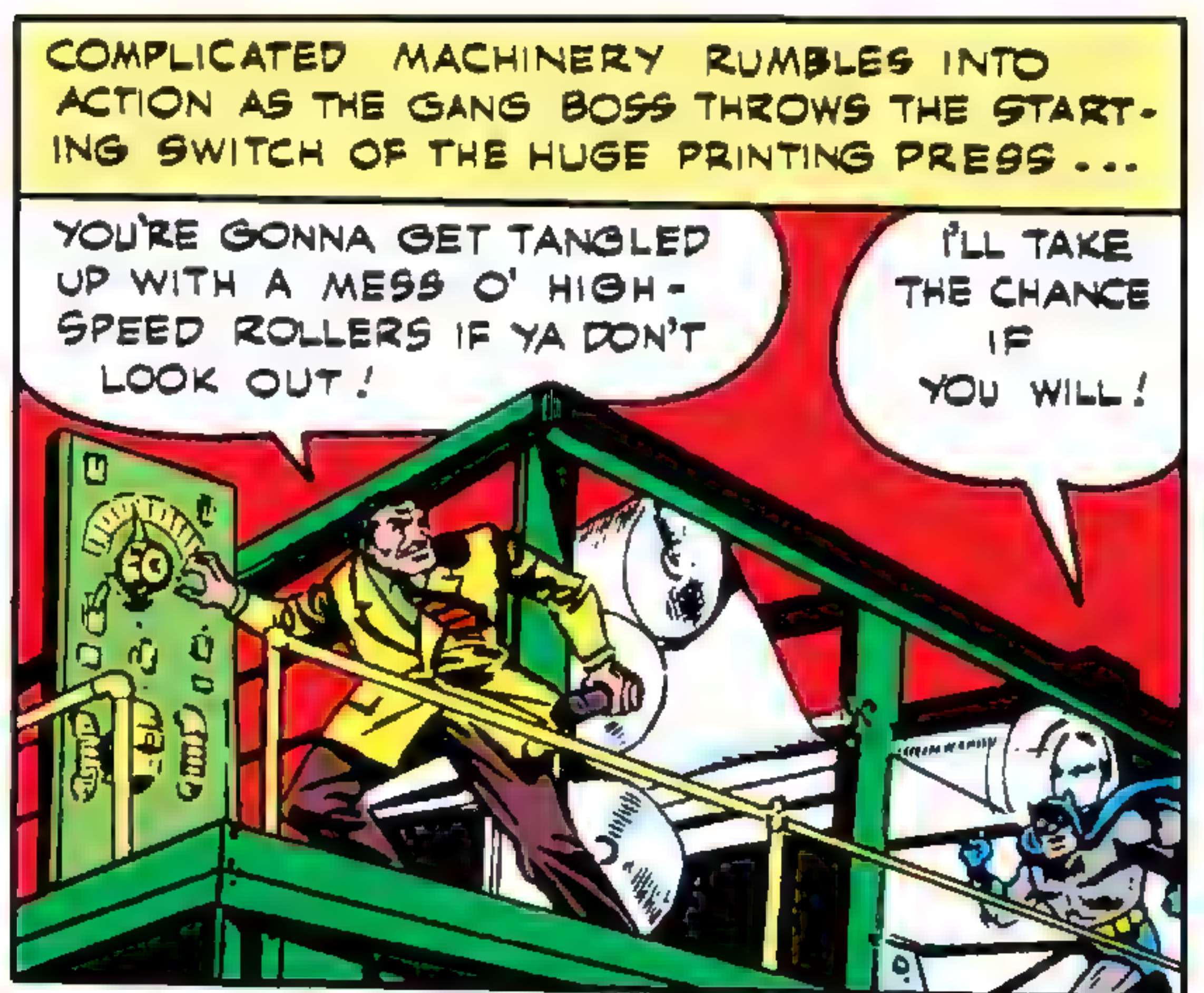
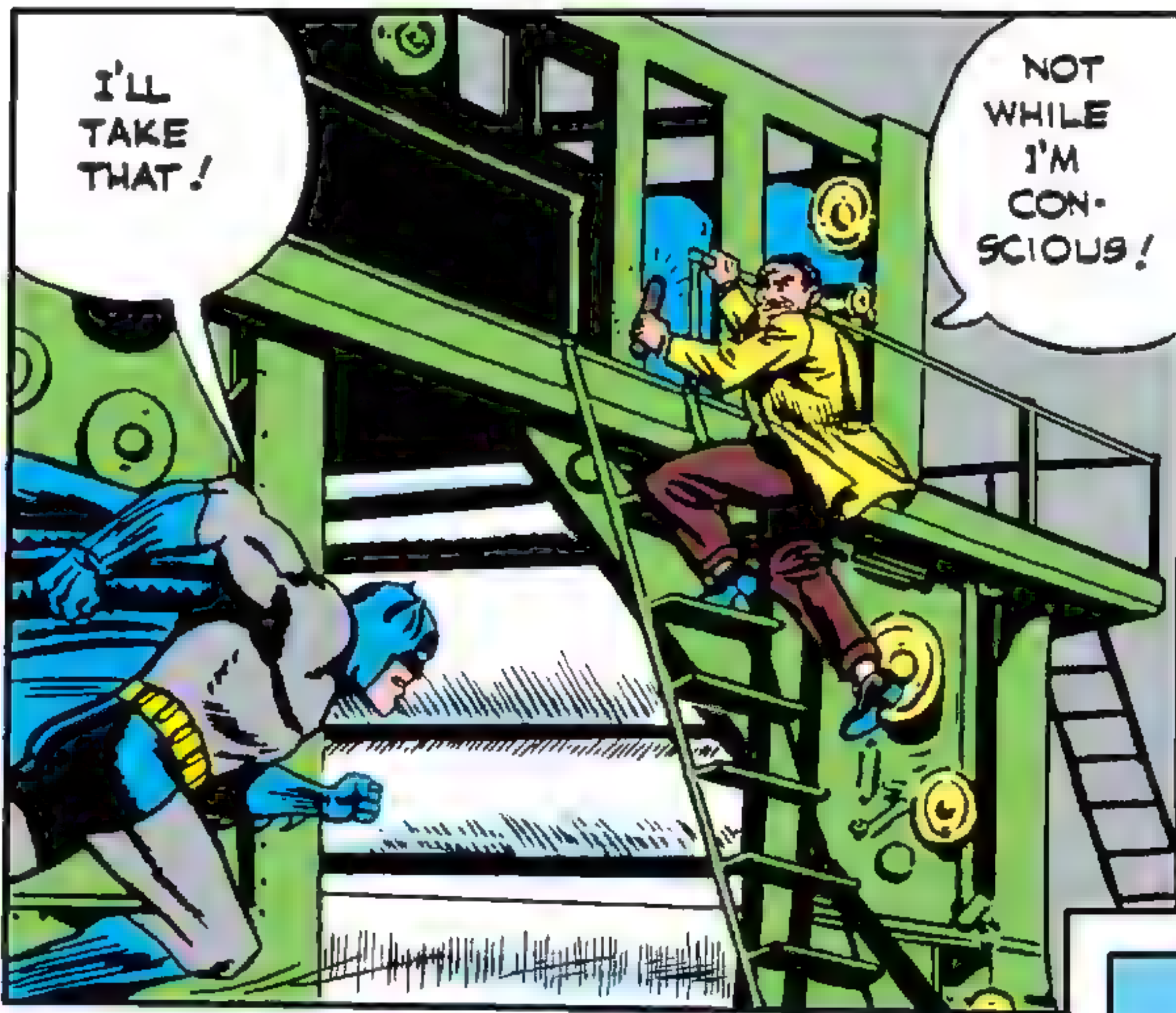
I'M JUST PLAYIN' STEAM-ROLLER!

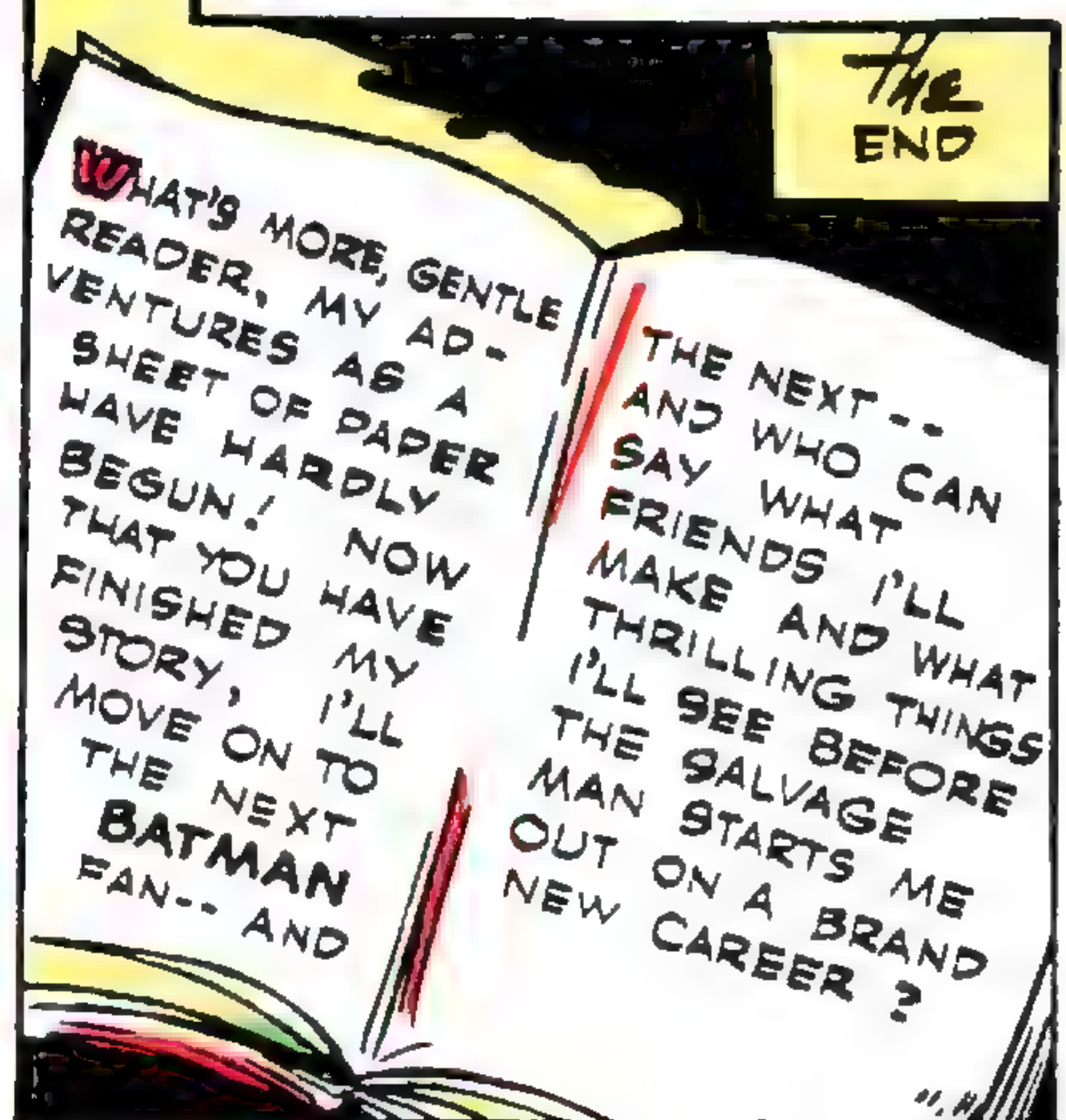
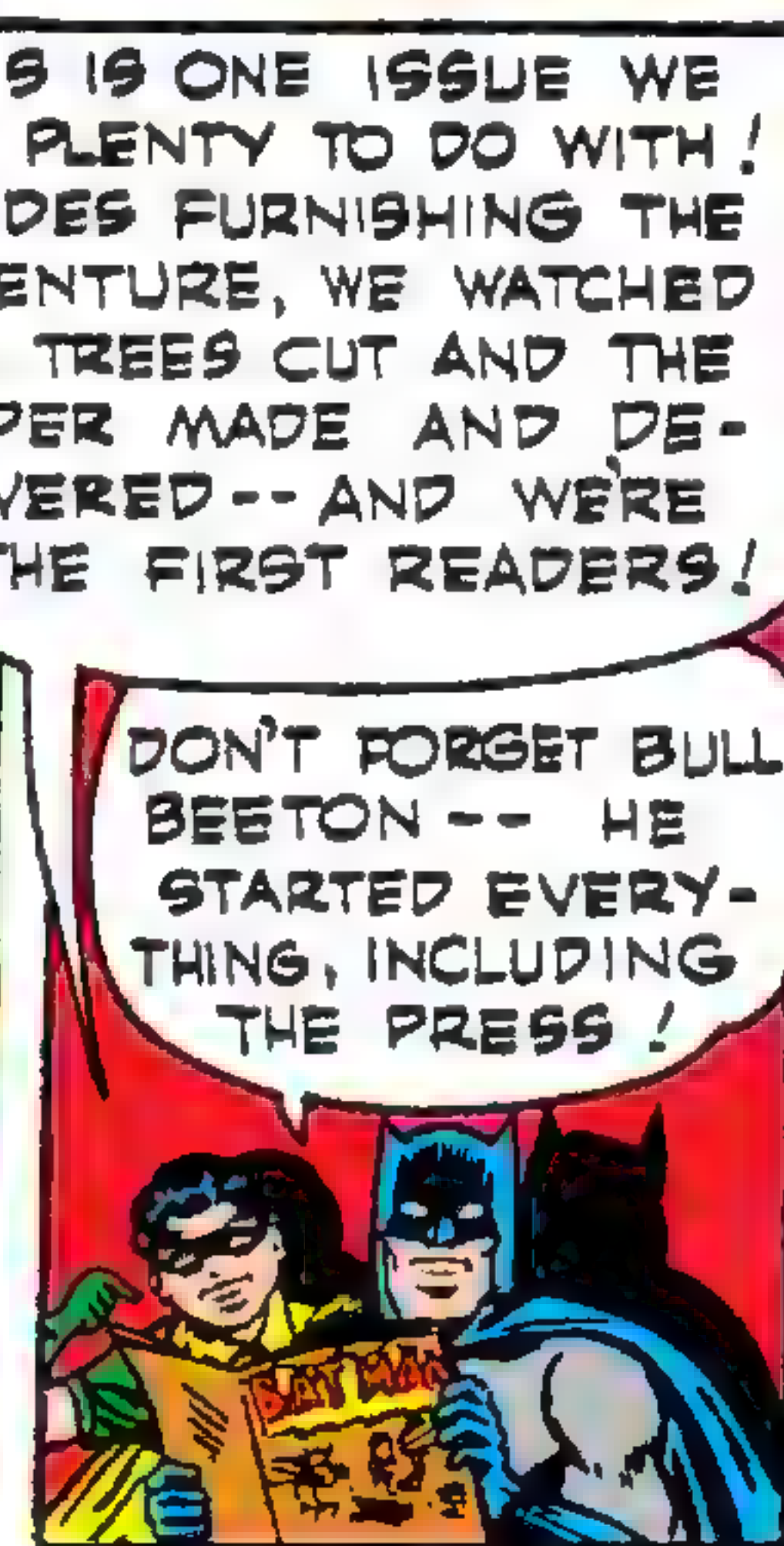
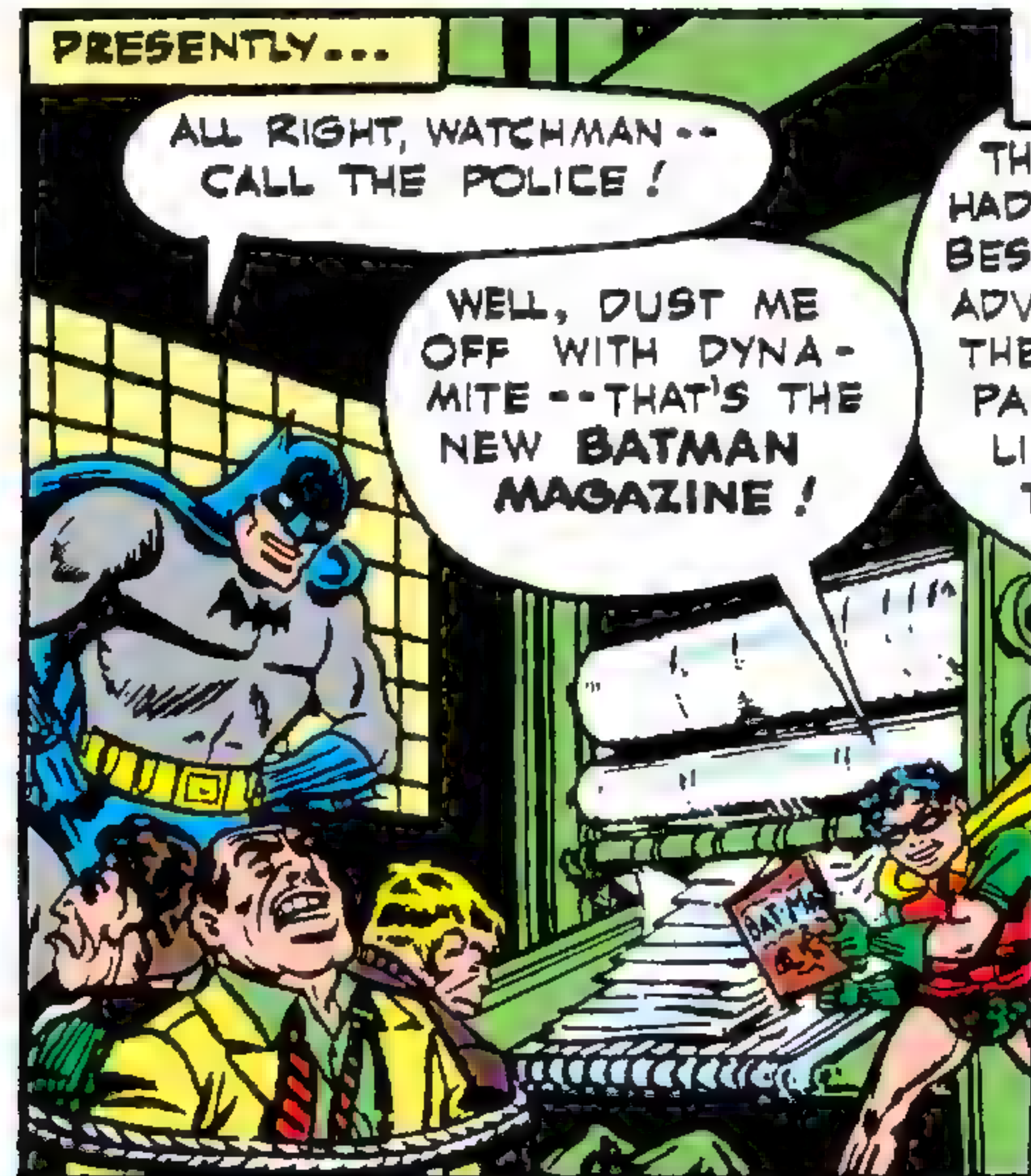
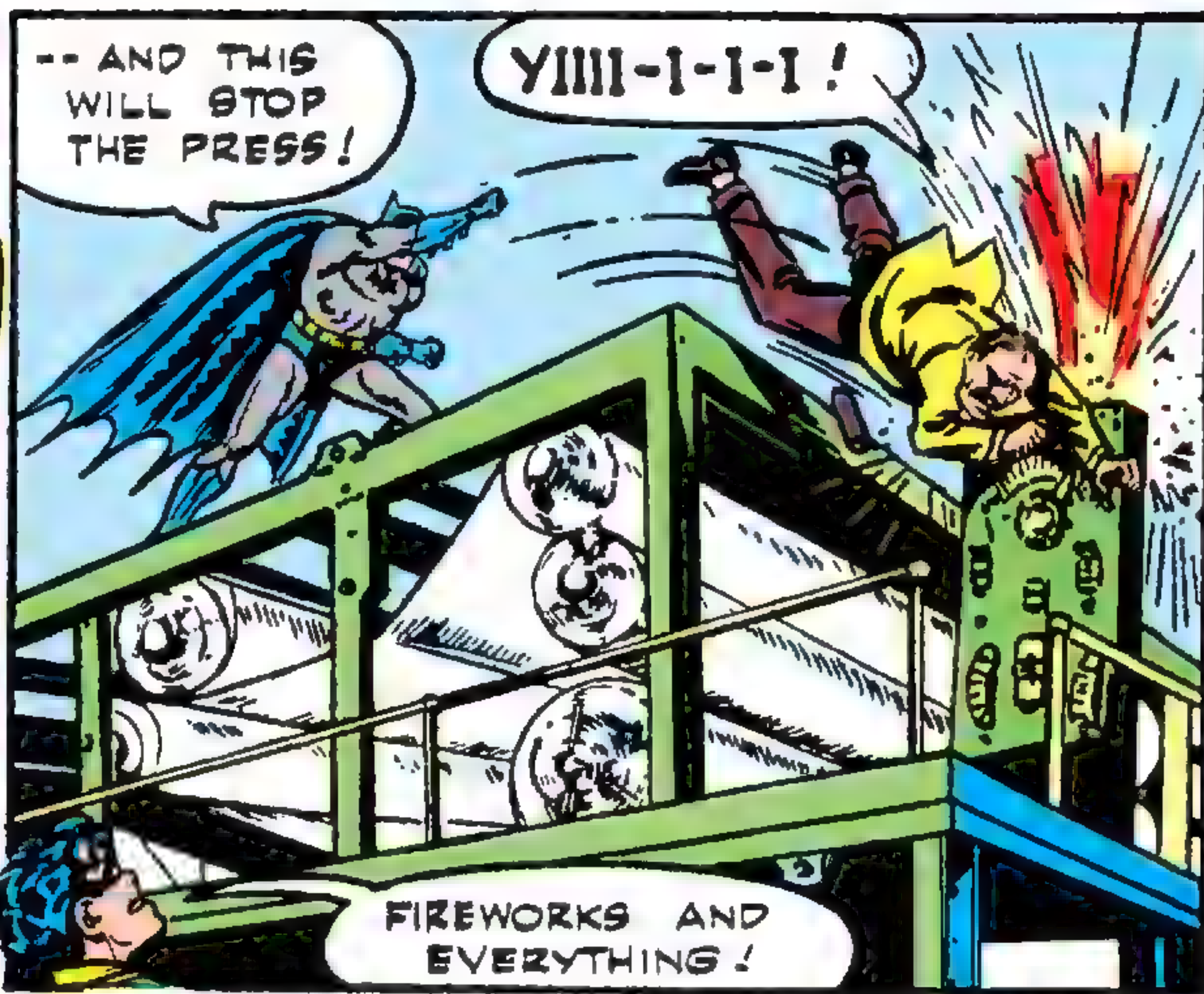
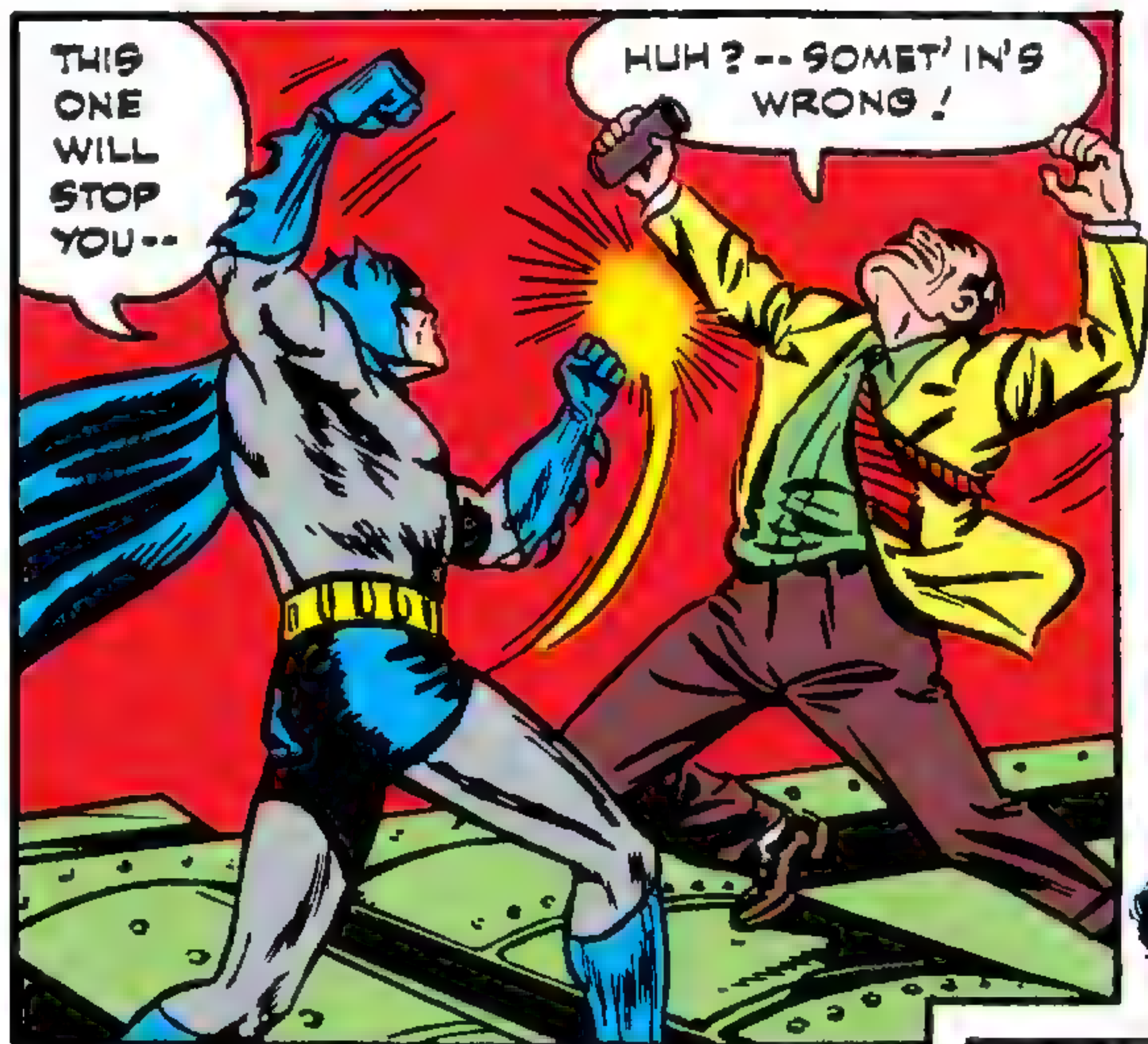


OOPS -- SLIPS!

YOU TWO BACK FOR MORE? THIS'LL LAST YOU QUITE A WHILE!

OUCH! YA DONE THAT ON PURPOSE!





BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

TWO'S A PERFECT FIGHTING TEAM, AND THREE'S A CROWD IN THE CASE OF THE **BATMAN AND ROBIN** -- AND WHAT A CROWD, WHEN THE THIRD IS THE SINGULAR GENTLEMAN YOU ARE ABOUT TO MEET! LANDING IN THE MIDST OF VIOLENCE AFTER A VIOLENT CROSSING OF MANY OCEANS, NONCHALANTLY ATTRACTING VIOLENCE WHEREVER HE MOVES, THIS AMAZING FELLOW GIVES AMERICA'S ACE CRIME-SMASHERS THE MOST VIOLENT SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES -- AND MAKES THEM LIKE HIM FOR IT! YOU HAVE NEVER BEFORE ENCOUNTERED ANYONE QUITE LIKE HIM, BUT YOU'LL BE EAGER TO SEE HIM AGAIN!

AND NOW SIT TIGHT, FOR --

"HERE COMES ALFRED!"

BOB
KANE



NIGHT--AND A SMALL PASSENGER VESSEL ENDS A PERILOUS WAR-TIME CROSSING OF THE ATLANTIC AT A GOTHAM CITY PIER...

TWO SHIPBOARD ACQUAINTANCES SAY GOODBYE, NEVER DREAMING THAT THE HAND OF FATE WILL CAST THEM TOGETHER AGAIN SOONER THAN THEY THINK...

THE PARTIN' OF THE 'WAYS, MR. LEDUC! IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE TALKIN' TO YOU--AND I WISH YOU THE BEST, AND ALL THAT BALLY TOSH!

OH, MY ENGLISH FRIEND, I HOPE YOU FIND HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS IN THIS STRANGE LAND OF AMERICA!

YOU'RE GASTON LEDUC, EH? AND THIS IS YOUR PERMIT TO ENTER THE COUNTRY WITHOUT UNDERGOING INSPECTION... ALL RIGHT--YOU MAY PASS!

CUSTOMS INSPECTION

"HOW TO BE A DETECTIVE IN TEN EASY LESSONS"... SO YOU'RE A SLEUTH?

AND RATHER GOOD AT IT, IF I DO SAY SO!

HMMM... I'VE KNOWN ALL ALONG THERE WAS SOMETHIN' MYSTERIOUS ABOUT THAT GENTLEMAN!

TRY AS I WOULD I COULDN'T MAKE HIM TALK ABOUT HIMSELF! I'VE HALF A MIND TO FOLLOW HIM NOW!

WELL, IT'S A FREE COUNTRY, AND YOU'RE IN IT! ... NEXT!

AT THE PIER EXIT, THREE SWARTHY INDIVIDUALS WATCH THE NEW ARRIVALS WITH BEADY, GLITTERING EYES...

ON GUARD! IF YOU MISS OUR MAN, MY DAGGER WILL NOT MISS YOUR SCRAWNY BODIES!

I AM NOT AFRAID, MANUEL! MY EYES ARE AS KEEN AS YOUR KNIVES!

AND IN TURN, THE WATCHERS ARE WATCHED BY TWO DARK FIGURES THAT BLEND OMINOUSLY WITH THE SHADOWS!

SO THAT'S MANUEL STILETTI, THE INTERNATIONAL CROOK! WHAT DO YOU THINK HE'S UP TO, BATMAN?

THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO FIND OUT! ALL I KNOW IS, WHENEVER MANUEL AND HIS CUTTHROATS ARE ON THE PROWL, TROUBLE ISN'T FAR AWAY!

PRESENTLY... I'M TWO YEARS LATE ALREADY, SO IT WON'T MATTER IF I TAKE AN HOUR OR TWO MORE TO FOLLOW LEDUC AND SATISFY MY CURIOSITY!

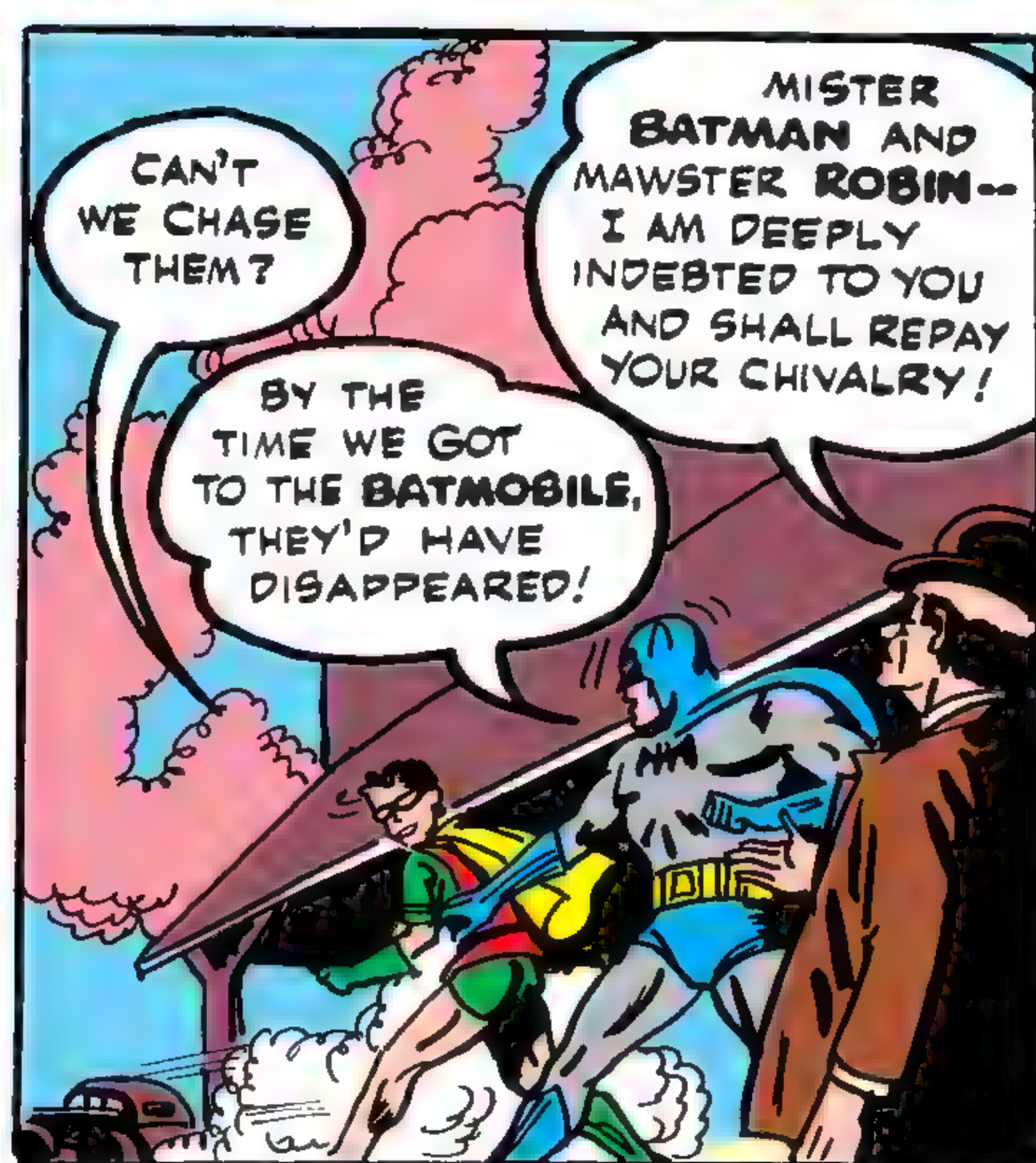
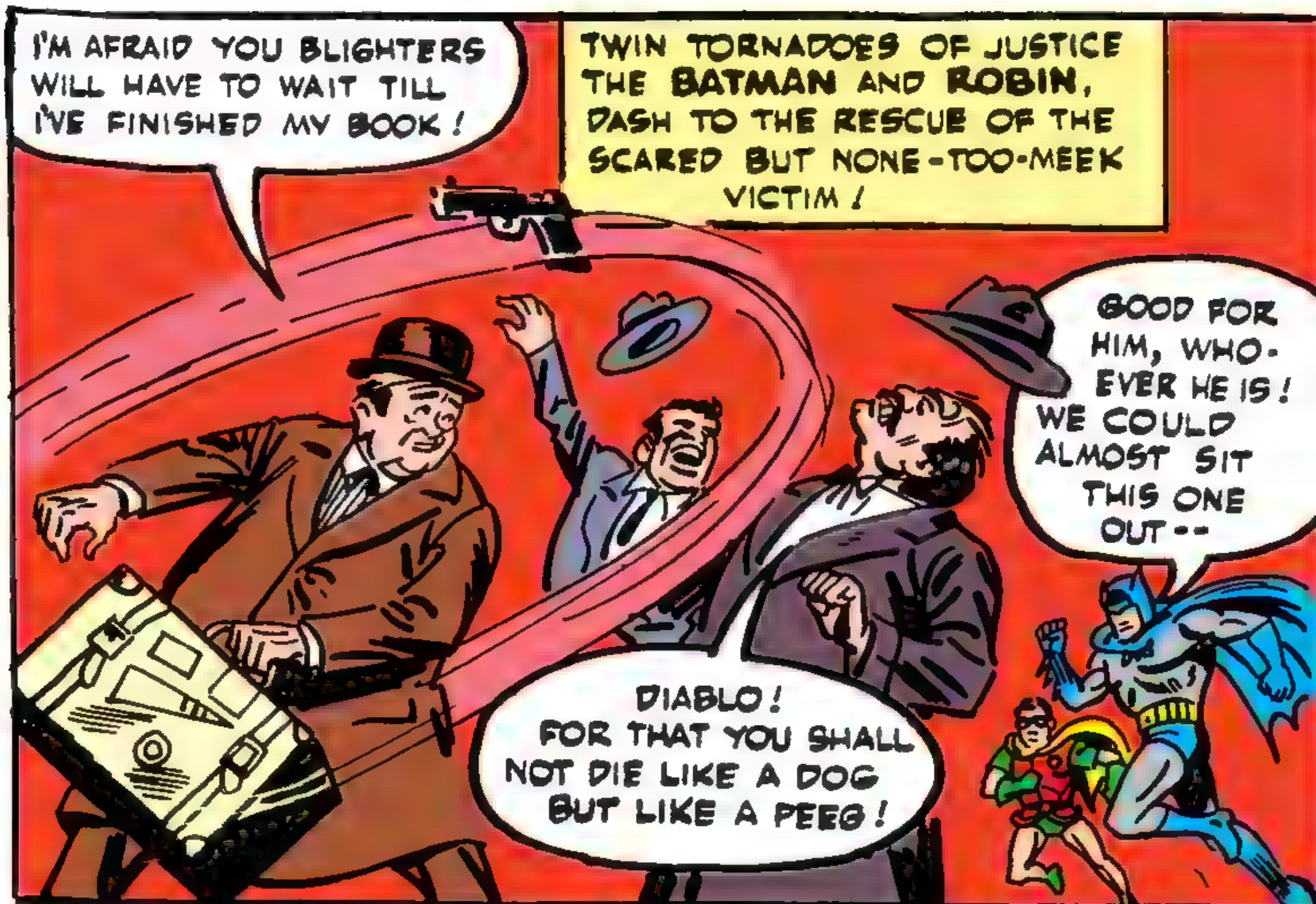
IT IS HE! REGARD THE VALISE!

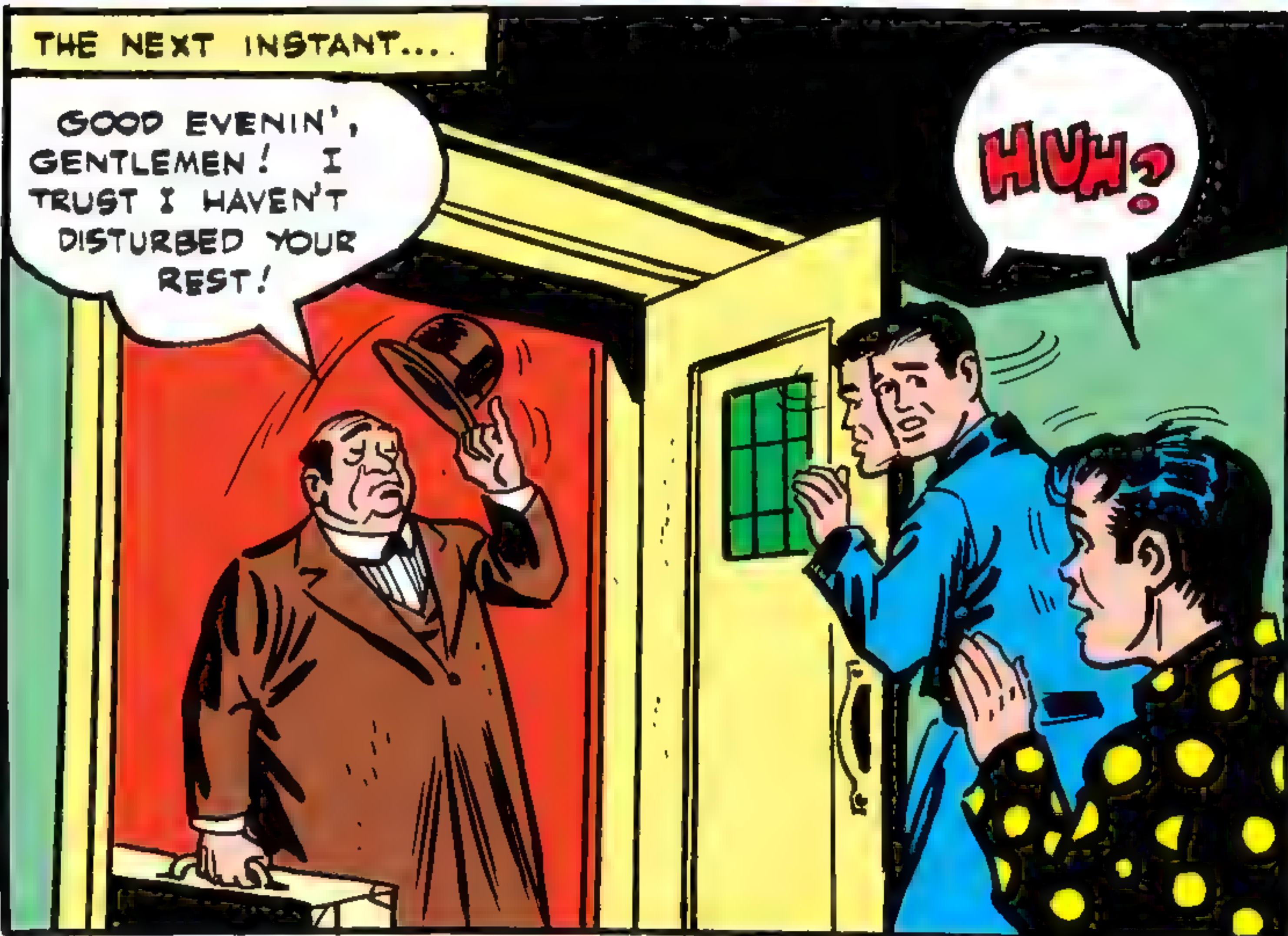
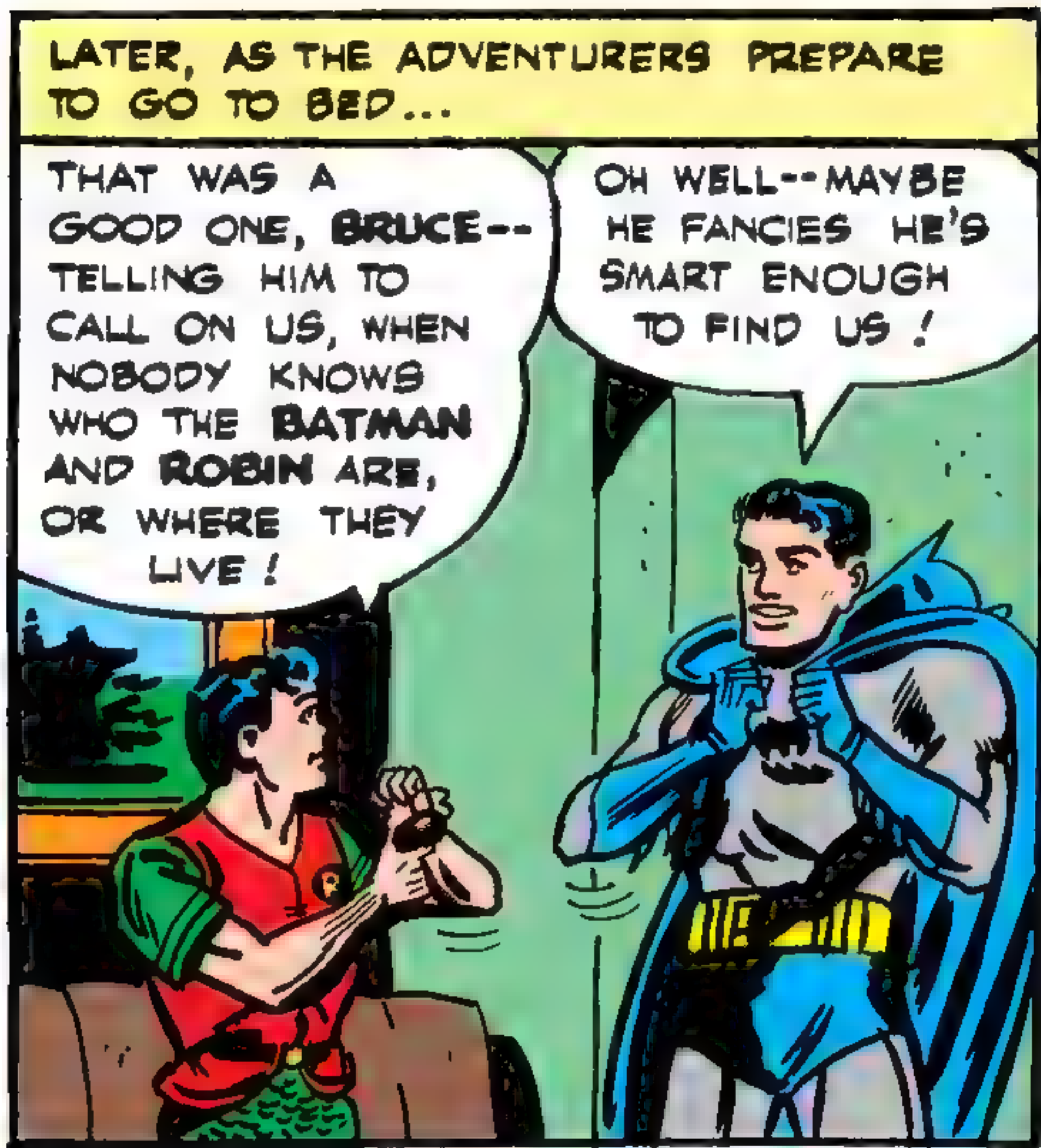
HE SHALL NOT ESCAPE US!

GIVE ME THE VALISE QUIETLY, AMIGO, AND PERHAPS I SHALL LET YOU LIVE!

OTHERWISE, YOU ARE DEAD LIKE A DOG!

EH--WHAT?... OH-H-A BALLY STICKUP, SUCH AS I'VE SEEN IN THE CINEMA!...







QUITE A TIME YOU'VE HAD! BUT NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, MR.--ER--ER?

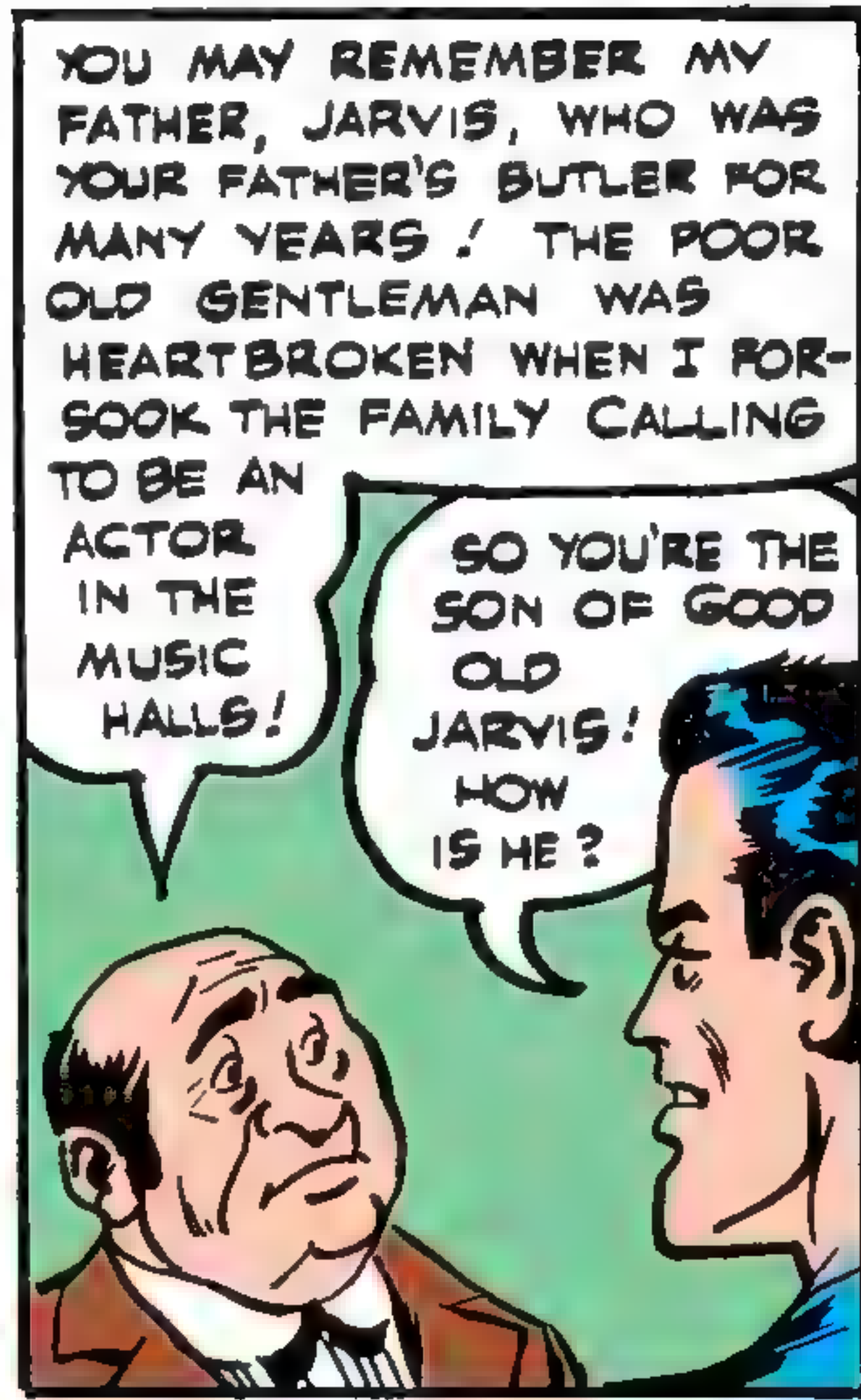
YOU MAY CALL ME "ALFRED" WITHOUT THE "MISTER" --AND IT'S I WHO WILL DO FOR YOU! YOU SEE, I'M YOUR NEW BUTLER!



BUTLER! BUT I HAVEN'T HAD ONE IN YEARS! I DIDN'T SEND FOR ONE, AND I'M AFRAID I DON'T WANT ONE!

WE'VE FOUND WE CAN GET ALONG BETTER WITHOUT SERVANTS OF ANY KIND!

IT MAY BE A BIT AWKWARD AT FIRST, SIR-- BUT I DARE SAY YOU'LL GET USED TO ME!



YOU MAY REMEMBER MY FATHER, JARVIS, WHO WAS YOUR FATHER'S BUTLER FOR MANY YEARS! THE POOR OLD GENTLEMAN WAS HEARTBROKEN WHEN I FORSOOK THE FAMILY CALLING TO BE AN ACTOR IN THE MUSIC HALLS!

SO YOU'RE THE SON OF GOOD OLD JARVIS! HOW IS HE?



GONE, SIR... AND ON HIS DEATHBED, HE MADE ME PROMISE TO MEND MY WAYS AND COME TO YOUR HOUSE IN AMERICA! SO YOU SEE, EVEN IF YOU DON'T WANT ME, THERE ISN'T ANY HELP FOR IT!

UH-- WELL--



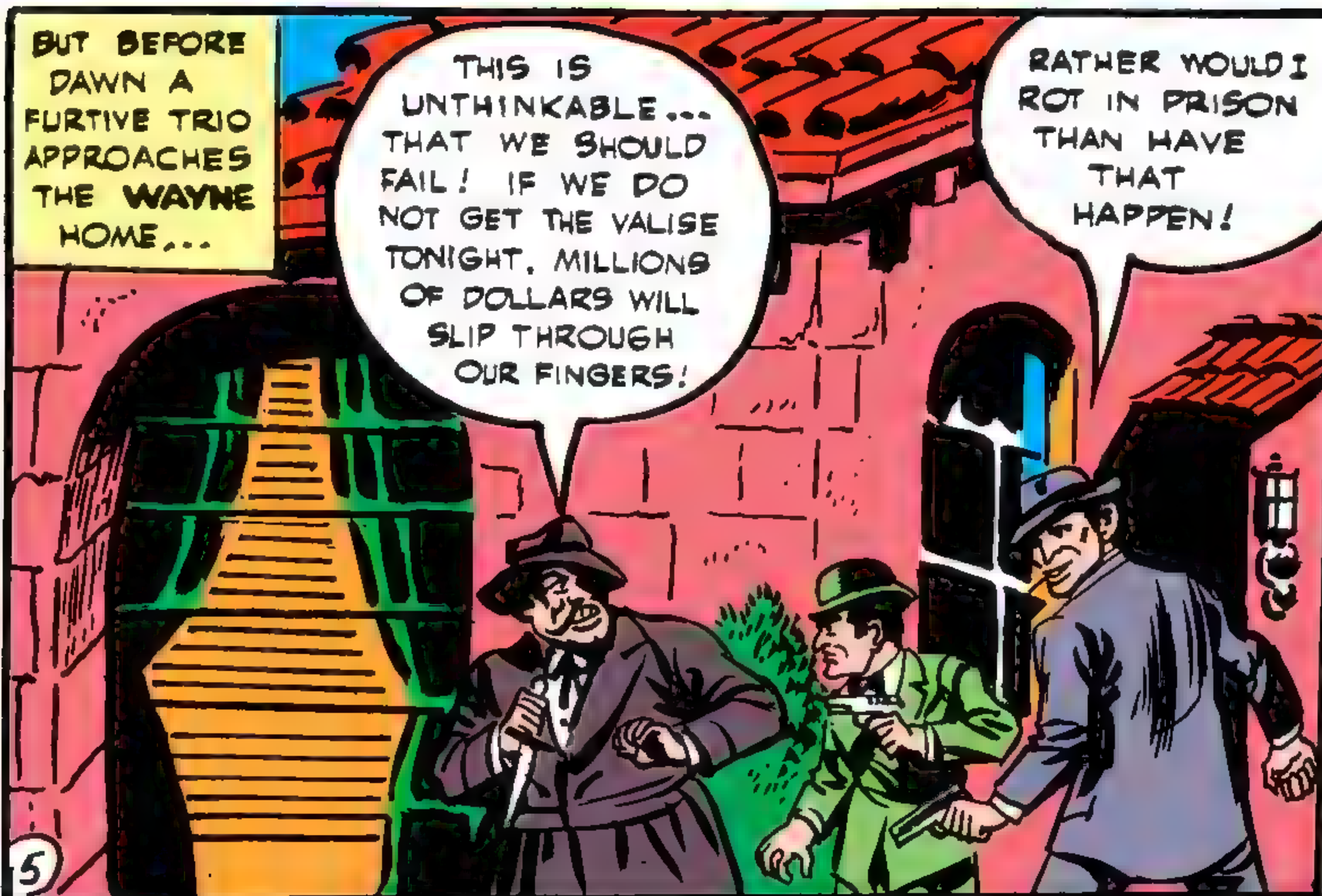
BUT I MUSTN'T KEEP YOU STANDING HERE IN YOUR BAWTHROBES... I'LL TURN DOWN THE BEDS AND MAKE THINGS READY FOR THE NIGHT!

AND I THOUGHT I'D SEEN PRETTY NEAR EVERYTHING!



BUT WE CAN'T HAVE HIM DOING HIS AMATEUR SLEUTHING HERE! IF HE SHOULD FIND OUR SECRET LABORATORY AND THE TUNNEL TO THE BAT-PLANE HANGAR, HE'D REALLY KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

YOU'RE RIGHT... BUT I HAVEN'T THE HEART TO SEND HIM PACKING TONIGHT! I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING IN THE MORNING!



BUT BEFORE DAWN A FURTIVE TRIO APPROACHES THE WAYNE HOME...

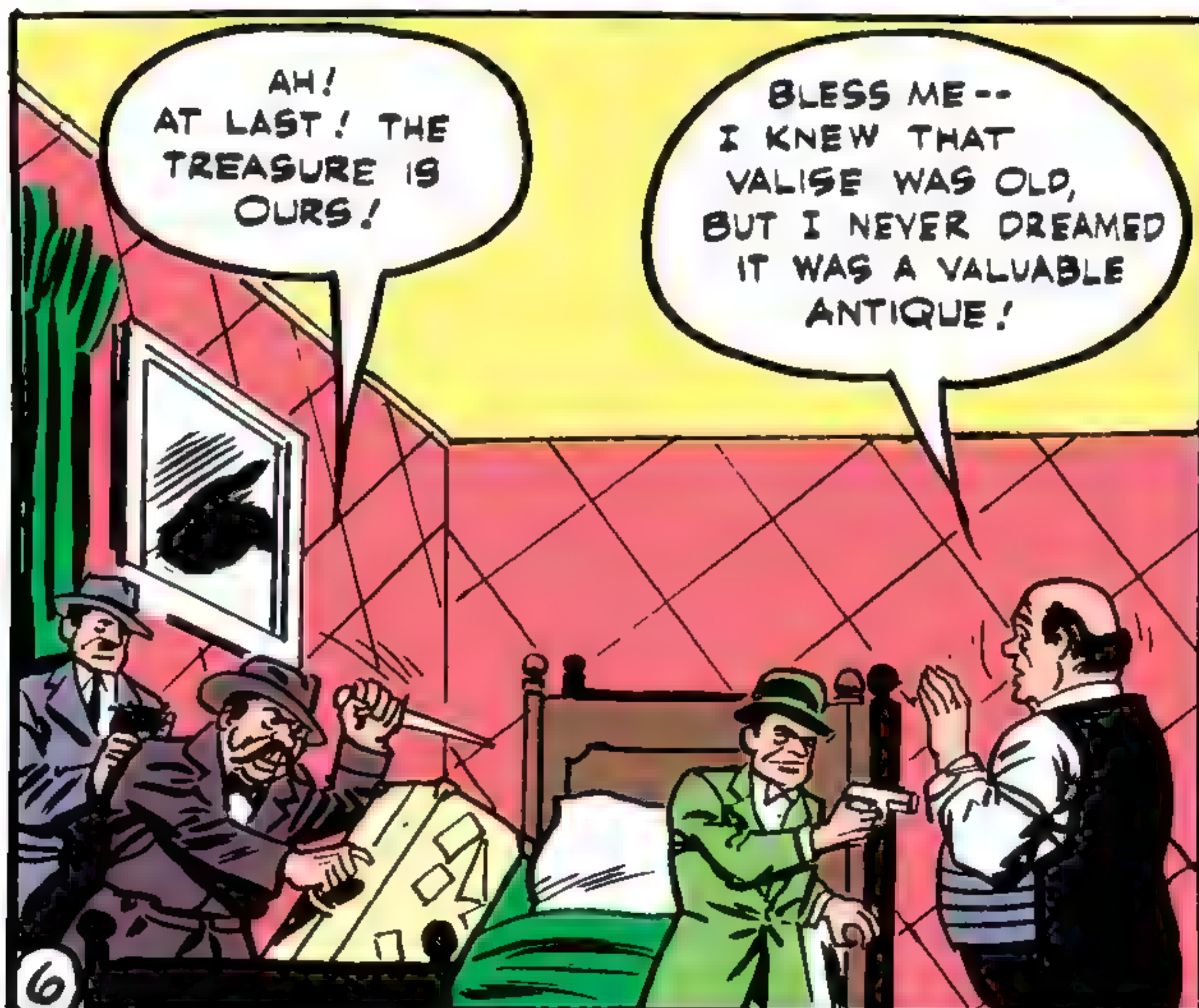
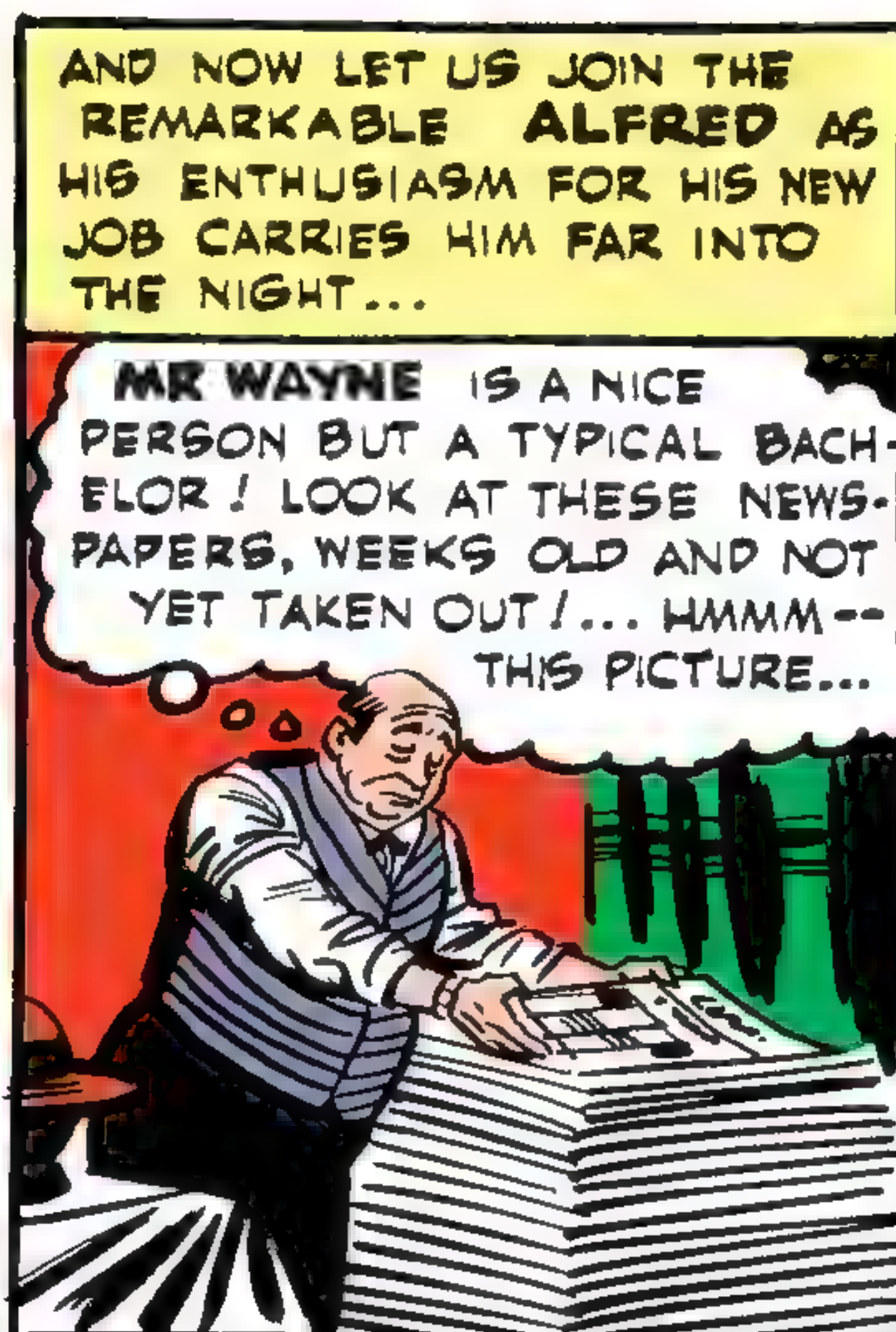
THIS IS UNTHINKABLE... THAT WE SHOULD FAIL! IF WE DO NOT GET THE VALISE TONIGHT, MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WILL SLIP THROUGH OUR FINGERS!

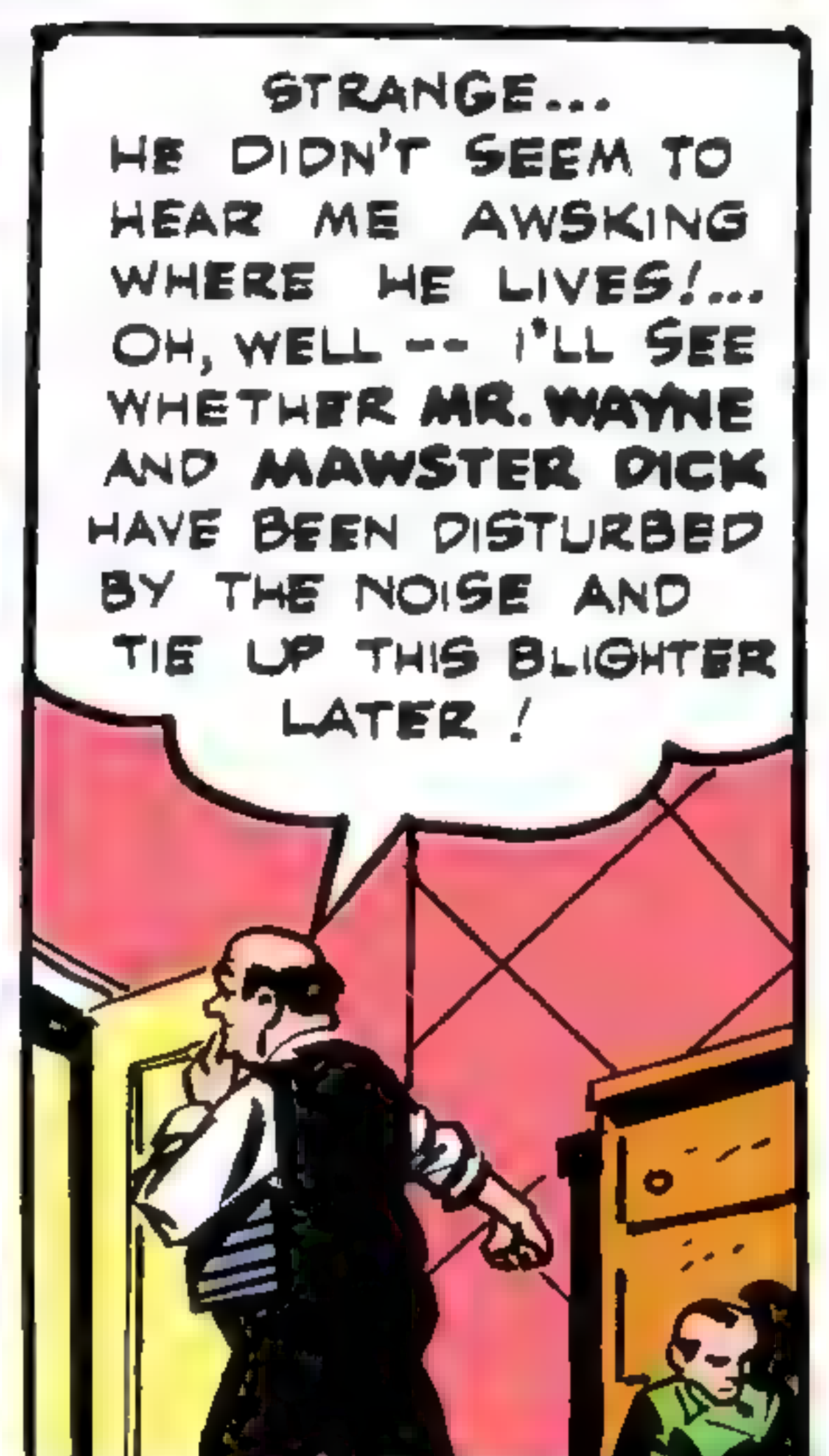
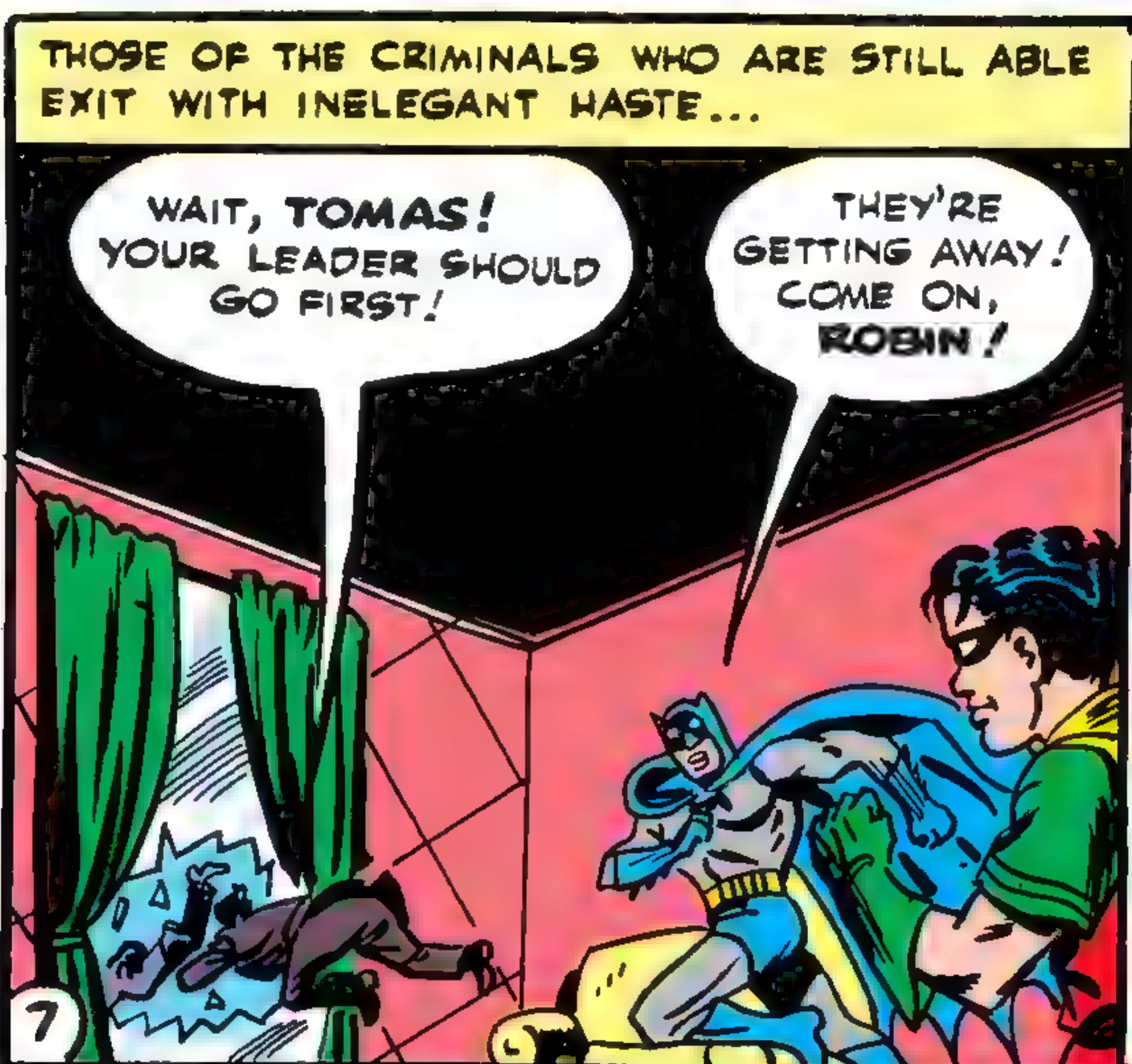
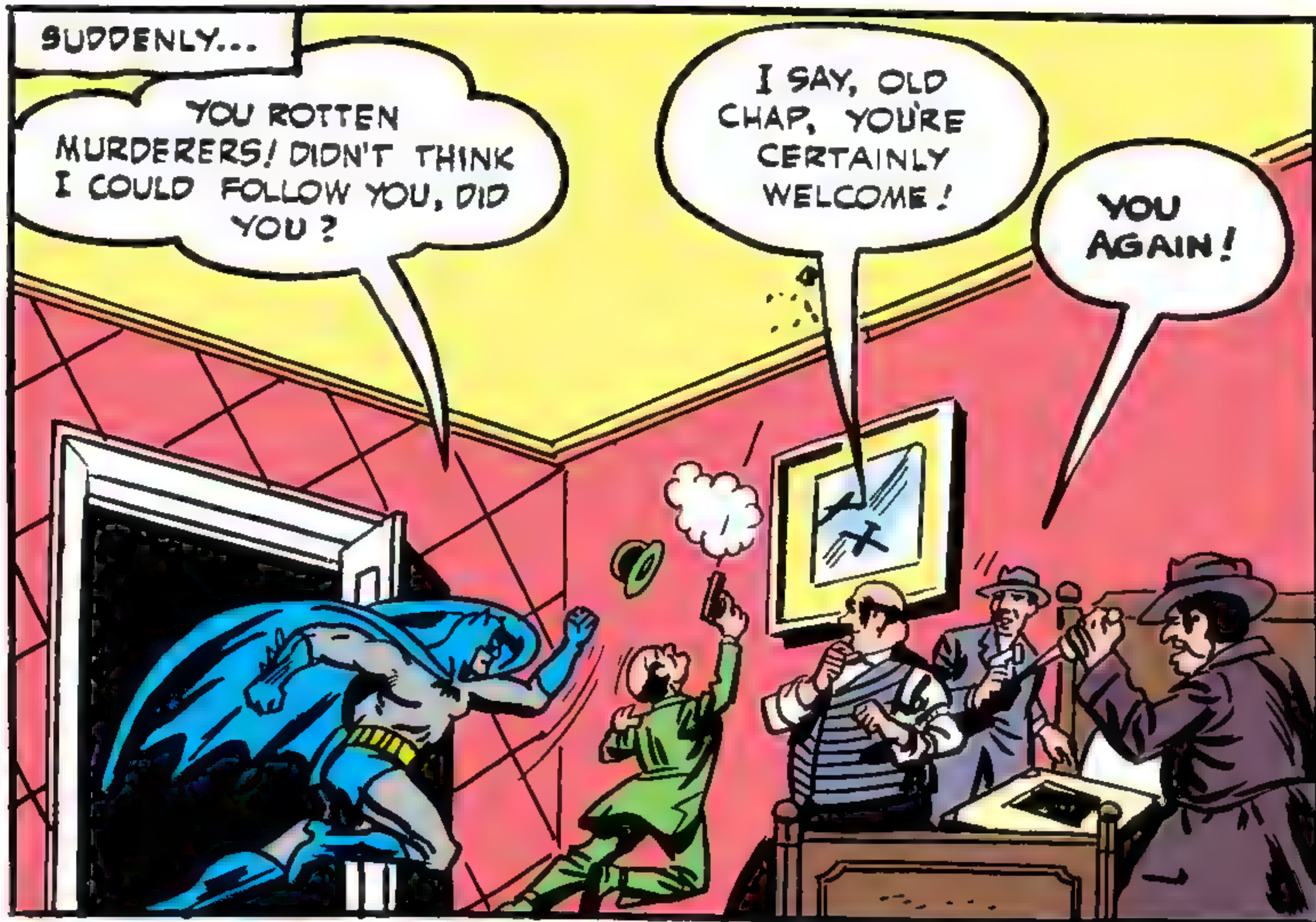
RATHER WOULD I ROT IN PRISON THAN HAVE THAT HAPPEN!

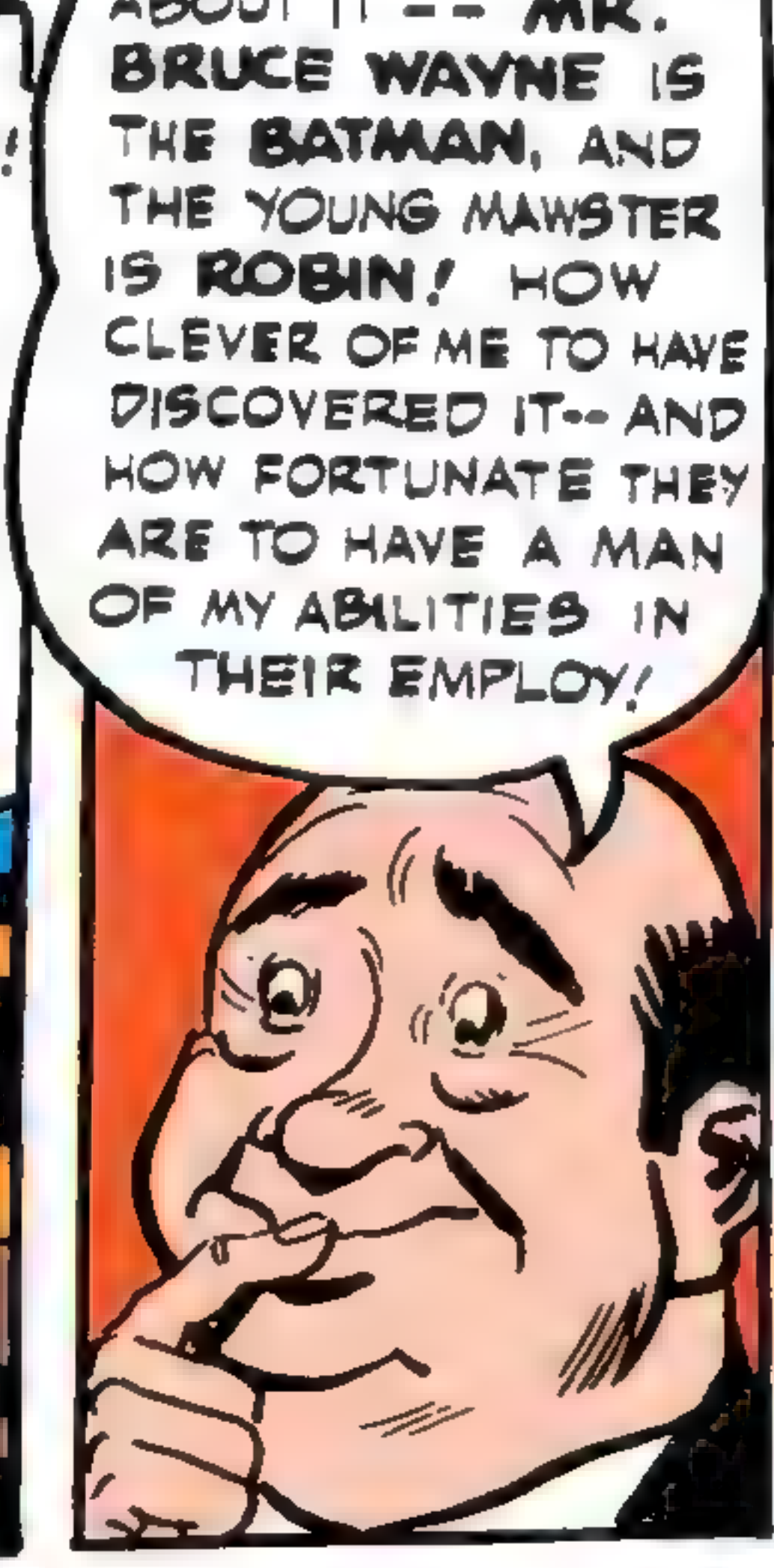
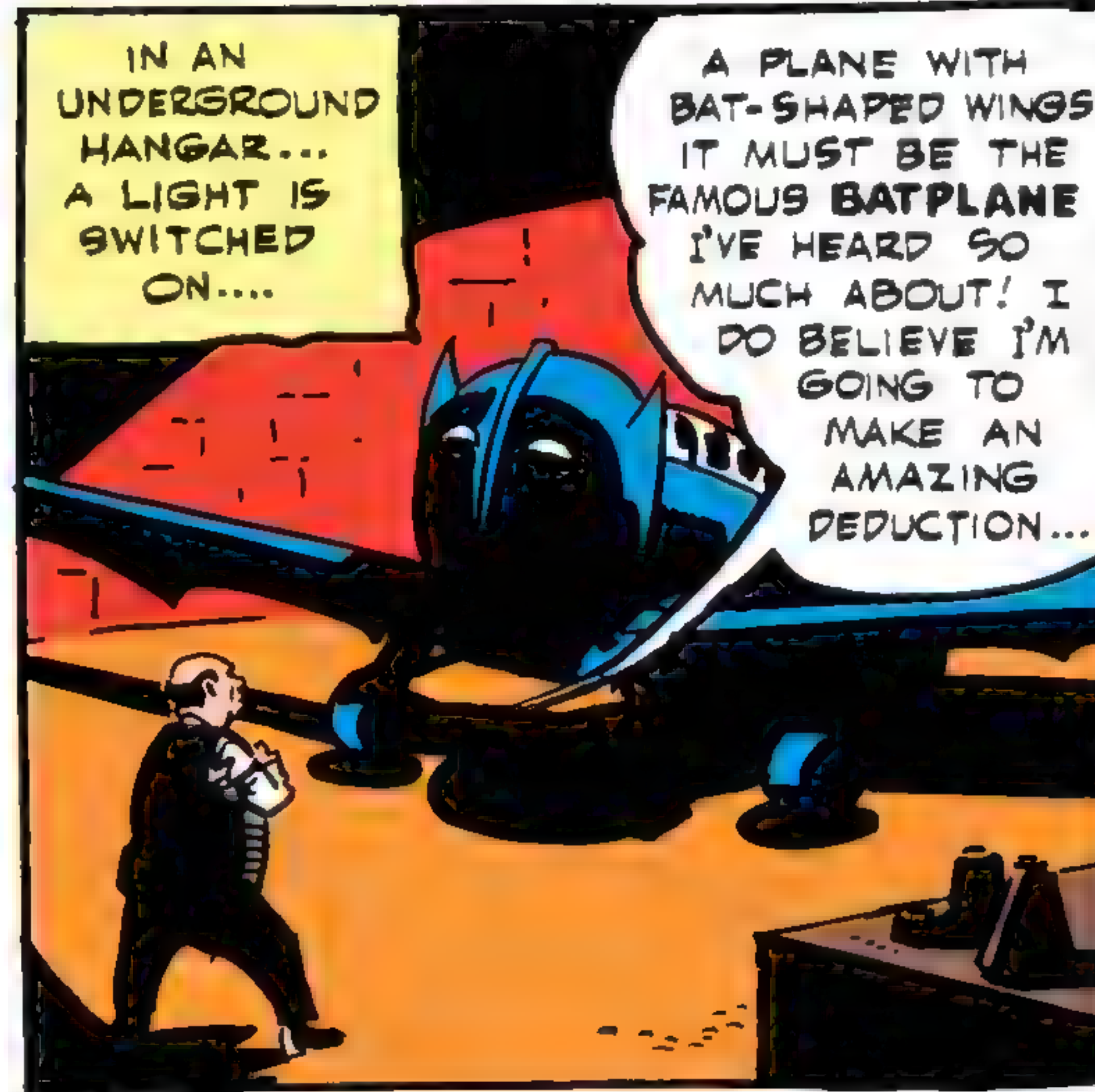


AND A SILENT BEAM OF LIGHT AWAKENS BRUCE!

WHA--? MY SPECIAL BURGLAR ALARM! SOMEONE HAS FORCED OPEN ONE OF THE EAST WINDOWS!







MEANWHILE, NEVER DREAMING THAT THE ALL-IMPORTANT SECRET OF THEIR DOUBLE IDENTITY HAS BEEN PIERCED BY A STROKE OF LUCK, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN JOIN IN HOT PURSUIT OF THE FLEEING MANUEL...

THERE THEY ARE-- TURNING THAT CORNER AHEAD!

STEP ON IT! IF WE DON'T CATCH THEM NOW, WE MAY NEVER HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE!

MOMENTS LATER...

THERE'S THEIR CAR-- BUT WHERE ARE THEY?

I CAN'T THINK OF ANY BETTER HIDEOUT THAN AN ABANDONED THEATER!

STEEL MUSCLES FORCE A LOCKED DOOR, AND THE DYNAMIC DUO VENTURES INTO COBWEB-DRAPE DARKNESS...

SPOOKY PLACE, ISN'T IT? I'LL BET NOBODY'S BEEN HERE FOR YEARS!

YOU'D LOSE YOUR MONEY! EVEN ALFRED WOULD KNOW BETTER SEEING THESE FOOT-PRINTS IN THE DUST!

BRRR-R-R! I CAN HEAR THE GHOSTS OF DEAD PLAYS MOANING!

THERE'S A STRANGE WHIRRING SOUND COMING FROM SOMEWHERE!

A STRANGE SOUND IN-DEED--AND AN OMINOUS ONE--FOR IT IS MADE BY WHIRRING ENDS OF WEIGHTED ROPES SWUNG BY AN EXPERT HAND IN THE SHADOWS OF A BOX...

LOOK OUT!-- ROBIN!

NOW, TOMAS!

TOO LATE! THE NEXT INSTANT, HISSING COILS WHIP AROUND THE LIMBS AND BODIES OF THE STARTLED CRIME-CRUSHERS...

WHA--? A BOLA!

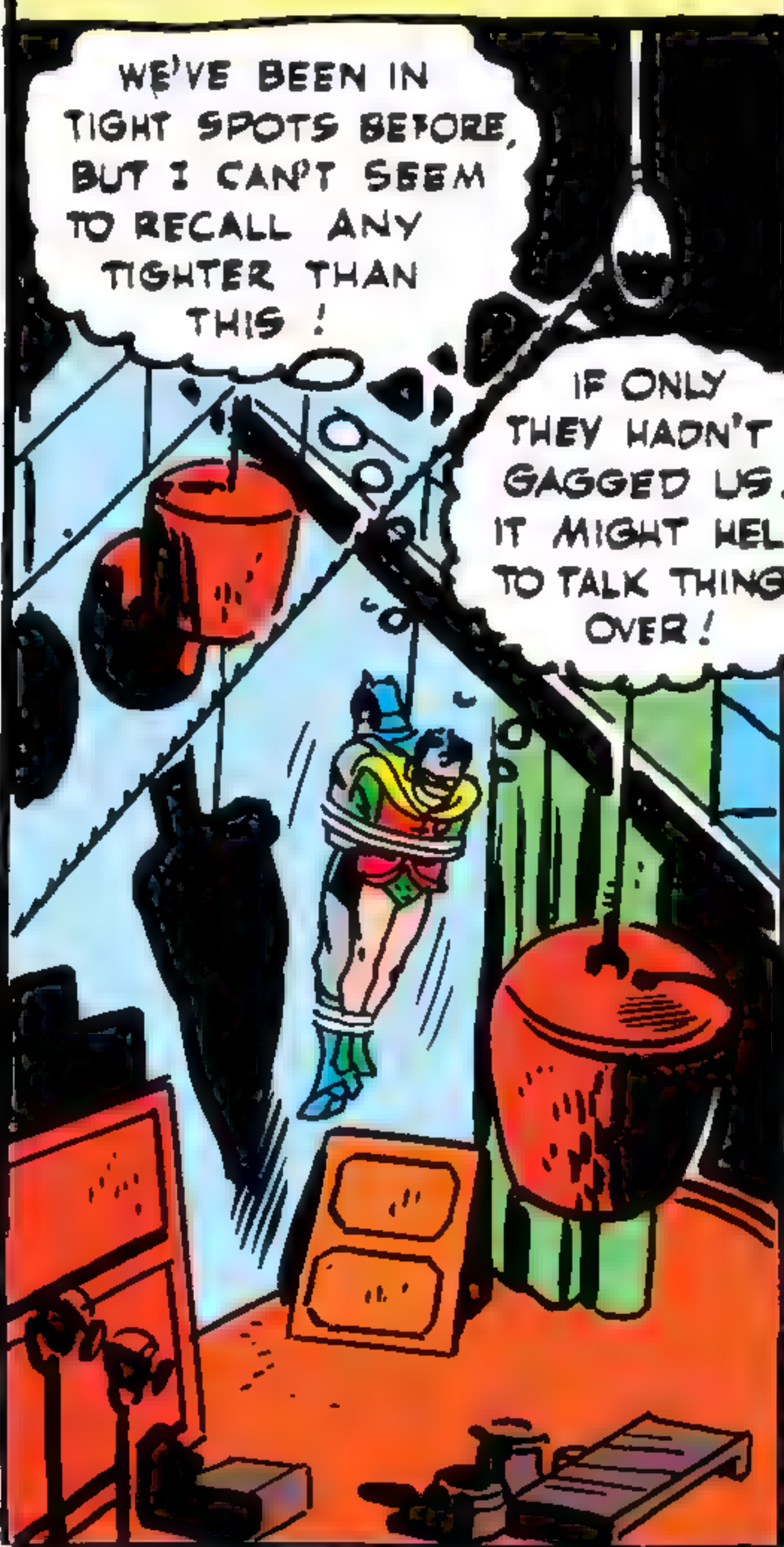
I CAN'T MOVE MY ARMS OR FEET! I'M FALLING!

AS FINE A CAST AS WAS EVER MADE! NOW TO FINISH THEM!

NOT YET! LET US DO ALL OUR KILLING AT ONCE, AND DISPOSE OF THE BODIES TOGETHER! THESE STUPID ONES WILL BE SAFE IF WE TIE THEM TIGHTER AND HOIST THEM INTO THE AIR!



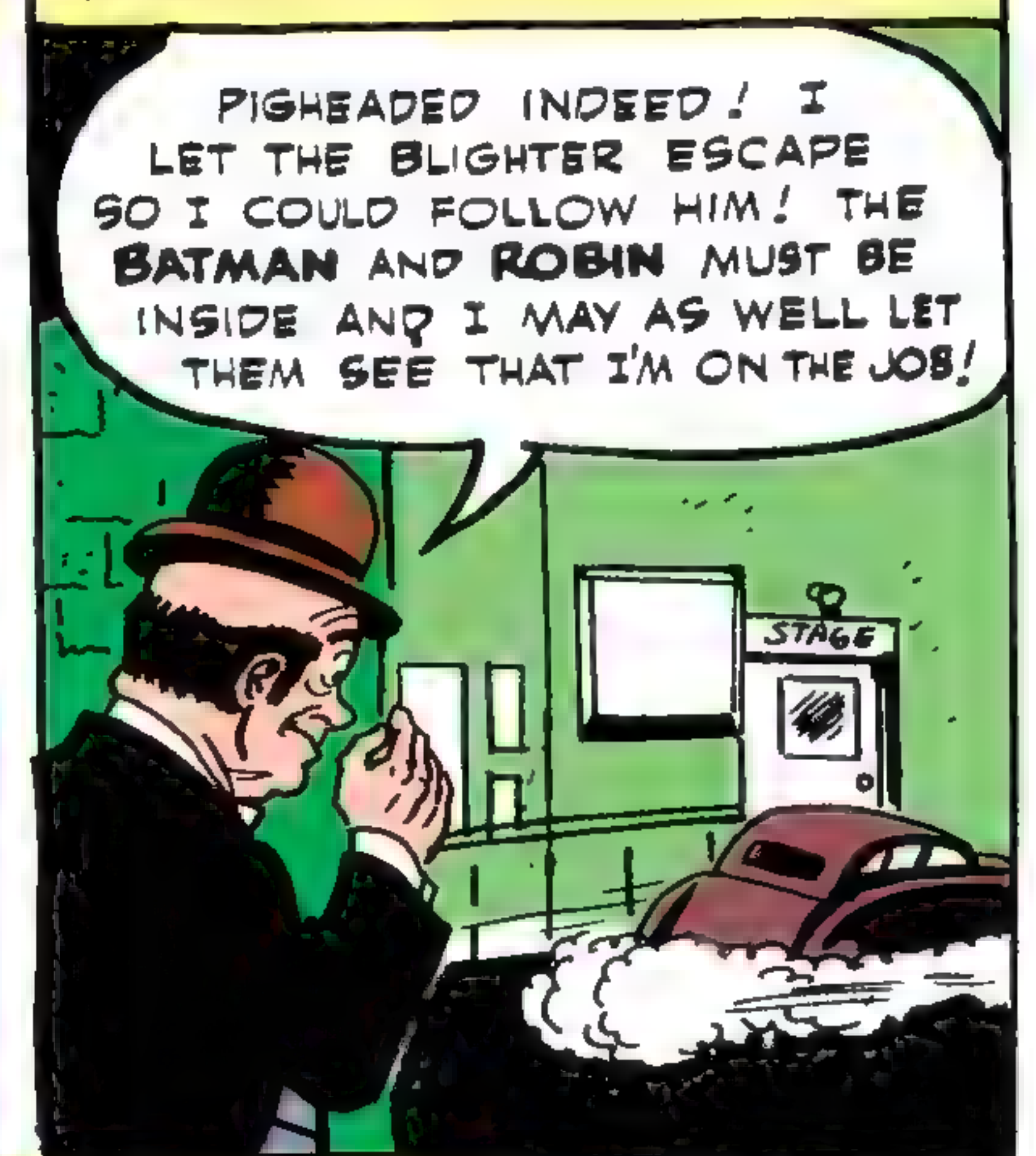
LEFT ALONE, THE FLIGHT OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN SEEMS HOPELESS...



OUTSIDE THE ANCIENT THEATER, THE TWO CRIMINALS ARE JOINED BY THEIR COMPANION...



WHILE BEHIND A CONVENIENT BARRIER...



OR PERHAPS THE BATMAN HAS BEEN HERE AND GONE... NO SIGN OF HIM... HMMM--QUITE A WHILE SINCE I'VE STOOD BEHIND THE FOOTLIGHTS!



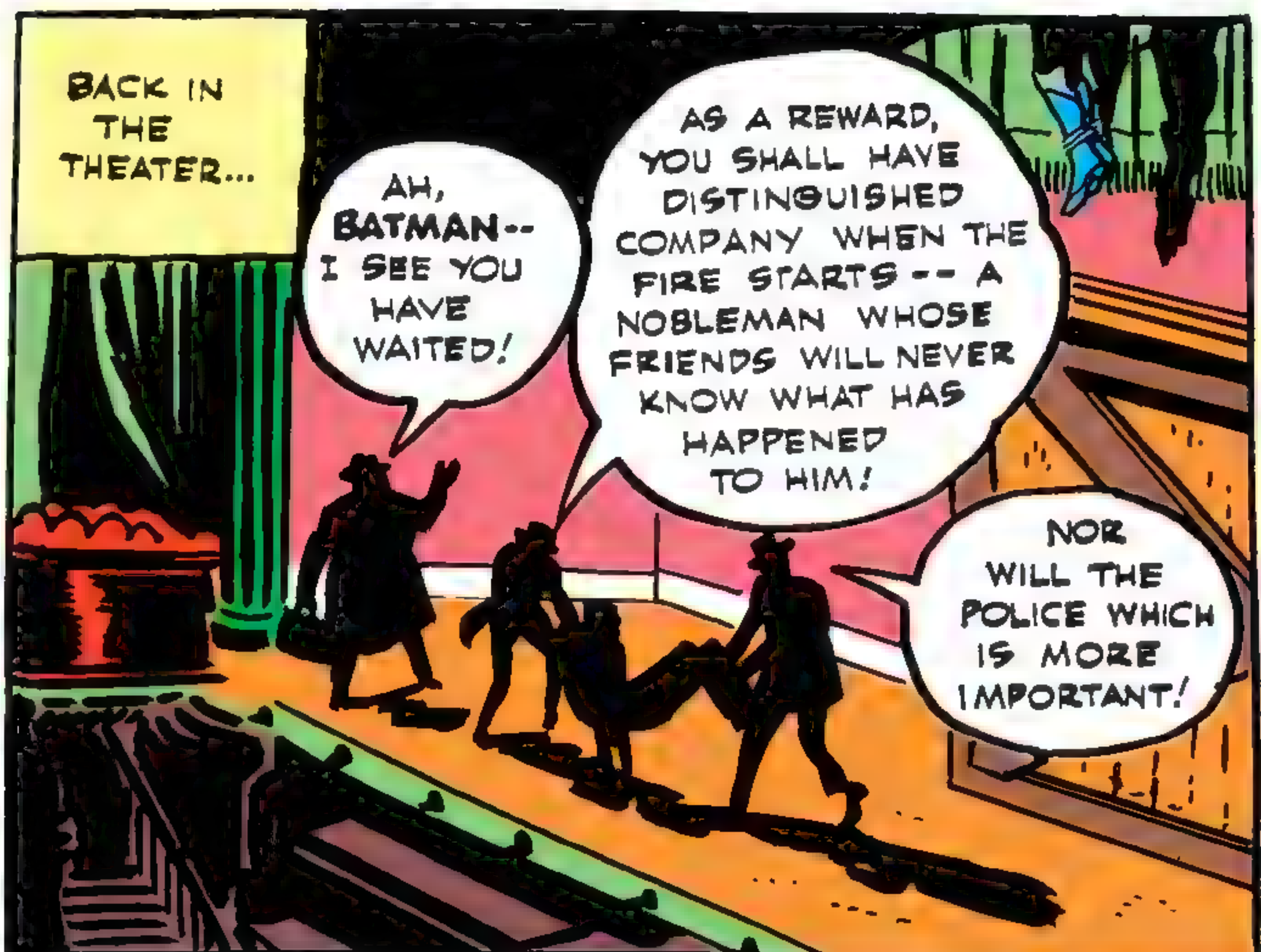
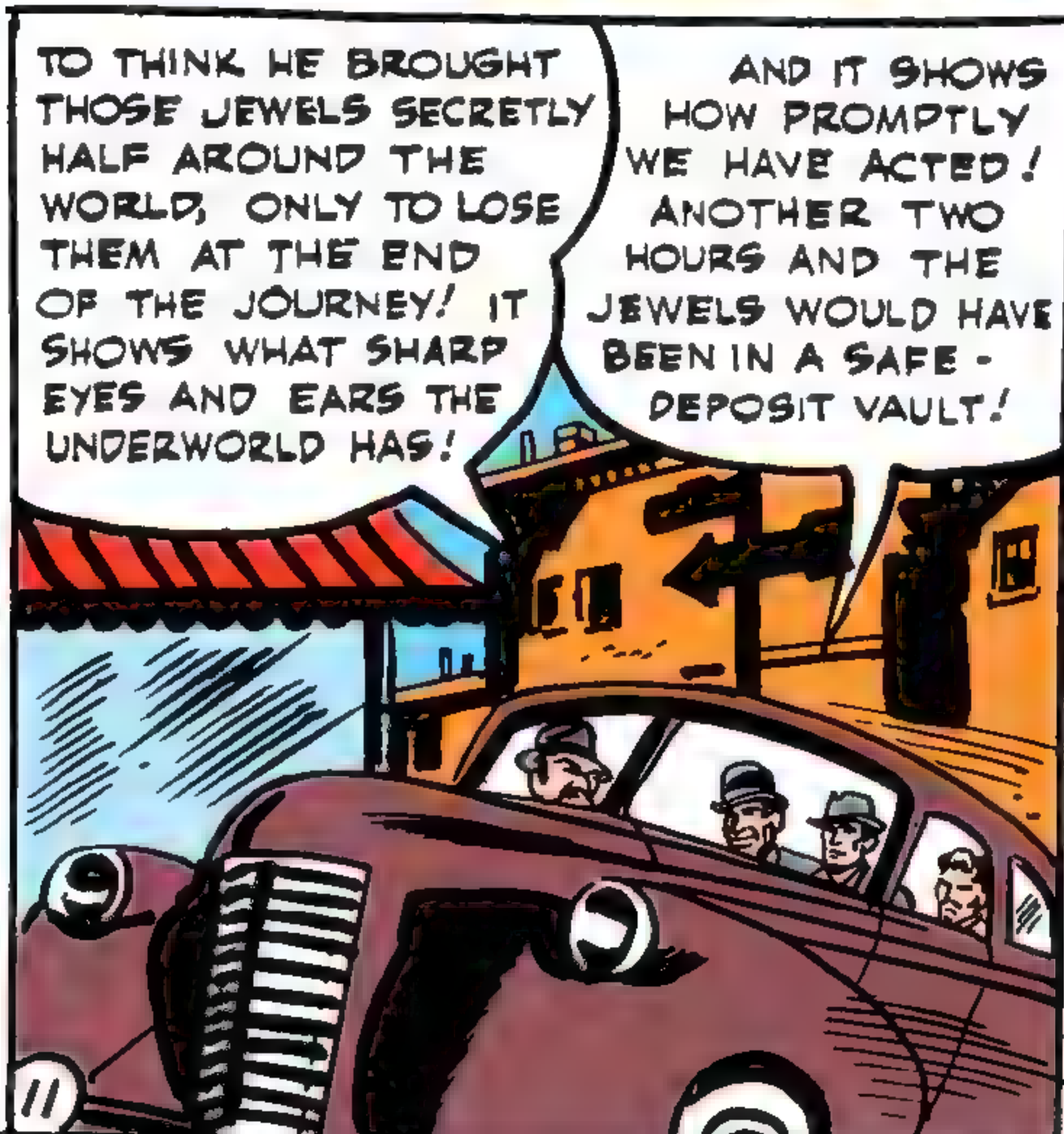
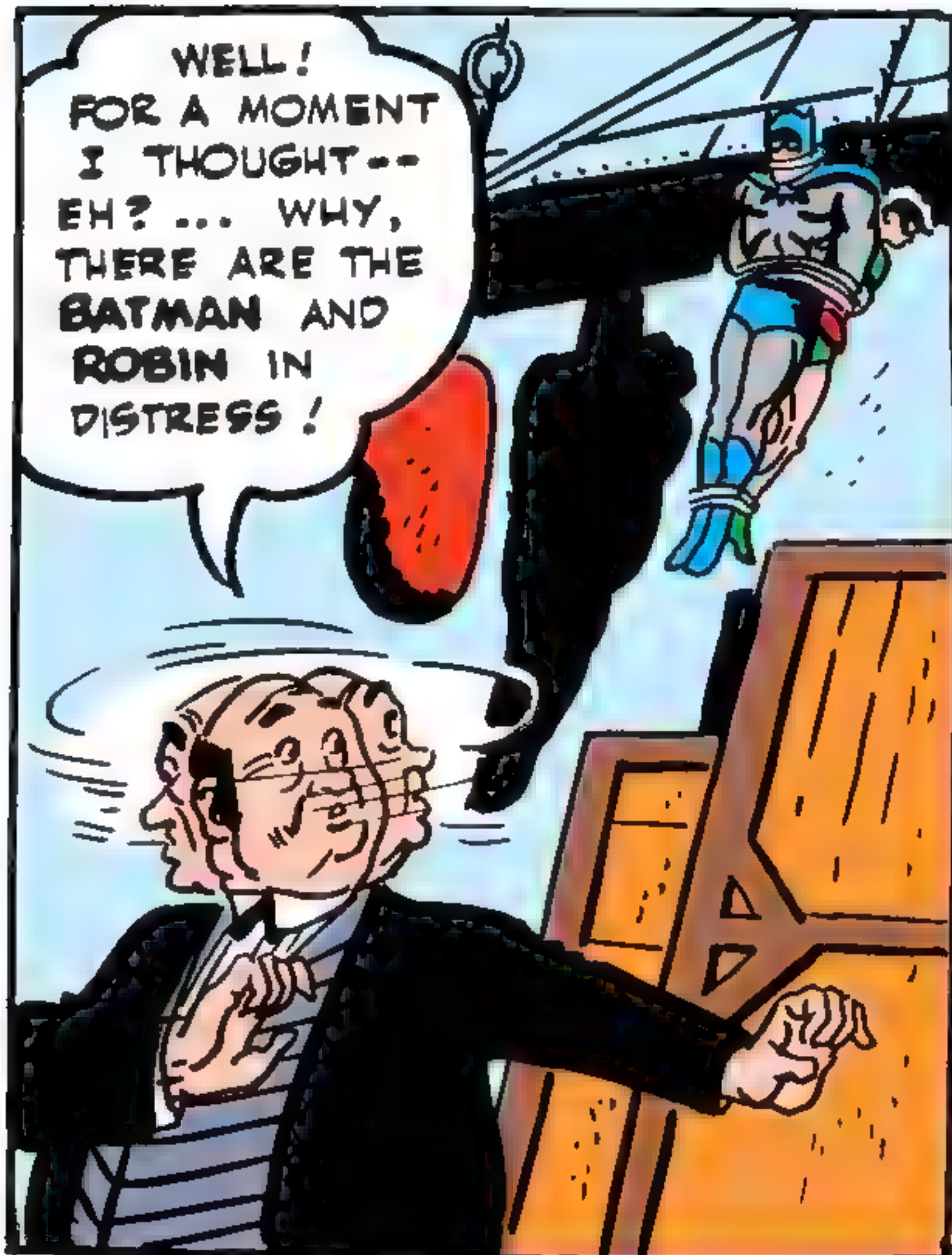
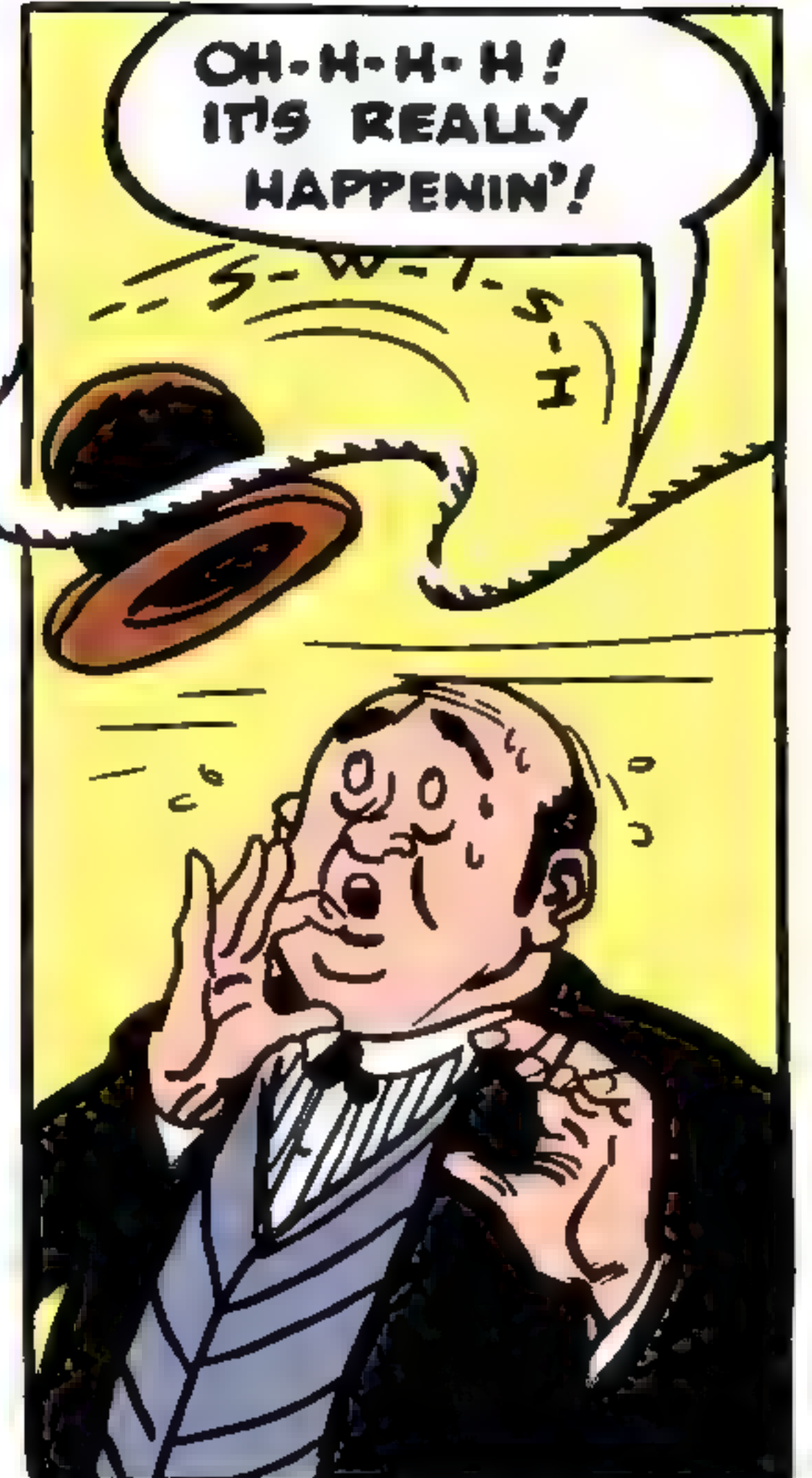
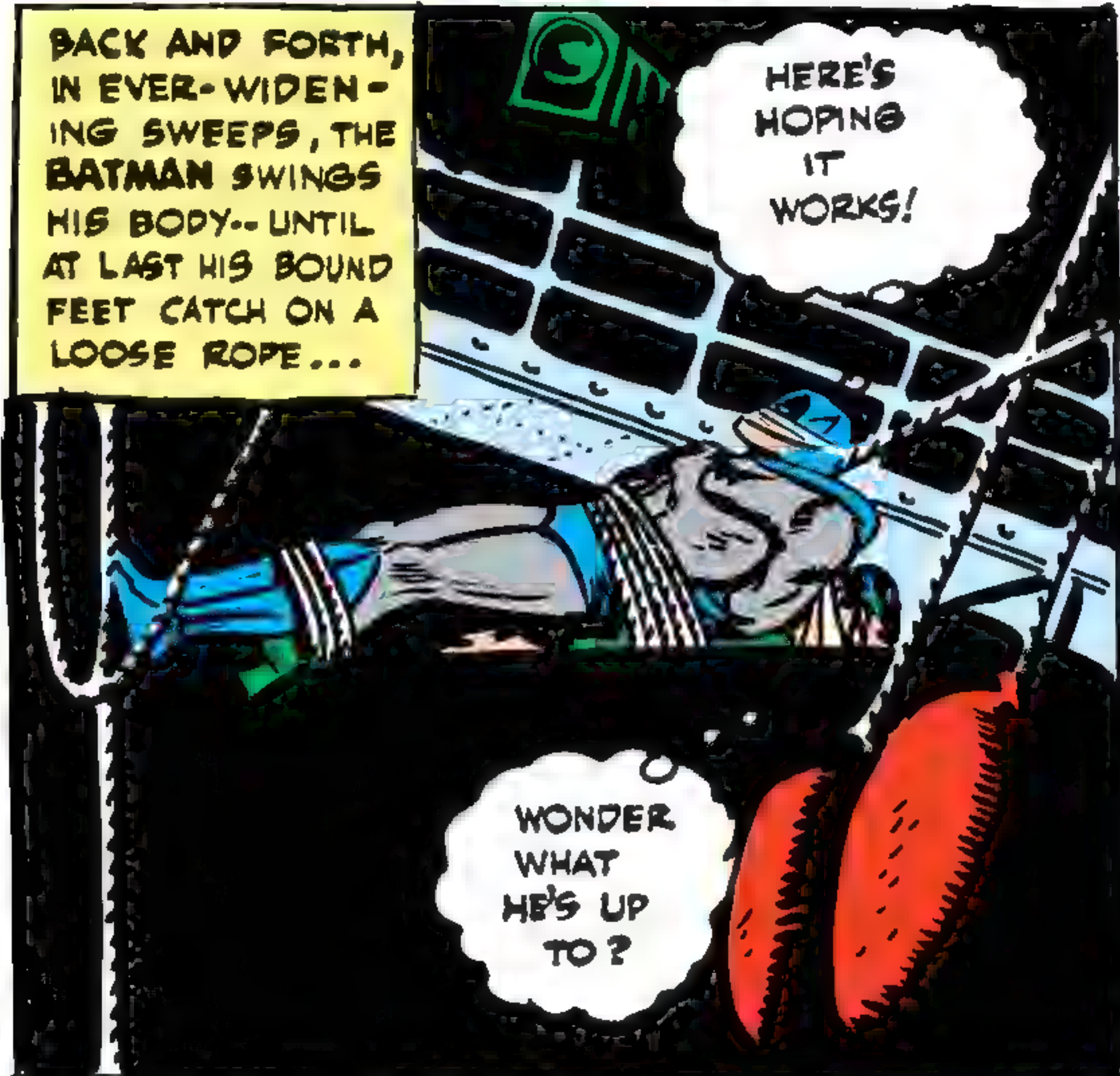
"ONCE A MUSIC HALL ACTOR, ALWAYS A HAM," IS A SAYING THAT HOLDS GOOD HERE AS ELSEWHERE...

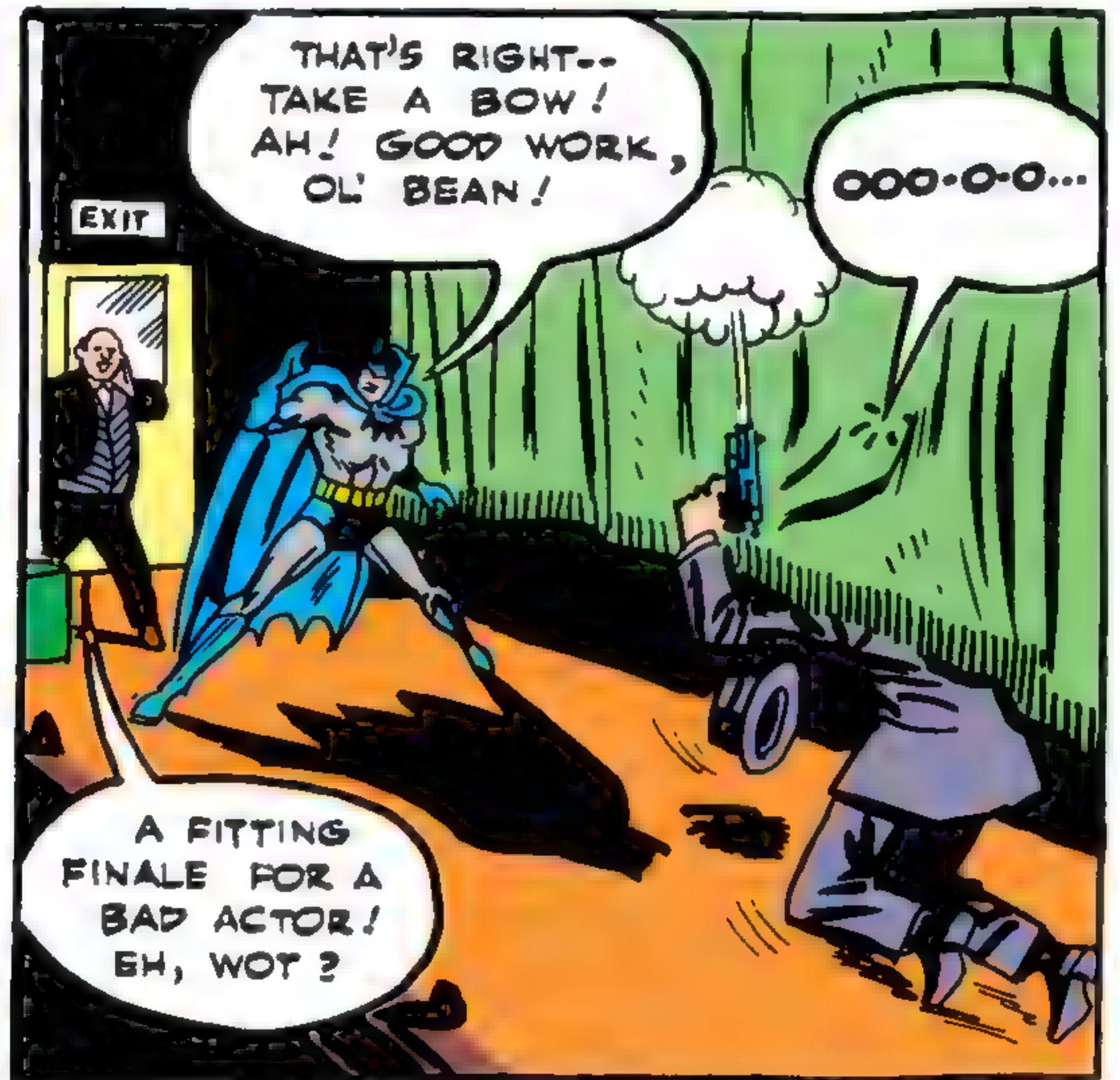
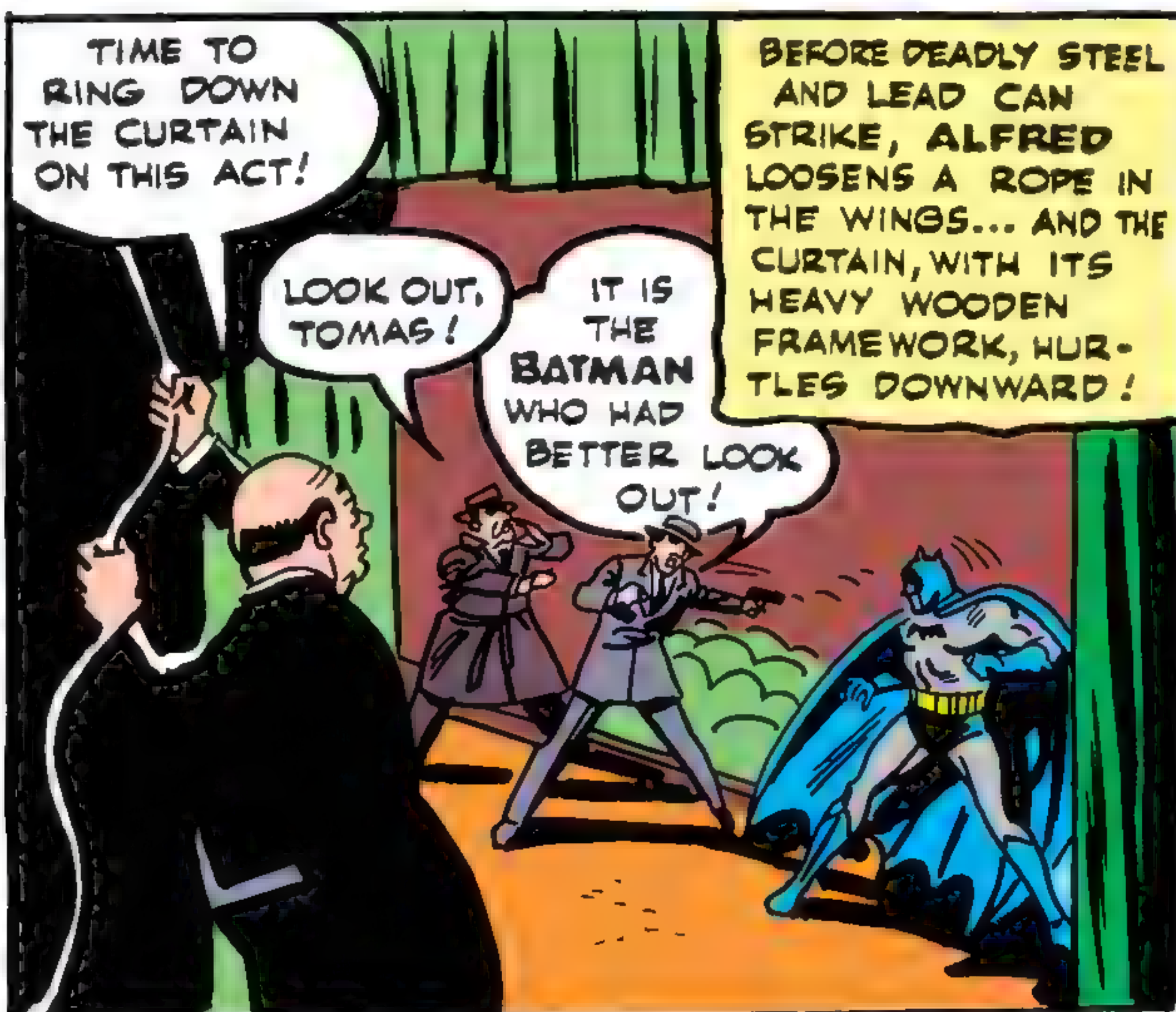
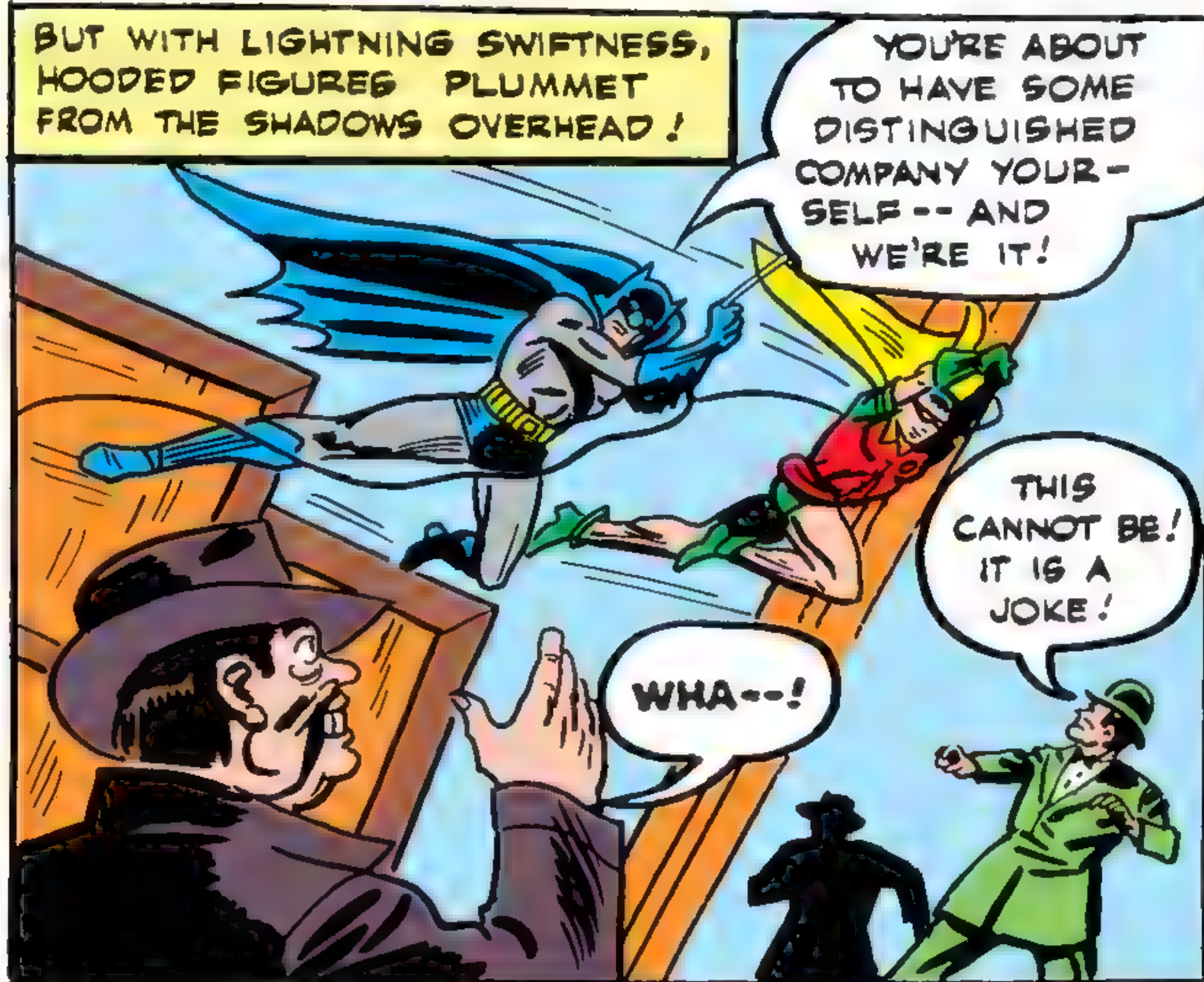
PUTS ME IN MIND OF THE TIME I PLAYED THE ROLE OF A COCKNEY BUTLER IN A HAUNTED HOUSE... HOW DID IT GO... 'ARK--WOT'S THAT NOISE? CAN IT BE H'ANOTHER SPIRIT COME TO 'AUNT ME?



HIGH OVERHEAD, AN UNAPPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE HEARS LINES OF LOWBROW MELODRAMA...







THE FOLLOWING EVENING...

ALFRED'S PRETTY PROUD SINCE WE GAVE HIM FULL CREDIT FOR THIS CASE! I REALLY THOUGHT HE'D DONE A GREAT JOB OF DETECTING, TILL IT TURNED OUT HE GOT ALL HIS INFORMATION BY ACCIDENT!

FOR AWHILE, I WAS AFRAID HE'D FIND OUT WHO WE REALLY ARE-- BUT IF WE'RE CAREFUL, IT WILL BE SAFE TO LET HIM STAY, SINCE HE ISN'T TOO BRIGHT!

BEG PARDON, SIR... YOU'LL BE GOING OUT DIRECTLY, AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR UNIFORMS!

WHAT'S THIS?

HUH?... THOSE CLOAKS... WHY, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

THE SEARCHLIGHT WENT ON A FEW SECONDS AGO! I BELIEVE IT MEANS THE POLICE REQUIRE THE BATMAN'S SERVICES!

THE SIGNAL!... BUT-- BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH US?

YOU FORGET MY DEDUCTIVE ABILITIES! I HAVE KNOWN SINCE LAST NIGHT THAT YOU WERE THE BATMAN AND ROBIN-- BUT I SAW NO REASON TO MENTION IT TILL NOW!

SOMETHING TELLS ME I WAS WRONG IN WHAT I SAID A MINUTE AGO, BRUCE!

COULD BE!

WELL, YOU'RE ONE OF US NOW, ALFRED! I HOPE YOU REALIZE THAT IF YOUR KNOWLEDGE LEAKED OUT, ROBIN'S LIFE AND MINE WOULD BE FORFEIT. CRIMINALS WOULD HAVE AN EASIER TIME OF IT!

I UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY, AND YOU MAY RELY UTTERLY ON MY DISCRETION! YOUR CLOAK, SIR...

I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO WORRY!

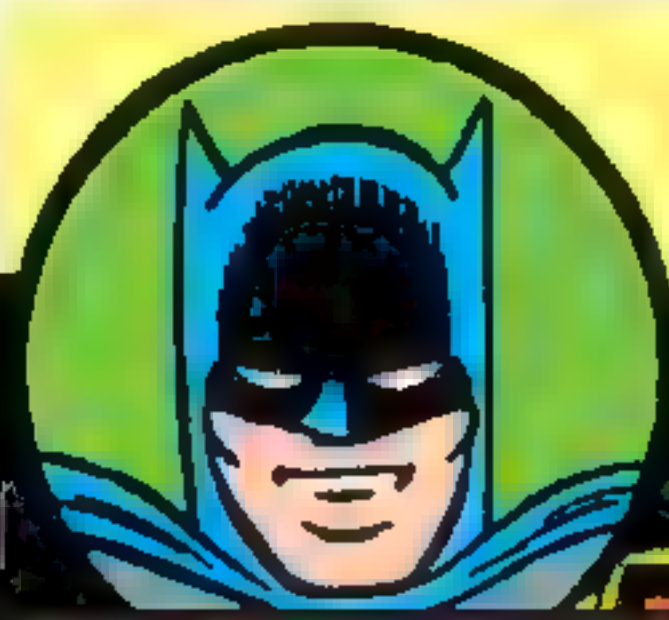
MOMENTS LATER, THE BATPLANE RACES THROUGH THE NIGHT SKY...

AND AS THE DARING HEROES KEEP ANOTHER RENDEZVOUS WITH HIGH ADVENTURE, ALFRED MAKES A COMPROMISE WITH HIS CONSCIENCE!

THEY ARE SO IMPRESSED WITH ME, IT WOULD NEVER DO TO TELL THEM I LEARNED THEIR IDENTITY BY SHEER LUCK! MUCH BETTER TO ACT MYSTERIOUS AND SAY NOTHING!

ALFRED CAN BE USEFUL, AT THAT! HE SAVED OUR LIVES IN THE THEATER! HE MUST BE SMARTER THAN WE THINK TO HAVE SEEN THROUGH OUR DISGUISE!

KEEP AN EYE ON ALFRED! YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF HIM!



No. 75

BOY COMMANDOS

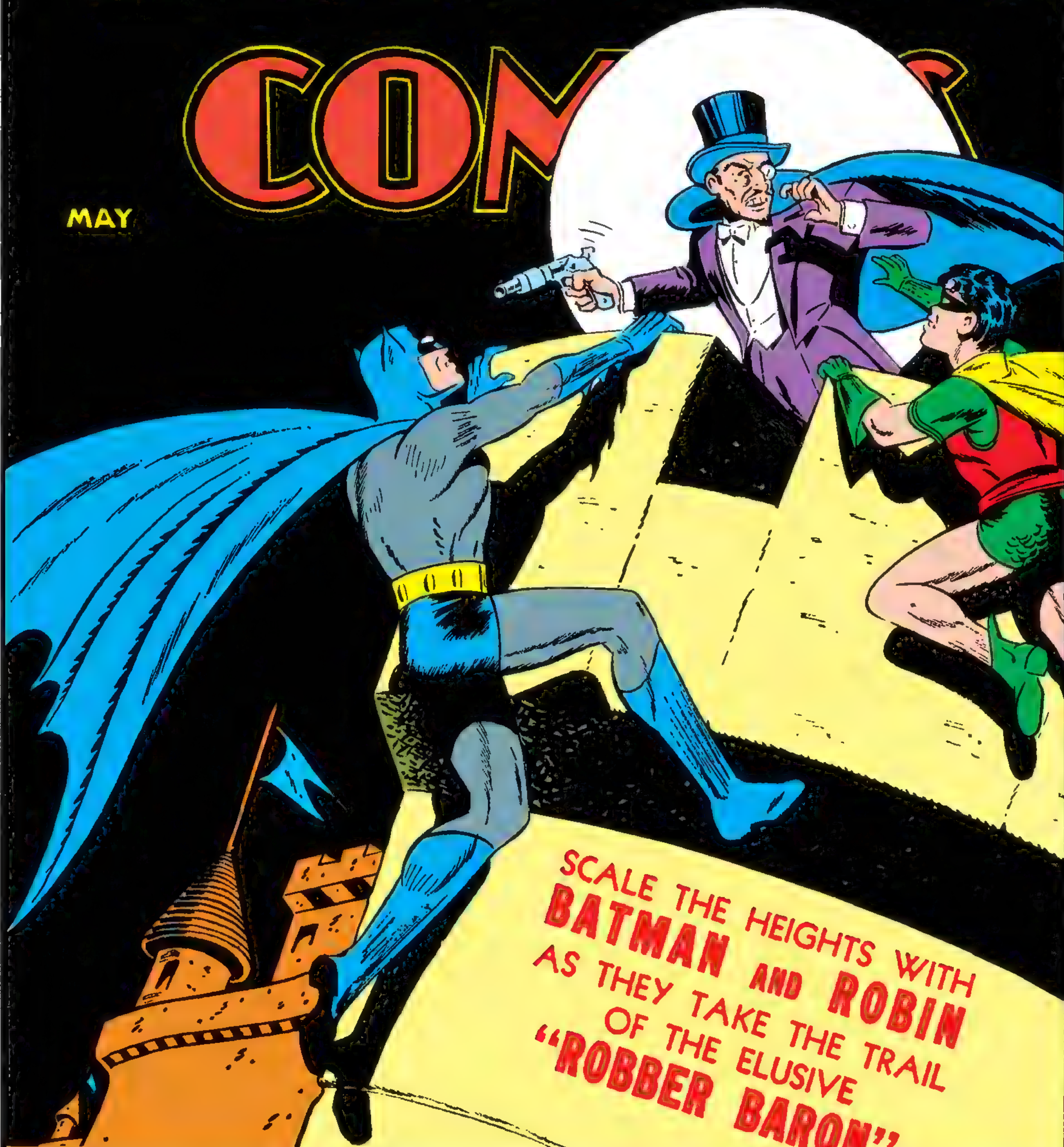


THE BATMAN

Detective

CON

MAY



SCALE THE HEIGHTS WITH
BATMAN AND ROBIN
AS THEY TAKE THE TRAIL
OF THE ELUSIVE
"ROBBER BARON"

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER

SINISTER FIGURES STREAK THROUGH THE NIGHT, FAR ABOVE THE ROOFTOPS OF GOTHAM CITY, AS THE **ROBBER BARON** SWOOPS UPON THE UNWARY LIKE SOME GRIM MARAUDER OF MEDIEVAL TIMES! BARRED DOORS CANNOT STOP HIM... THE UTMOST VIGILANCE OF THE POLICE CANNOT TRAP HIM... NONE CAN TELL WHEN OR WHERE HE WILL STRIKE NEXT! BUT THOSE FIERCEST FIGHTERS FOR JUSTICE, THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, HAVE TACKLED OVERWHELMING ODDS BEFORE -- AND A SLENDER CLUE SPEEDS THEM ALONG A TRAIL OF HIGH ADVENTURE TO PIT SHARP WITS AND SUPPLE MUSCLES AGAINST THE AMAZING SECRET PERILS OF ---

**"THE
ROBBER
BARON!"**



A
THUNDEROUS
CRASH OF
GUNFIRE...

A
SNARLING HAIL
OF BULLETS...
AND A
RIDDLED,
LIFELESS
FIGURE
SHUDDERS
AND
SAGS!



AN ARROGANT LORDLING OF THE UNDERWORLD --THE ROBBER BARON-- PRAISES THE MARKSMANSHIP OF HIS FEROCIOUS FOLLOWERS...

EXCELLENT SHOOTING, MY GOOD MEN! AT TIMES I AM REALLY QUITE PROUD OF YOU!

YOU'GHTTA BE, BARON! EVERY SINGLE SLUG WE FIRED WENT RIGHT T'ROUGH DA BATMAN!

AND NOW -- WHAT TO DO WITH THE BODY?

OUR TARGET'S GETTIN' KINDA RAGGED! WE OUGHTA RIG UP A NEW ONE?

COME-- IT IS TIME FOR SOME PROFIT-ABLE SHOOTING!

AW DIS DUM-MY'LL DO TILL WE GET A CHANCE AT DA REAL BATMAN! LUCKY DIS PLACE IS SOUND-PROOF!

THRUSTING INTO THE NIGHT SKY FROM THE ROOF OF AN ABANDONED FACTORY, THE ROBBER BARON'S TOWER BOASTS A STRANGE CANNON, COMMANDING THE BUSINESS SECTION OF GOTHAM CITY!

AH-- THE RUPERT SPRAGUE PENTHOUSE IS DARK! IT IS PROBABLY RUDE OF US TO CALL SO LATE, EH?

RUDE, HE SAYS HAW, HAW!

A POWERFUL SPRING HURLS A GRAPPLING HOOK FAR OUT INTO THE DARKNESS...

ZINGG

ATOP AN IMPOSING APARTMENT BUILDING, BLOCKS AWAY...

AND SOON...

QUIET! IF WE TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE, IT MAY SAVE KILLING!

AW, KILLIN' AIN'T SO BAD WHEN WE GOT A SLICK GETAWAY SET-UP LIKE DIS!

NEXT DAY...

WUXTREE! BARON'S GANG STRIKES AGAIN!

AMAZING! THE PENTHOUSE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE BURGLAR-PROOF -- BUT THE ROBBER BARON LEFT HIS CARD!

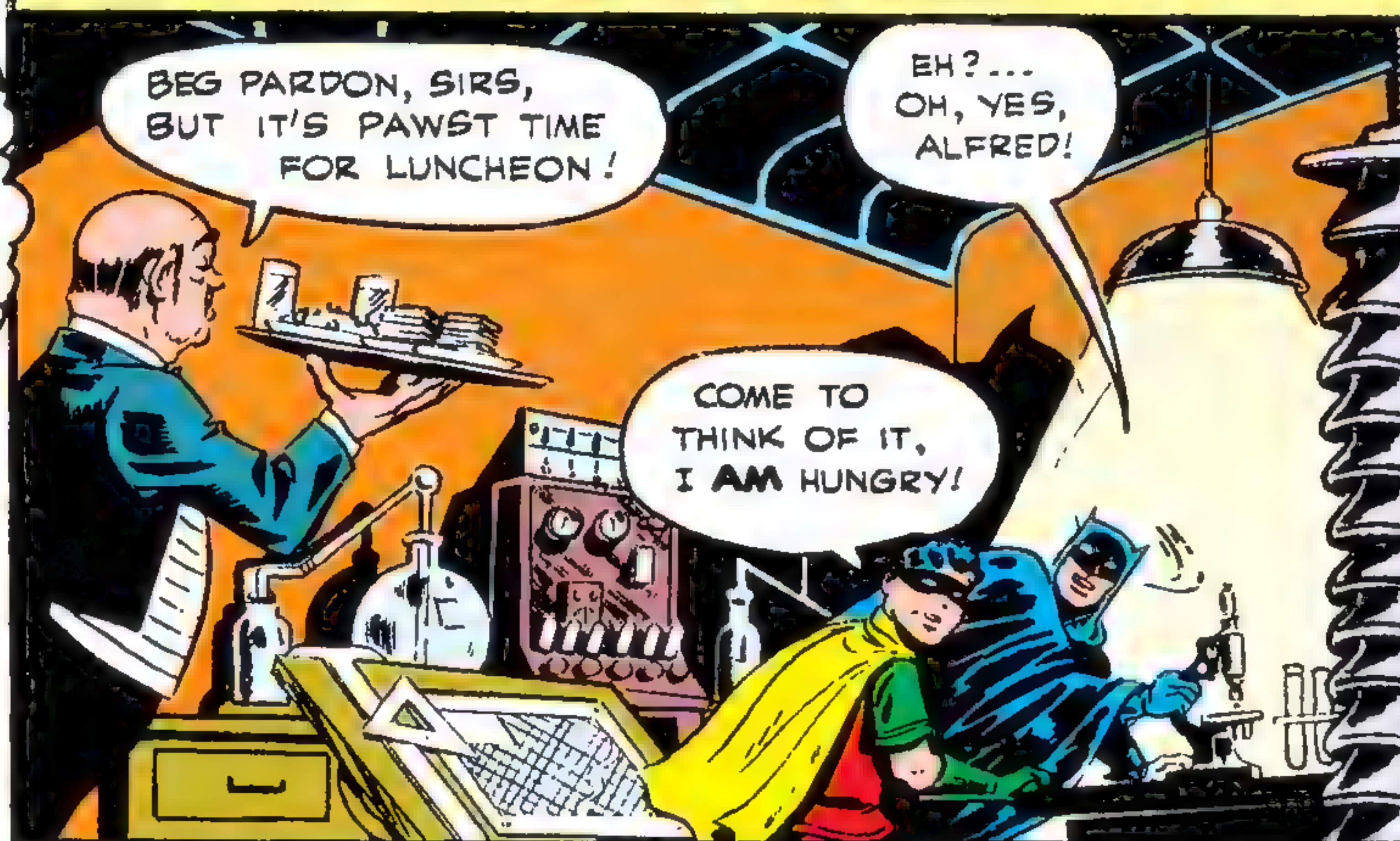
THE POLICE ARE BAFFLED! LOOKS AS IF THEY'VE FINALLY RUN UP AGAINST A CROOK TOO SMART FOR THEM!

IN THE HOME OF **BRUCE WAYNE**, RICH SOCIETY PLAYBOY, A SECRET PANEL OPENS AT THE TOUCH OF A KNOWING FINGER ...



NO ONE KNOWS THE FASCINATION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BETTER THAN I -- BUT EVEN SHERLOCK HOLMES HAD TO EAT!

ALFRED, BUTLER EXTRAORDINARY, IS THE ONLY LIVING PERSON WHO KNOWS THAT **BRUCE**, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, **DICK GRAYSON**, ARE IN REALITY THE FAMOUS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!



BEG PARDON, SIR, BUT IT'S PAWST TIME FOR LUNCHEON!

EH?... OH, YES, ALFRED!

COME TO THINK OF IT, I AM HUNGRY!



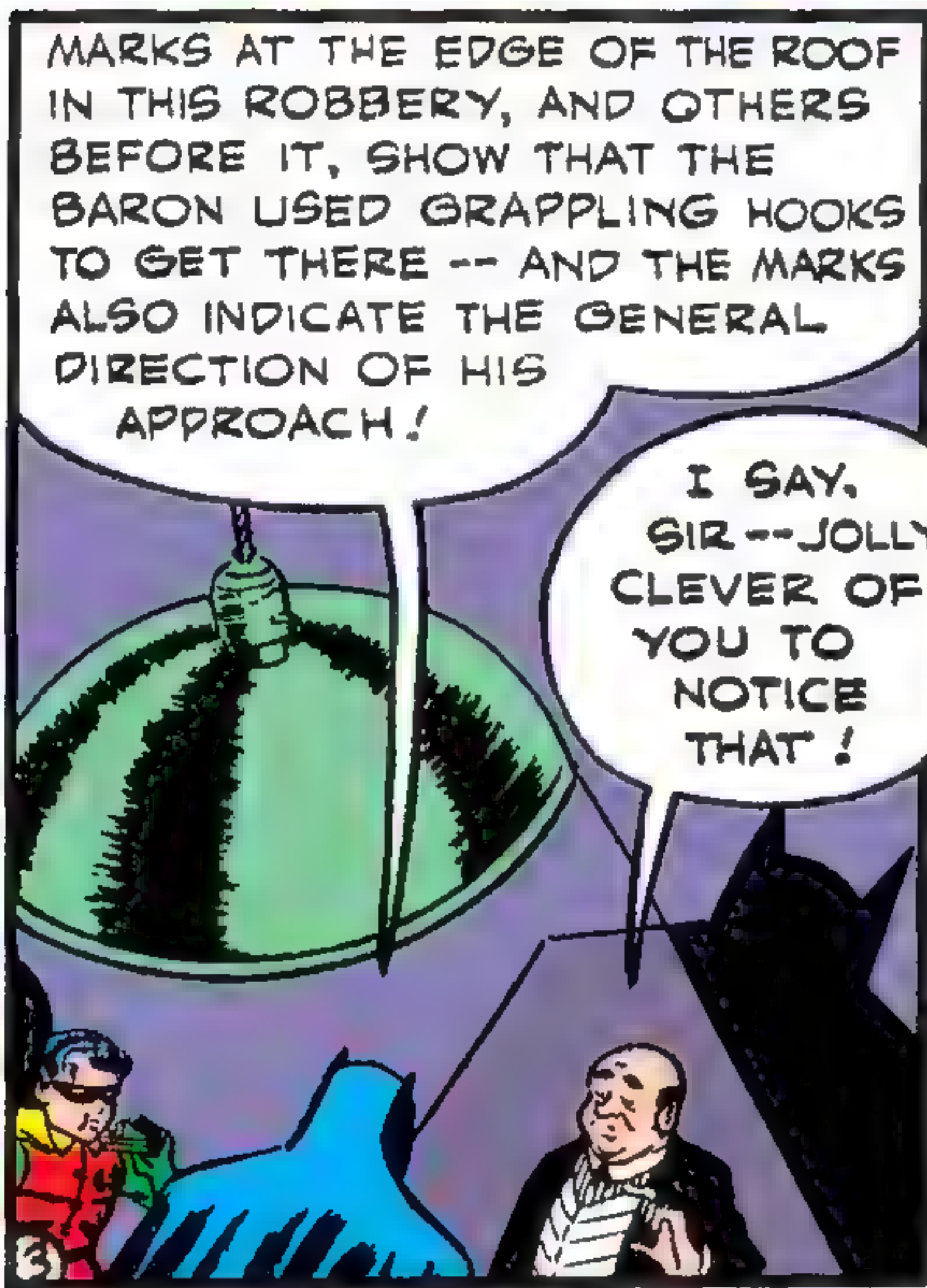
IF I MIGHT MAKE SO BOLD TO AASK, SIR -- HAS YOUR INVESTIGATION OF THE SPRAGUE AFFAIR TURNED UP ANY CLUES?

CONFIDENTIALLY, AS ONE SLEUTH TO ANOTHER -- YES!



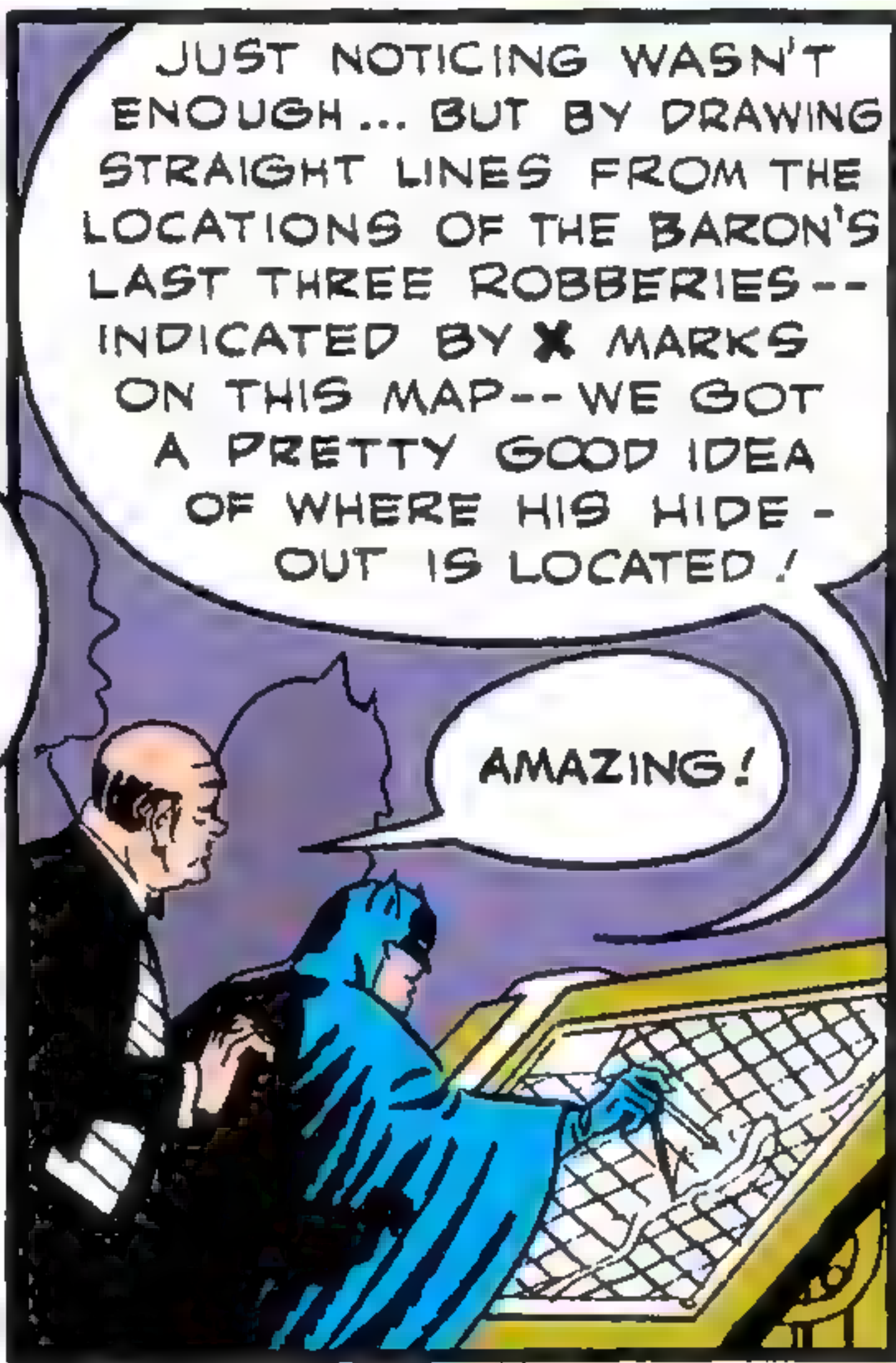
SEE THOSE TINY BRASS FILINGS? THEY WERE SCRAPED FROM FOOTPRINTS OF THE BARON AND HIS GANG ACROSS SPRAGUE'S RUGS!

QUITE SO!



MARKS AT THE EDGE OF THE ROOF IN THIS ROBBERY, AND OTHERS BEFORE IT, SHOW THAT THE BARON USED GRAPPLING HOOKS TO GET THERE -- AND THE MARKS ALSO INDICATE THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF HIS APPROACH!

I SAY, SIR -- JOLLY CLEVER OF YOU TO NOTICE THAT!



JUST NOTICING WASN'T ENOUGH... BUT BY DRAWING STRAIGHT LINES FROM THE LOCATIONS OF THE BARON'S LAST THREE ROBBERIES -- INDICATED BY X MARKS ON THIS MAP -- WE GOT A PRETTY GOOD IDEA OF WHERE HIS HIDE-OUT IS LOCATED!

AMAZING!



SOMEWHERE NEAR THE RIVER-FRONT, WITHIN THE AREA BOUND-ED BY THIS CIRCLE, THE ROBBER BARON HAS HIS SECRET CASTLE!

BLESS ME! WHY, HE'S AS GOOD AS CAUGHT RIGHT NOW!

LATER A SLEEK ROADSTER PROWLs
A DOWN-AT-HEEL SECTOR OF THE
WATERFRONT...

ALMOST ANY
OF THESE
OLD BUILD-
INGS COULD
SERVE AS A
HIDEOUT FOR
CROOKS,
BRUCE!

I'M HOPING TO
FIND A SPECIAL
TYPE OF BUILDING!
AS LONG AS WE'RE
NOT IN FIGHTING
TOGS, WE CAN LOOK
ALL WE WANT WITH-
OUT ATTRACTING
ATTENTION!

PRESENTLY...

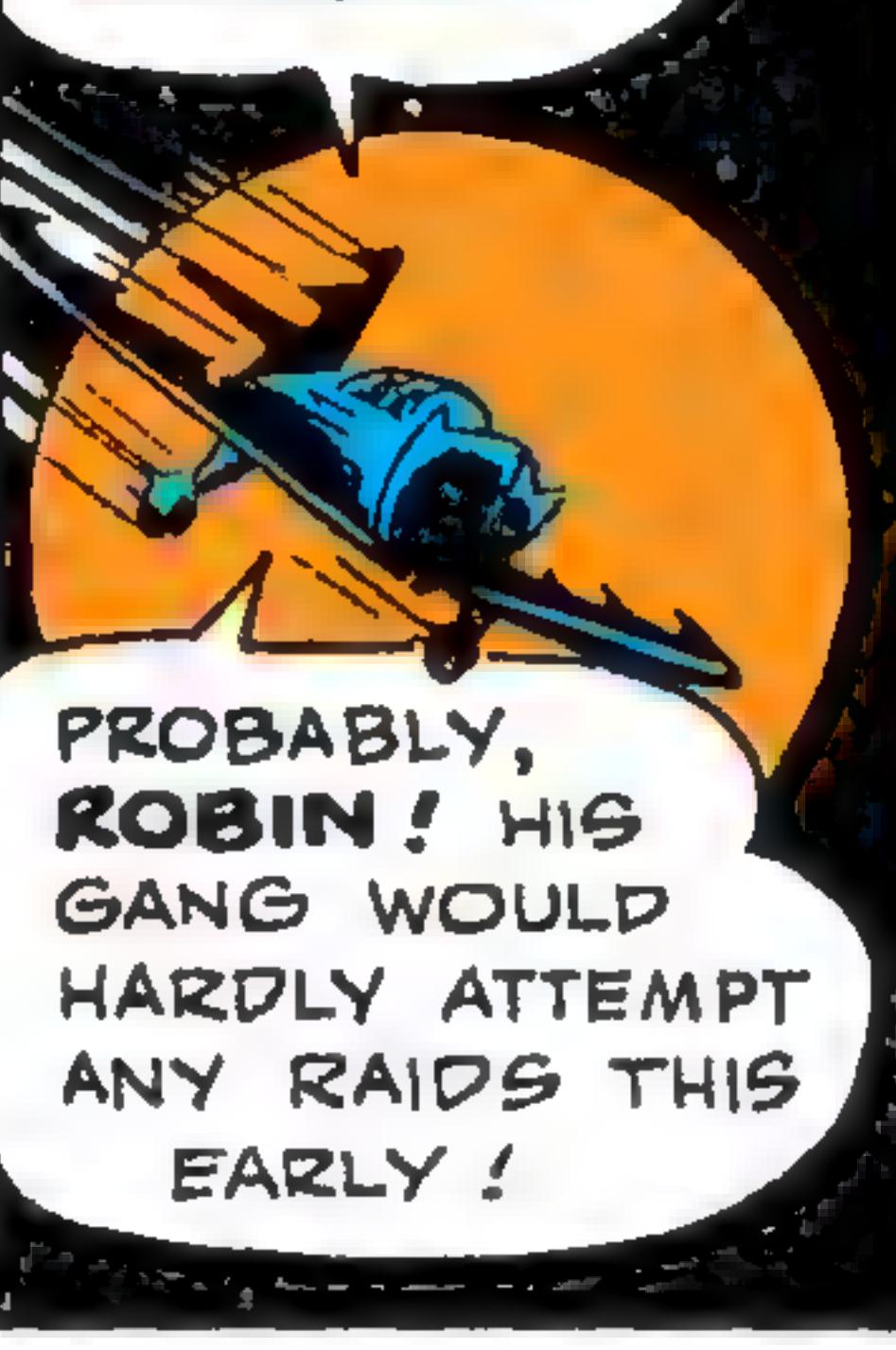
WHAT
AN INTERESTING
OLD TOWER ON THAT
ABANDONED
FACTORY!



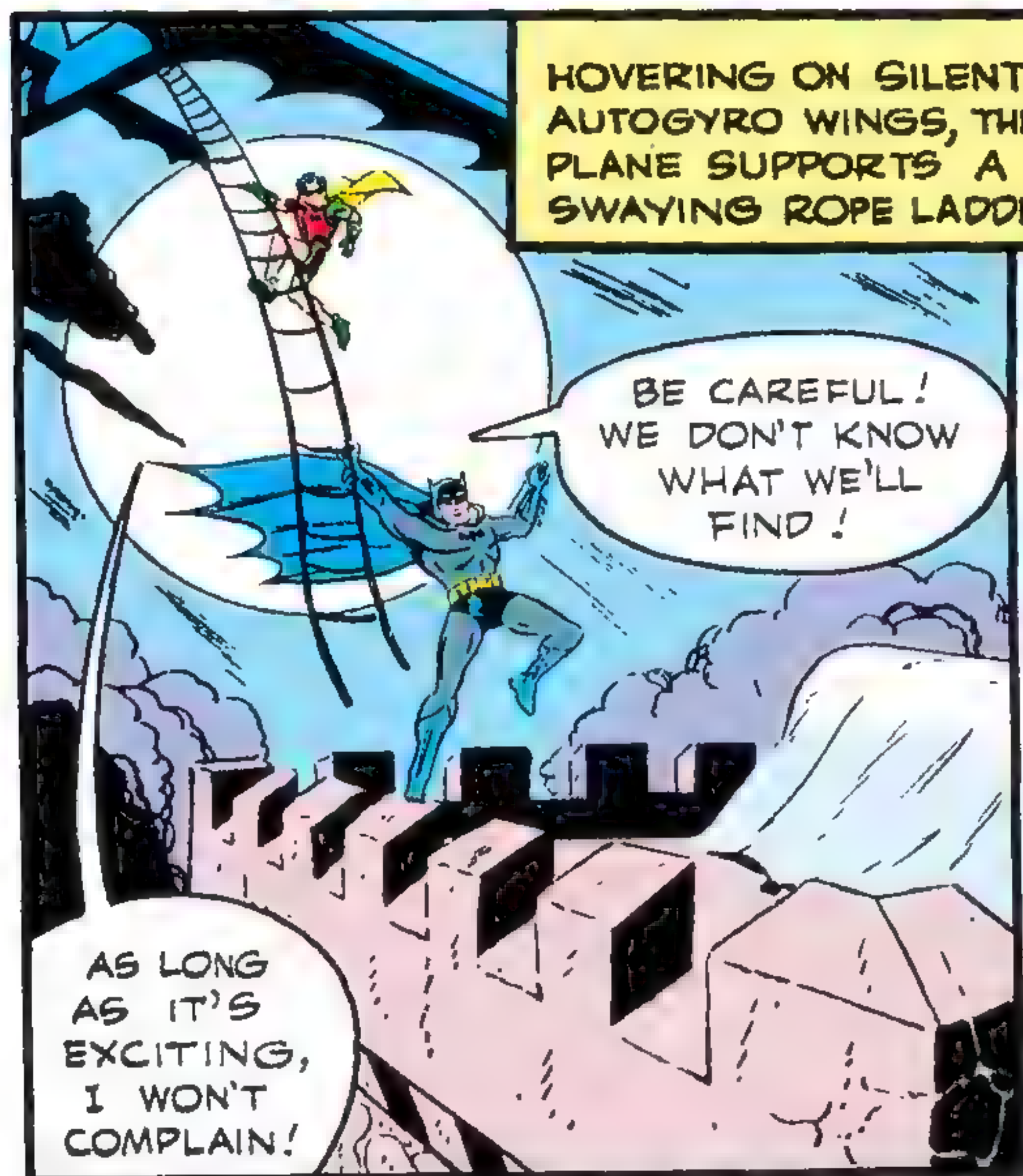
YES, LIKE THE TURRET
ON A MEDIEVAL BARON'S
CASTLE! AND WHAT AN
INTERESTING SIGN, CON-
SIDERING THOSE BRASS
FILINGS THE BARON LEFT
BEHIND HIM!

NIGHT-- AND A WEIRD
CRAFT WINGS ACROSS
THE STARRY SKY --
THE **BATPLANE!**

DO YOU THINK WE'LL
FIND THE BARON IN
HIS "CASTLE,"
BATMAN?



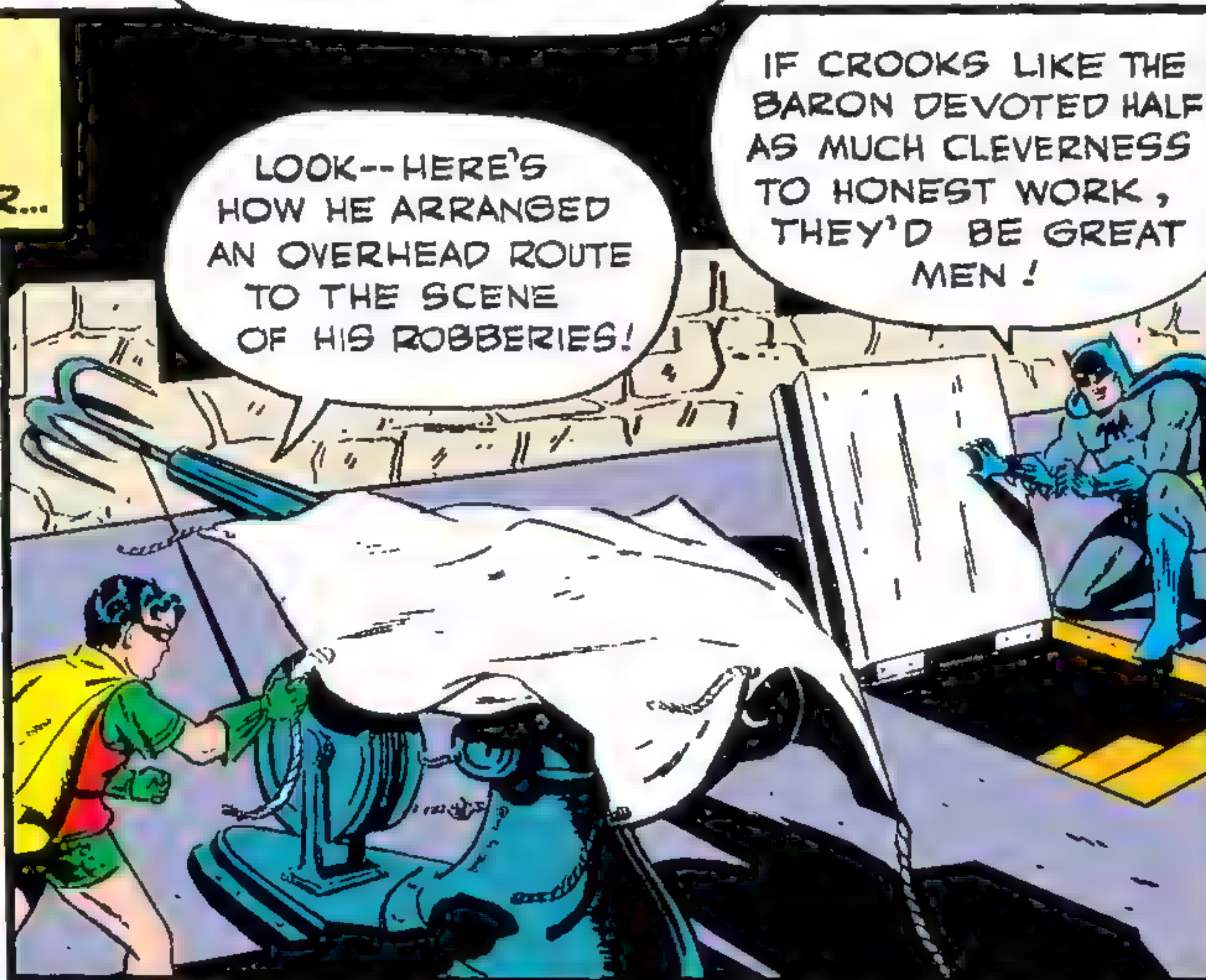
PROBABLY,
ROBIN! HIS
GANG WOULD
HARDLY ATTEMPT
ANY RAIDS THIS
EARLY!



HOVERING ON SILENT
AUTOGYRO WINGS, THE
PLANE SUPPORTS A
SWAYING ROPE LADDER...

BE CAREFUL!
WE DON'T KNOW
WHAT WE'LL
FIND!

AS LONG
AS IT'S
EXCITING,
I WON'T
COMPLAIN!



LOOK--HERE'S
HOW HE ARRANGED
AN OVERHEAD ROUTE
TO THE SCENE
OF HIS ROBBERIES!

IF CROOKS LIKE THE
BARON DEVOTED HALF
AS MUCH CLEVERNESS
TO HONEST WORK,
THEY'D BE GREAT
MEN!



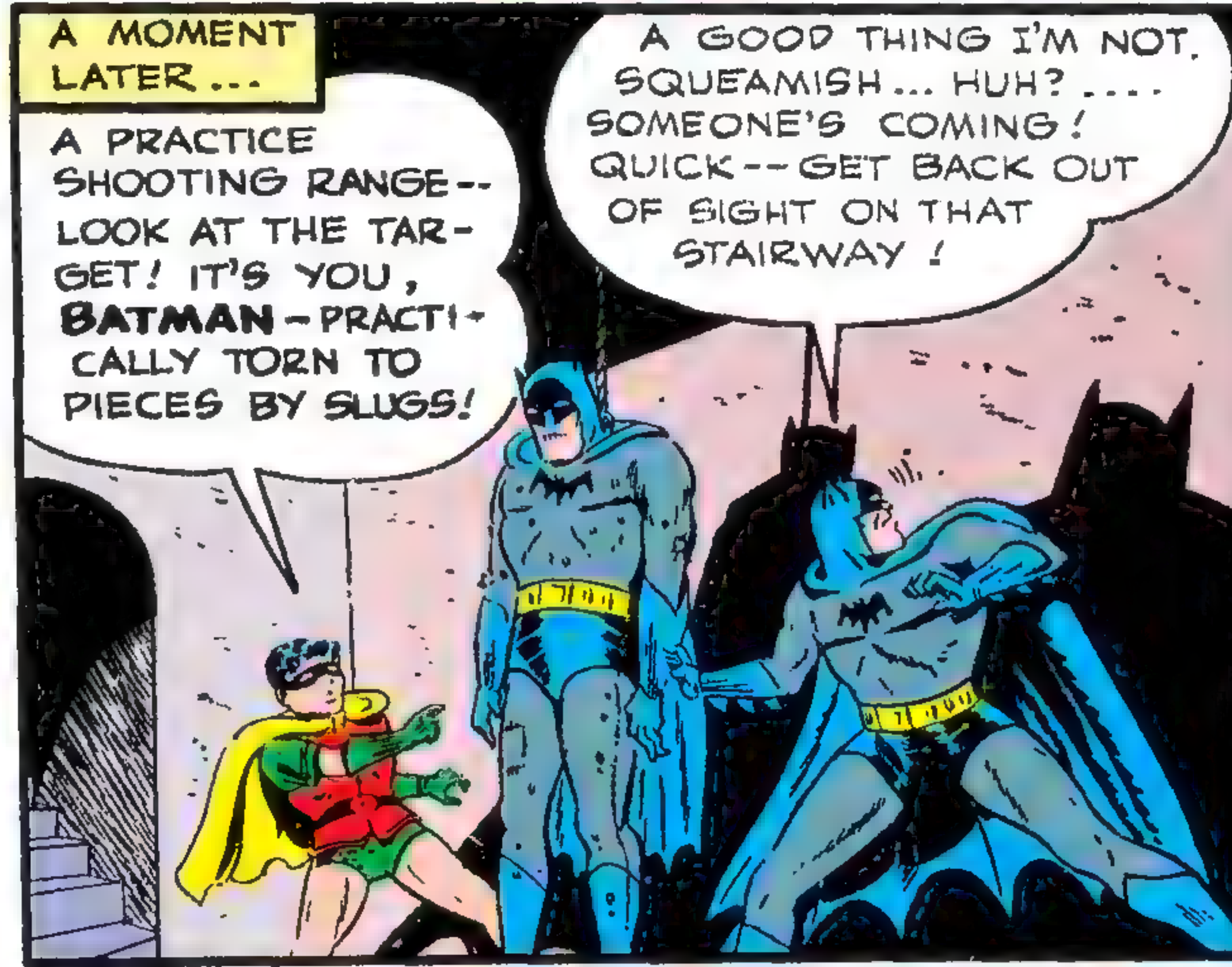
I SMELL
STALE GUN-
SMOKE! THERE'S
BEEN A LOT OF
SHOOTING
AROUND
HERE!

THERE'LL BE
MORE IF THEY
HEAR US
COMING!

A MOMENT
LATER...

A PRACTICE
SHOOTING RANGE--
LOOK AT THE TAR-
GET! IT'S YOU,
BATMAN--PRACTI-
CALLY TORN TO
PIECES BY SLUGS!

A GOOD THING I'M NOT,
SQUEAMISH... HUH?....
SOMEONE'S COMING!
QUICK--GET BACK OUT
OF SIGHT ON THAT
STAIRWAY!



THE ROBBER BARON'S HENCHMEN ARE READY FOR THEIR NIGHTLY EXERCISE, COMBINING PRACTICE WITH PLEASURE...

IF YOU KEEP THIS UP LONG ENOUGH, THE REAL **BATMAN** WON'T STAND A CHANCE IF HE EVER CROSSES OUR TRAIL!

EVERY TIME I SEE DAT OUTFIT HE'S WEARING, ME TRIGGER FINGER ITCHES!

NOW JUST IMAGINE IT REALLY IS THE **BATMAN**!

I WISH IT WAS! I'M GETTIN' SICK O' WASTIN' LEAD ON A DUMMY!

AMAZINGLY, THE DUMMY SEEMS TO SPEAK!

YOU'RE SICK OF IT, EH? HOW DO YOU THINK I FEEL, TAKING ALL THOSE BULLETS AND NOT DISHING ANYTHING OUT?

YIII-I-I-I IT'S TALKIN'!

WHA-- WHO DARES TO TRICK THE ROBBER BARON?

WE DUMMIES CAN KEEP OUR TEMPER JUST SO LONG, AND THEN WE'VE GOT TO HIT BACK!

NO! NO! IT AIN'T TRUE! IT CAN'T BE!

SHOOT, YOU FOOLS!

THE **BATMAN**! AND AFTER ALL THE PRACTICE MY HENCHMEN HAVE HAD, I'VE GOT TO KILL HIM MYSELF!

LIKE THIS!

IT'S CHOKIN' ME!

A SMALL BUT NIMBLE FIGURE FLASHES INTO ACTION...

NOT TONIGHT, CHUM!

ANOTHER ONE! IT'S THAT BRAT, **ROBIN**!

5

NICE WORK, **ROBIN**!

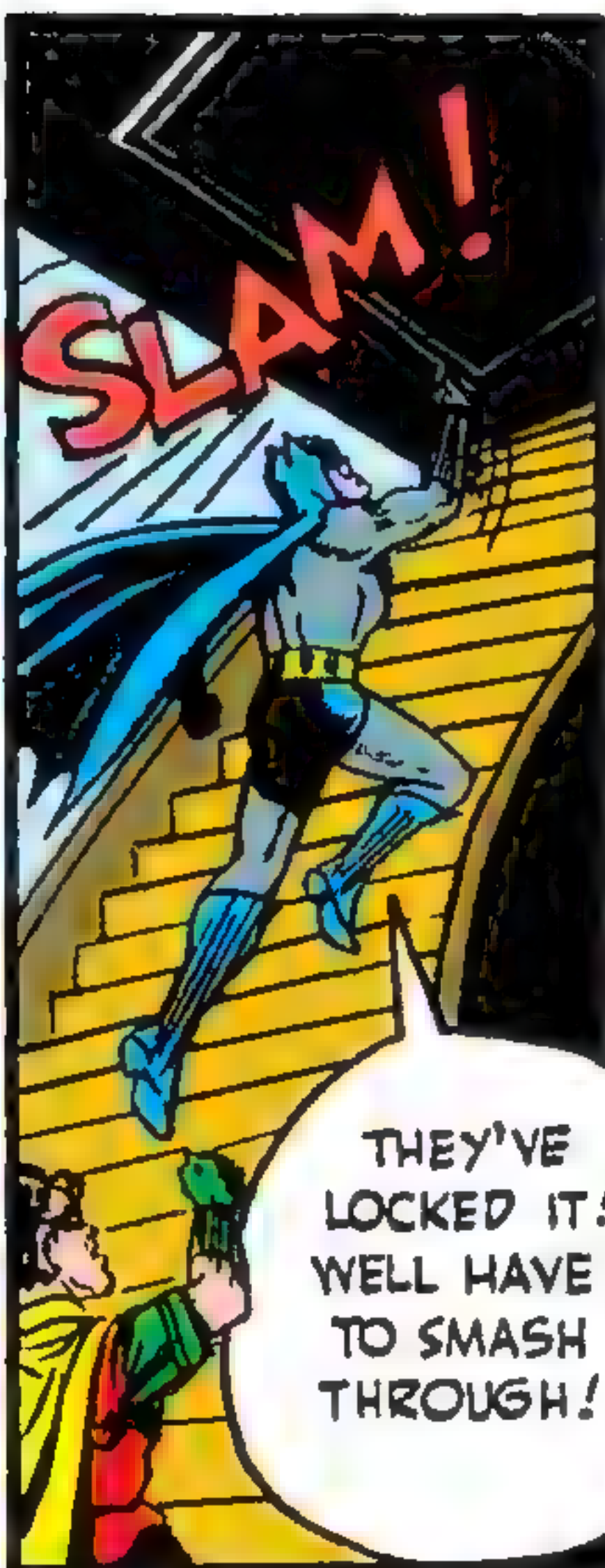
TO THE TOWER!

YOU FLATTER ME!



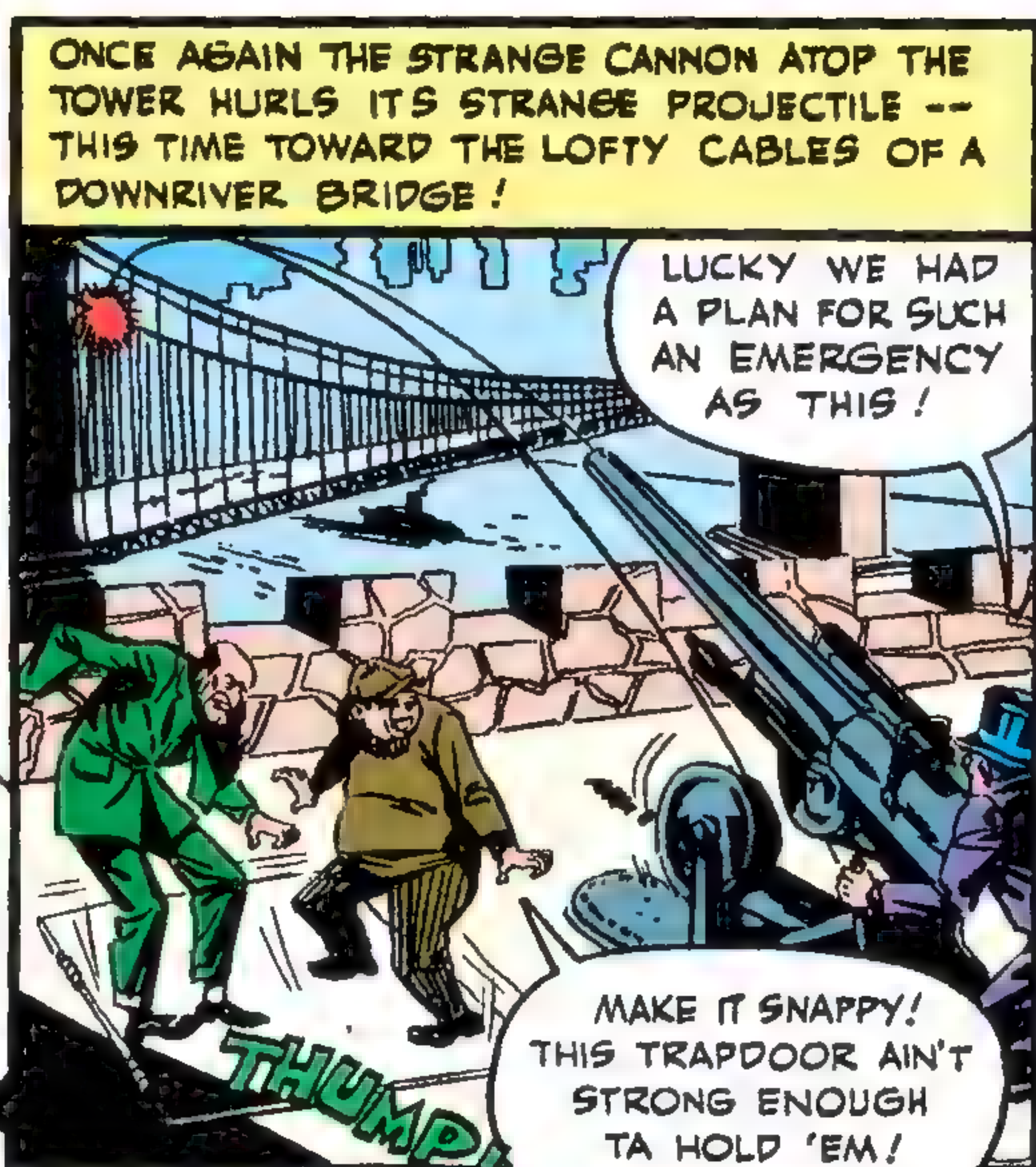
OUTA MY WAY, YOUSE GUYS, OR I'LL RUN OVER YA!

HURRY! THEY'VE PROBABLY GOT A GETAWAY SYSTEM UP THERE!



SLAM!

THEY'VE LOCKED IT! WE'LL HAVE TO SMASH THROUGH!

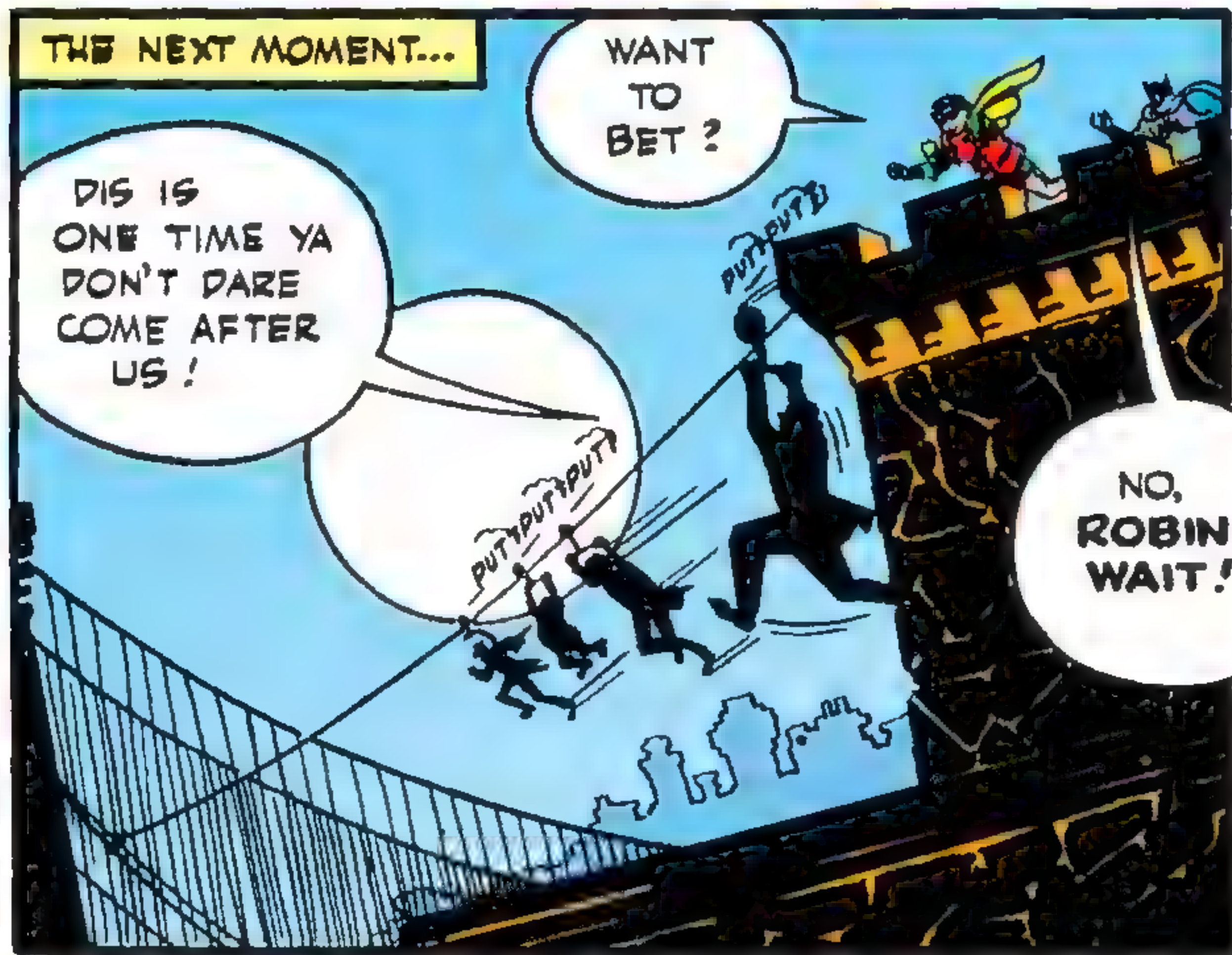


ONCE AGAIN THE STRANGE CANNON ATOP THE TOWER HURLS ITS STRANGE PROJECTILE -- THIS TIME TOWARD THE LOFTY CABLES OF A DOWNRIVER BRIDGE!

LUCKY WE HAD A PLAN FOR SUCH AN EMERGENCY AS THIS!

MAKE IT SNAPPY! THIS TRAPDOOR AIN'T STRONG ENOUGH TA HOLD 'EM!

THUMP!

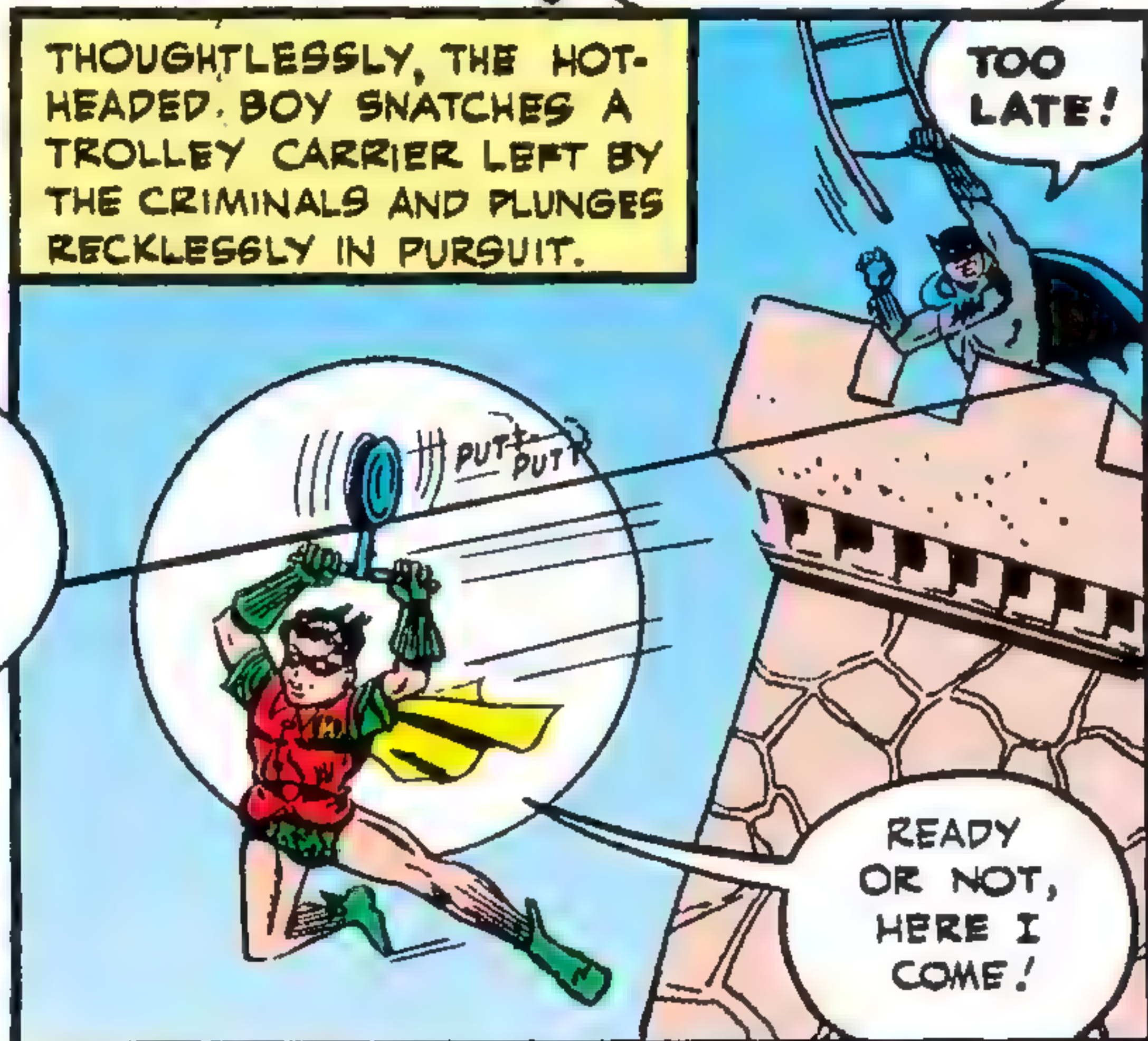


THE NEXT MOMENT...

WANT TO BET?

DIS IS ONE TIME YA DON'T DARE COME AFTER US!

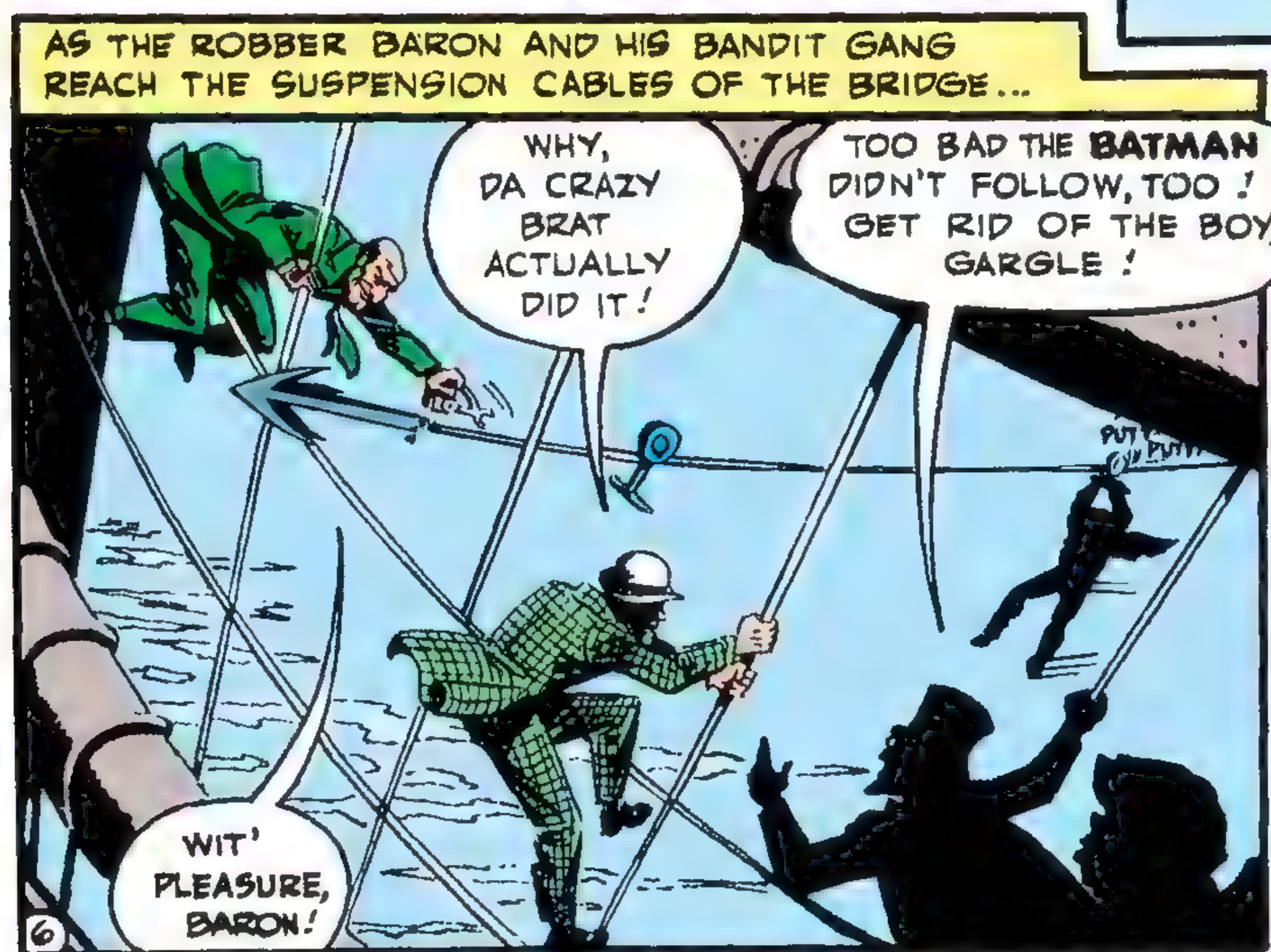
NO, ROBIN! WAIT!



THOUGHTLESSLY, THE HOT-HEADED BOY SNATCHES A TROLLEY CARRIER LEFT BY THE CRIMINALS AND PLUNGES RECKLESSLY IN PURSUIT.

TOO LATE!

READY OR NOT, HERE I COME!

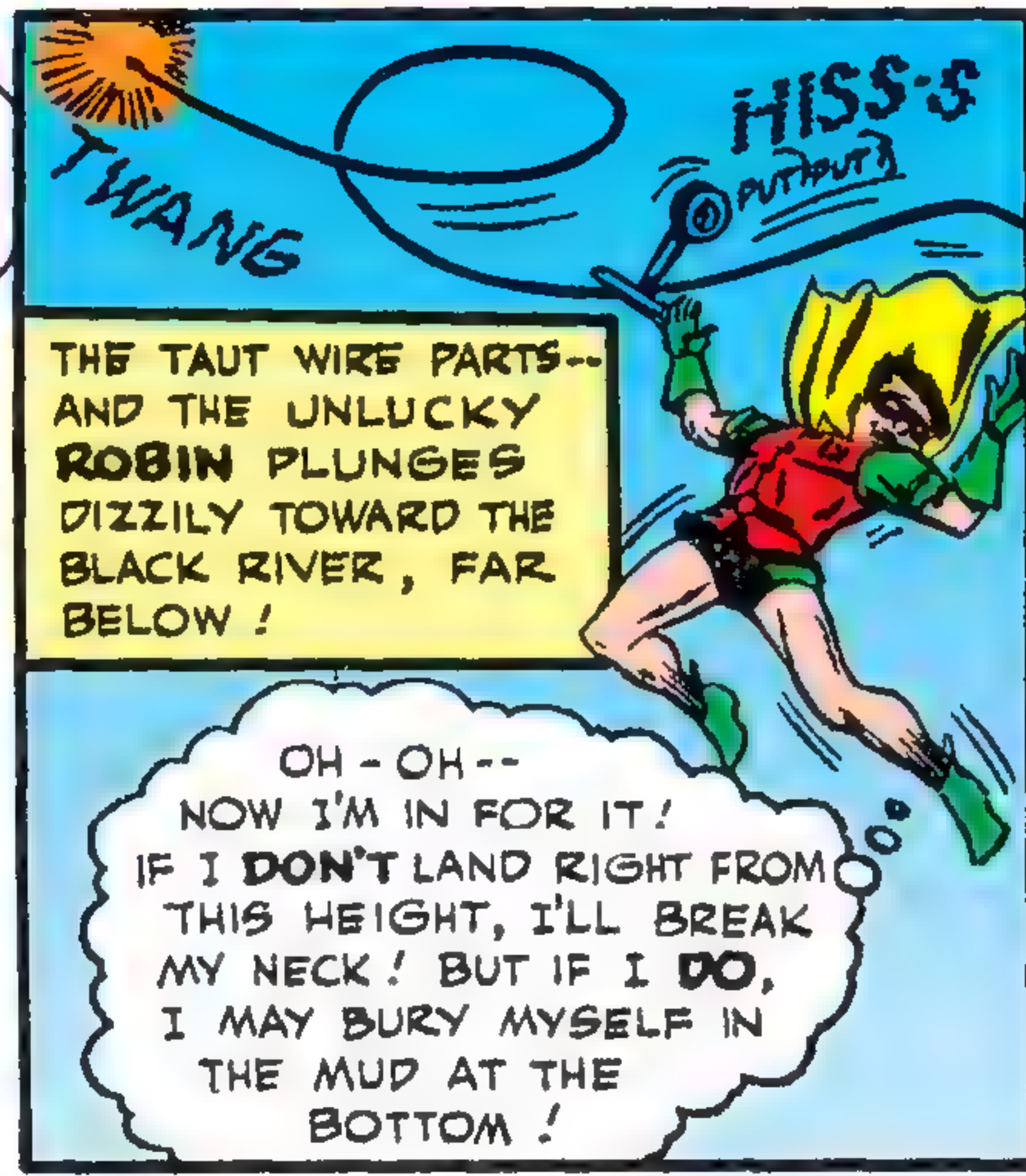


AS THE ROBBER BARON AND HIS BANDIT GANG REACH THE SUSPENSION CABLES OF THE BRIDGE...

WHY, DA CRAZY BRAT ACTUALLY DID IT!

TOO BAD THE BATMAN DIDN'T FOLLOW, TOO! GET RID OF THE BOY, GARGLE!

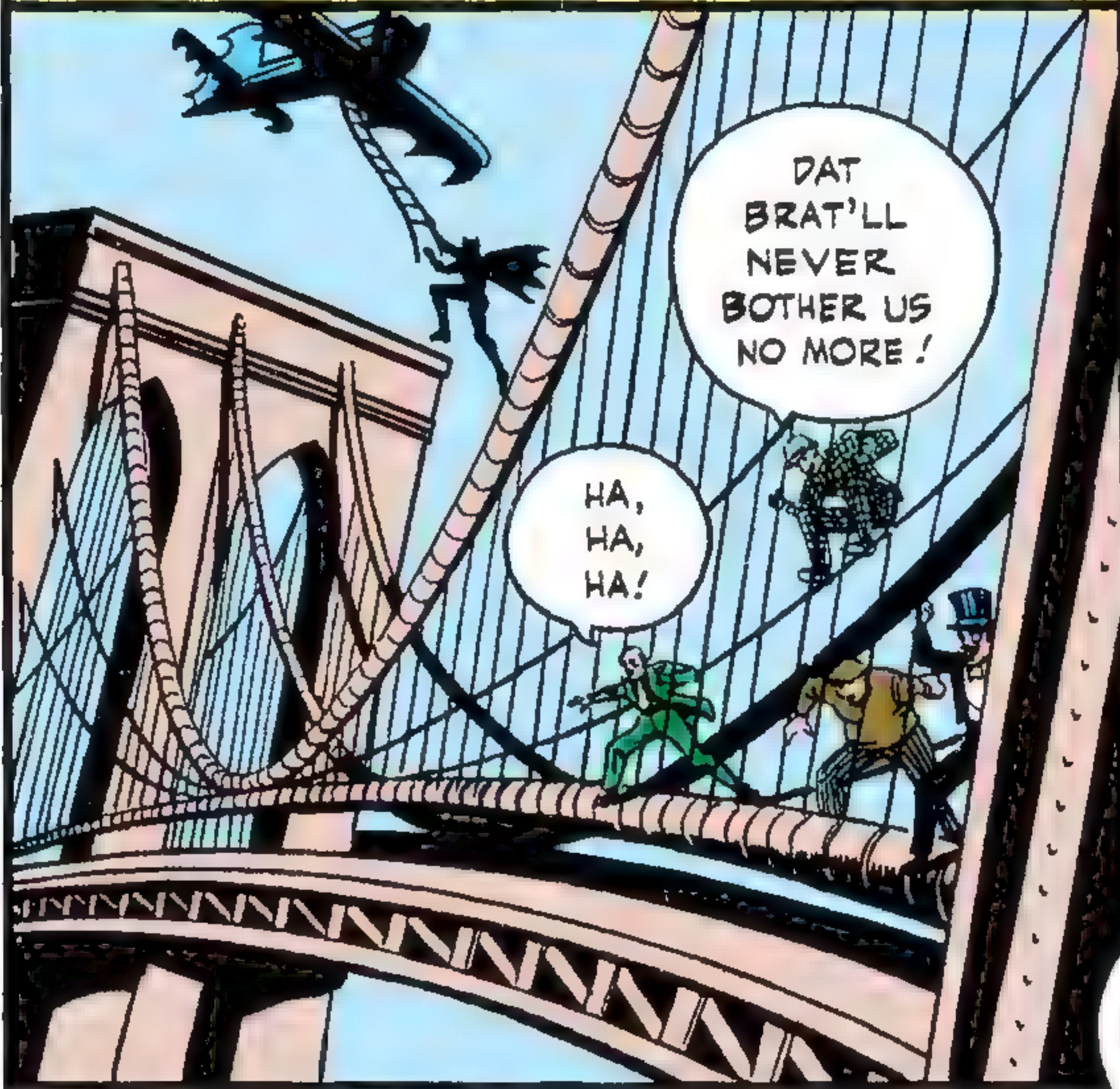
WIT' PLEASURE, BARON!



THE TAUT WIRE PARTS-- AND THE UNLUCKY ROBIN PLUNGES DIZZILY TOWARD THE BLACK RIVER, FAR BELOW!

OH-OH-- NOW I'M IN FOR IT! IF I DON'T LAND RIGHT FROM THIS HEIGHT, I'LL BREAK MY NECK! BUT IF I DO, I MAY BURY MYSELF IN THE MUD AT THE BOTTOM!

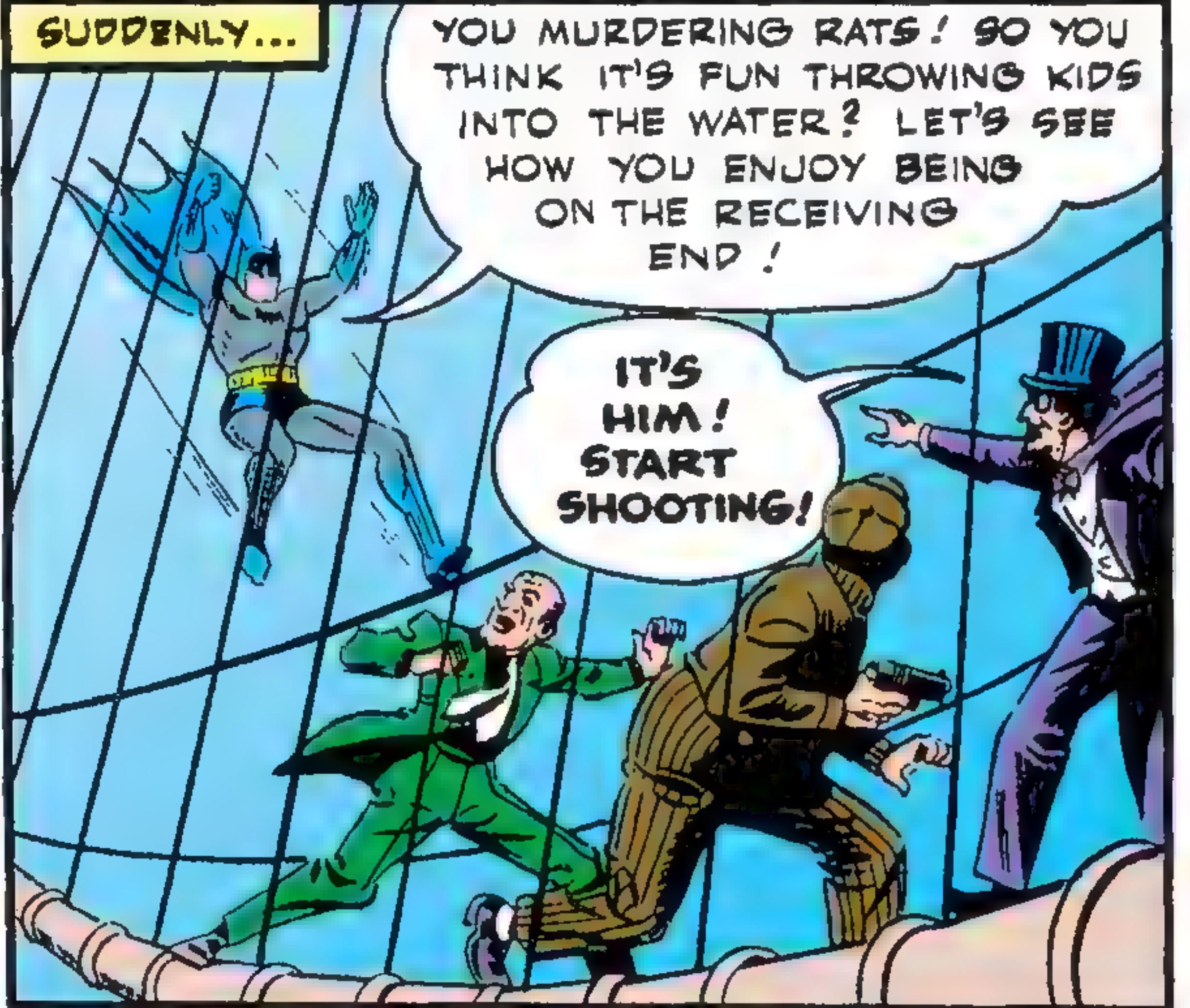
SO INTENT ARE THE OUTLAWS ON THE DRAMATIC SPECTACLE THAT THEY DO NOT SEE THE BATPLANE SETTLING ABOVE THEM...



DAT BRAT'LL NEVER BOTHER US NO MORE!

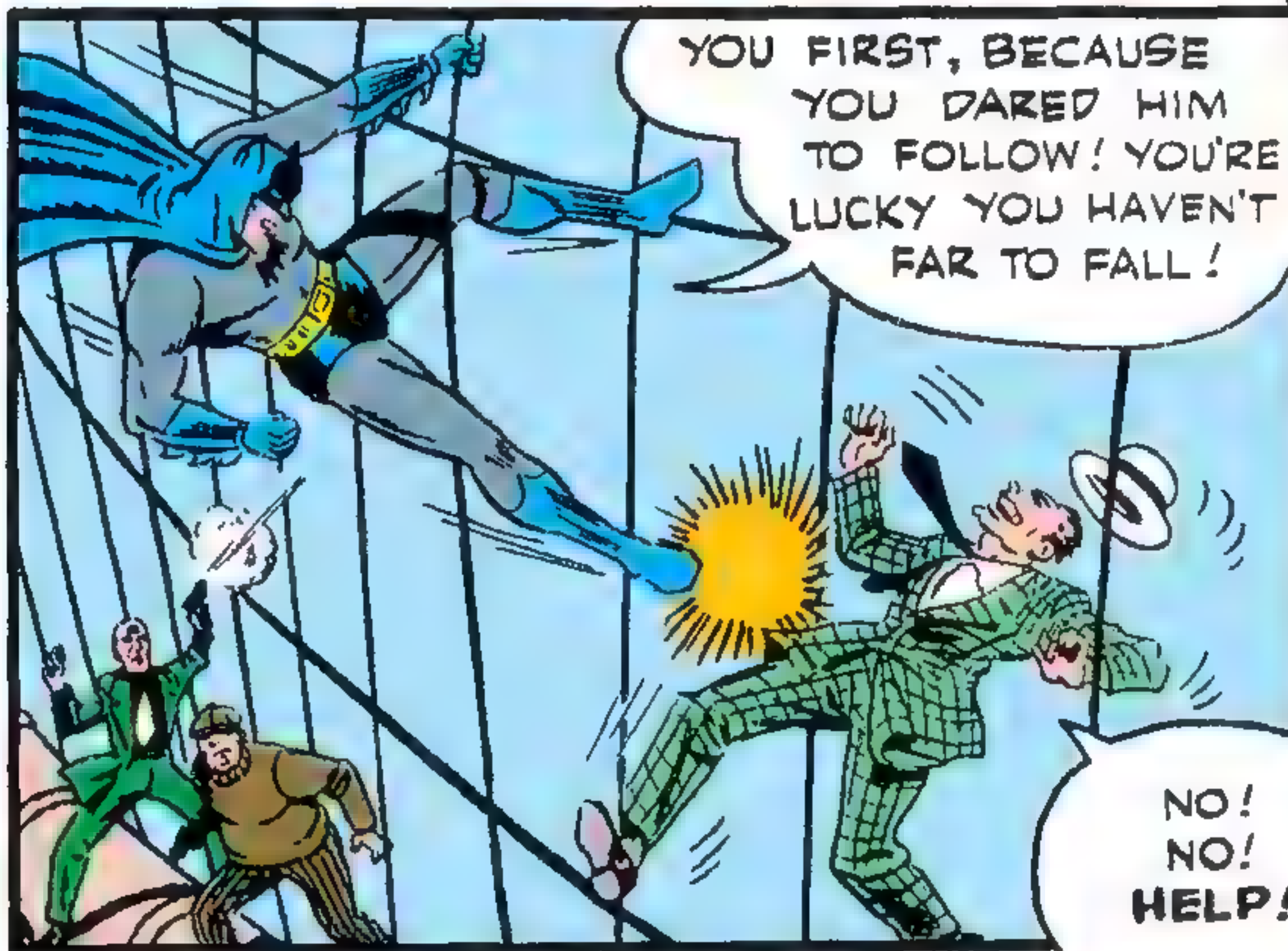
HA, HA, HA!

SUDDENLY...



YOU MURDERING RATS! SO YOU THINK IT'S FUN THROWING KIDS INTO THE WATER? LET'S SEE HOW YOU ENJOY BEING ON THE RECEIVING END!

IT'S HIM! START SHOOTING!



YOU FIRST, BECAUSE YOU DARED HIM TO FOLLOW! YOU'RE LUCKY YOU HAVEN'T FAR TO FALL!

NO! NO! HELP!



HE'S MOVIN' SO FAST, I CAN'T AIM!

AND YOU NEXT, BECAUSE YOU CUT THE WIRE!

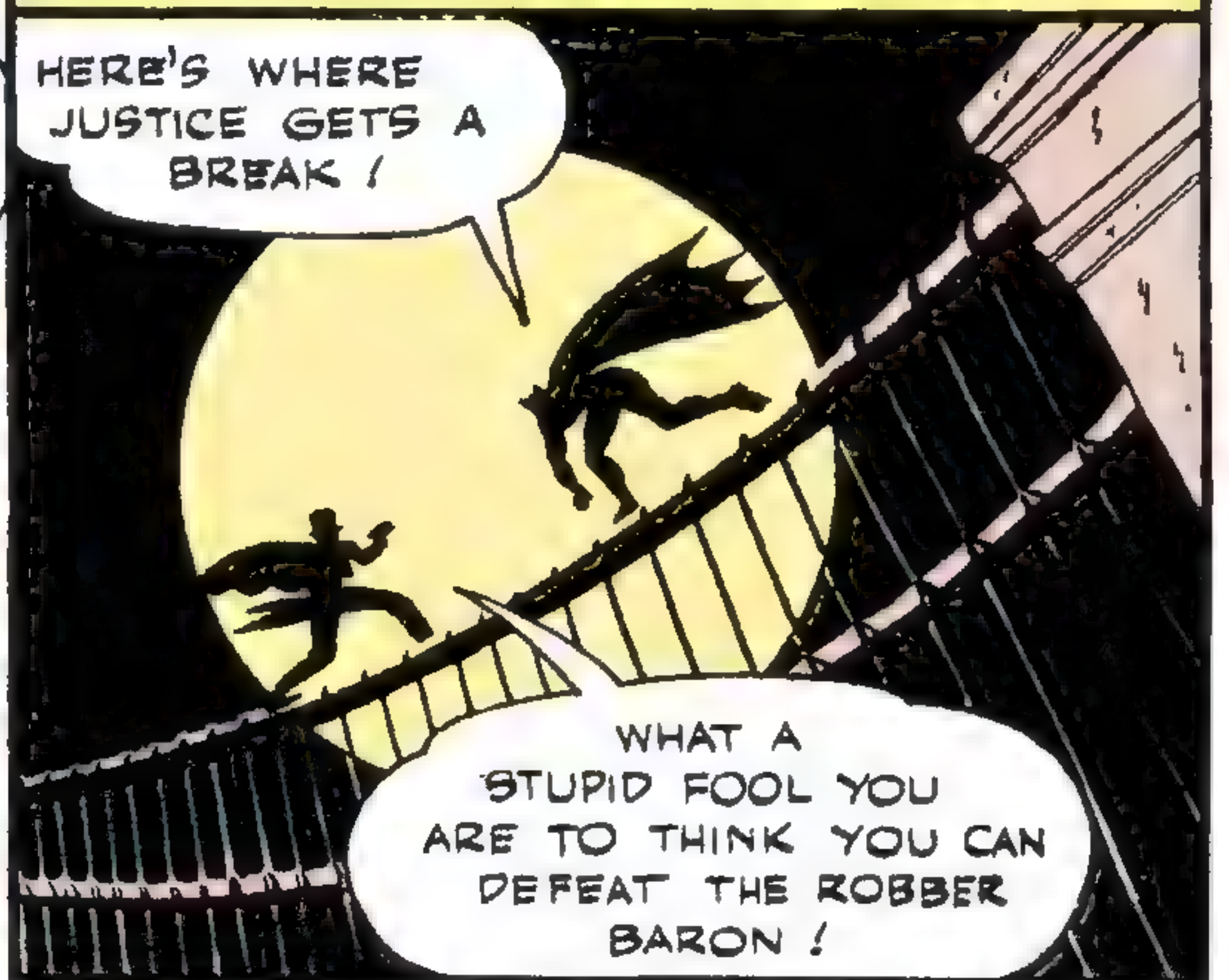


I'LL GET A CLEAR SHOT AT HIM FROM UP HERE!

IT'S YOUR TURN NOW!

SWAYING PERILOUSLY BETWEEN SKY AND WATER, MASTER CRIMINAL AND MASTER CRIME-CRUSHER MEET FACE TO FACE!

HERE'S WHERE JUSTICE GETS A BREAK!



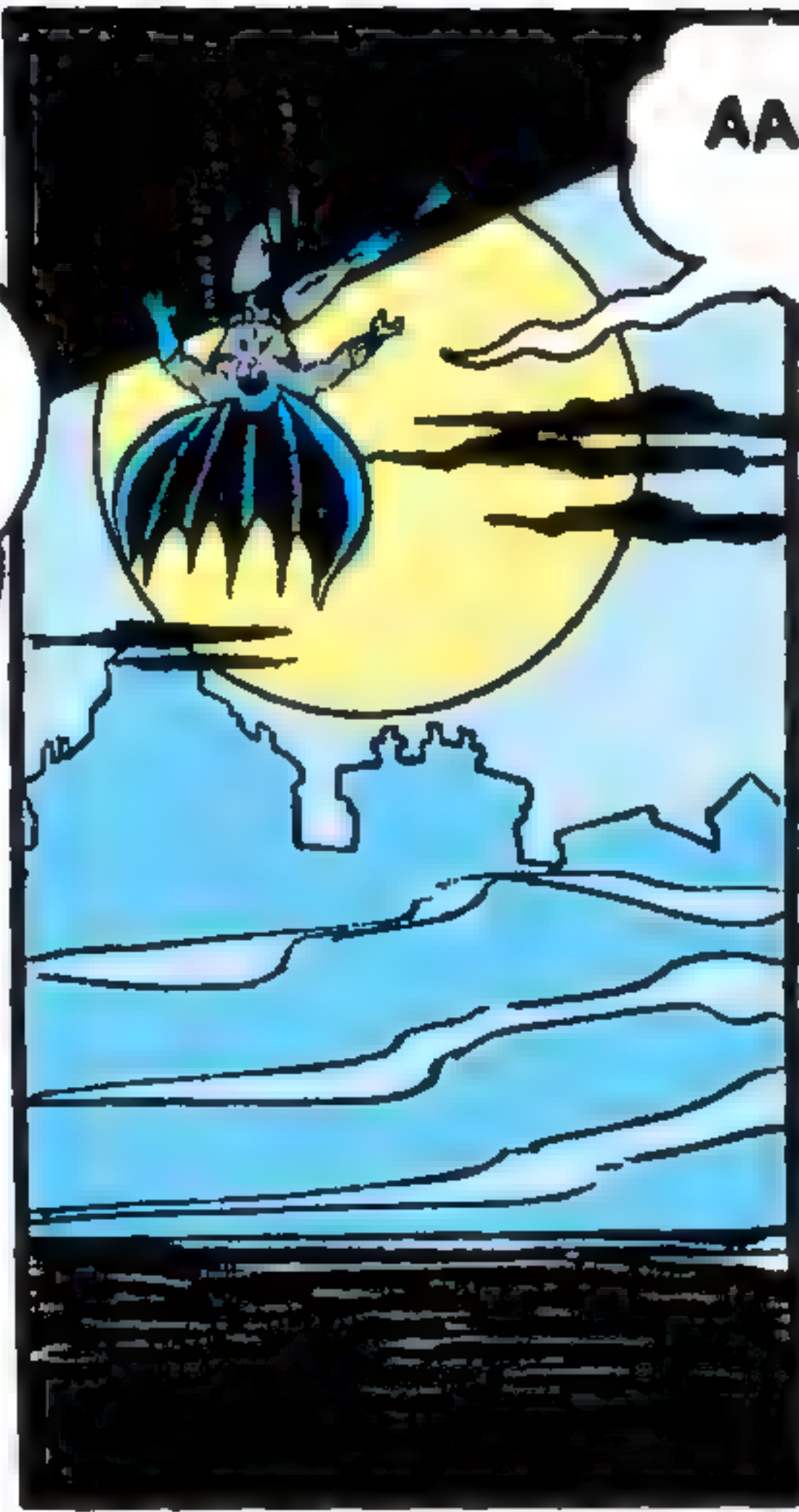
WHAT A STUPID FOOL YOU ARE TO THINK YOU CAN DEFEAT THE ROBBER BARON!

BUT SWIFTER THAN THE BATMAN'S LEAP IS THE SLAMMING STEEL-JACKETED SLUG OF A .45 !



JUST LET ME GET MY HANDS ON YOU, AND -- UGH !

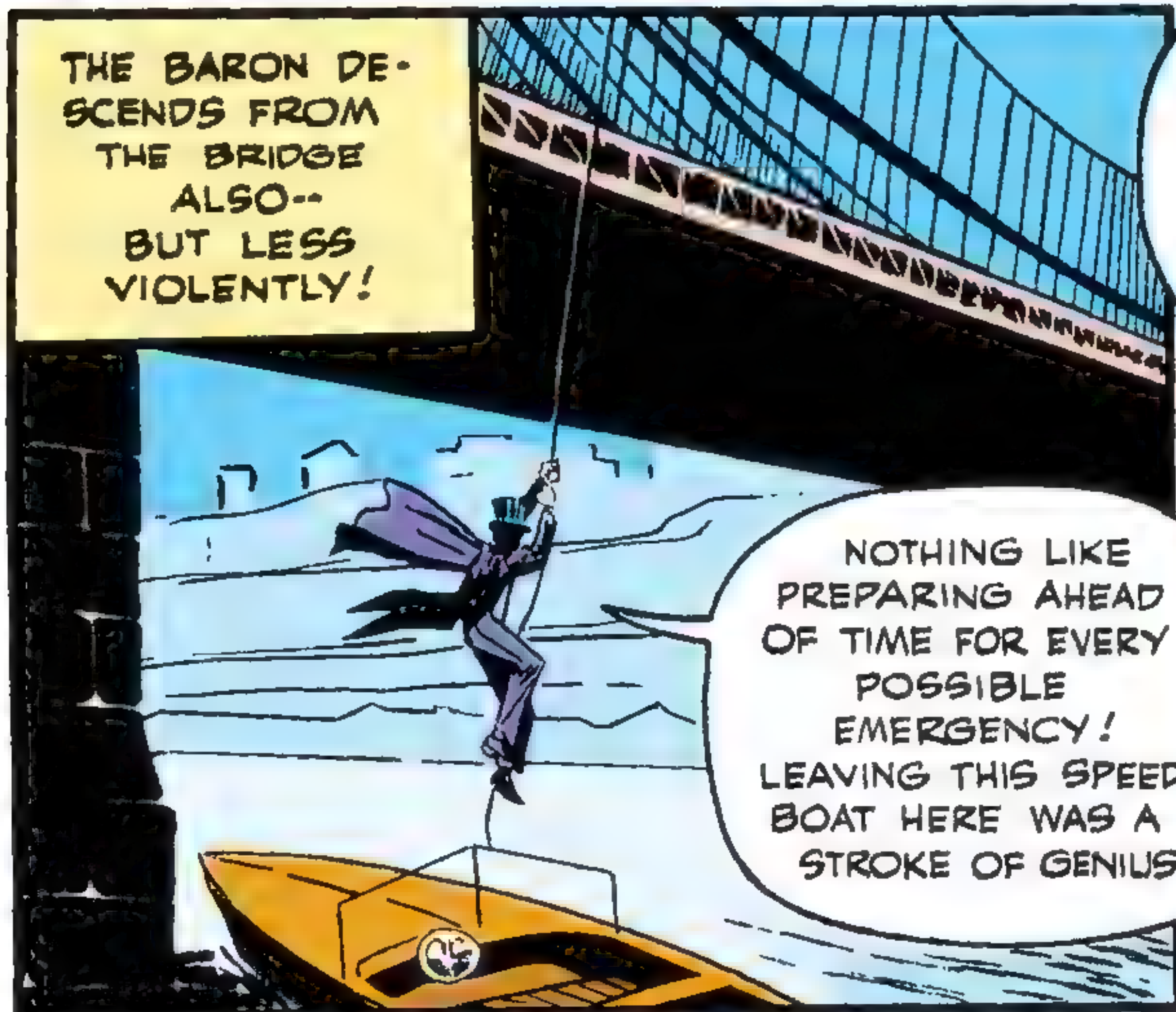
YOU'VE HAD THIS COMING TO YOU FOR A LONG TIME, MEDDLER !



AAAA-A-A-A...



THE BARON DESCENDS FROM THE BRIDGE ALSO-- BUT LESS VIOLENTLY!



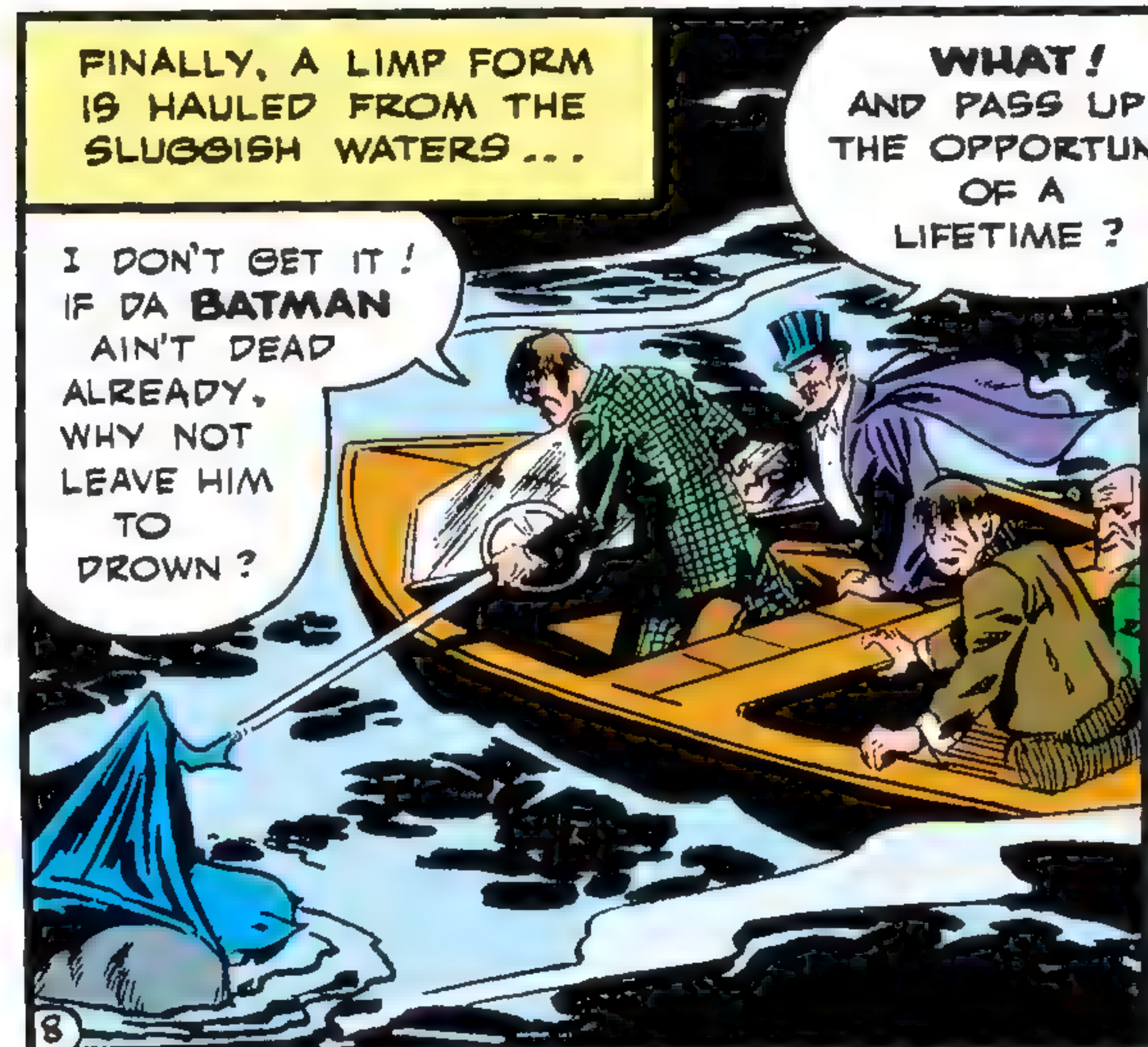
NOTHING LIKE PREPARING AHEAD OF TIME FOR EVERY POSSIBLE EMERGENCY! LEAVING THIS SPEED-BOAT HERE WAS A STROKE OF GENIUS!

I'M WITH YOU! WE'VE GOT ANOTHER RESCUE TO MAKE!

CHEE-- I WAS JUST GOIN' DOWN FOR DA THOITEENTH TIME!



FINALLY, A LIMP FORM IS HAULED FROM THE SLUGGISH WATERS...



I DON'T GET IT! IF DA BATMAN AIN'T DEAD ALREADY, WHY NOT LEAVE HIM TO DROWN?

WHAT! AND PASS UP THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME?

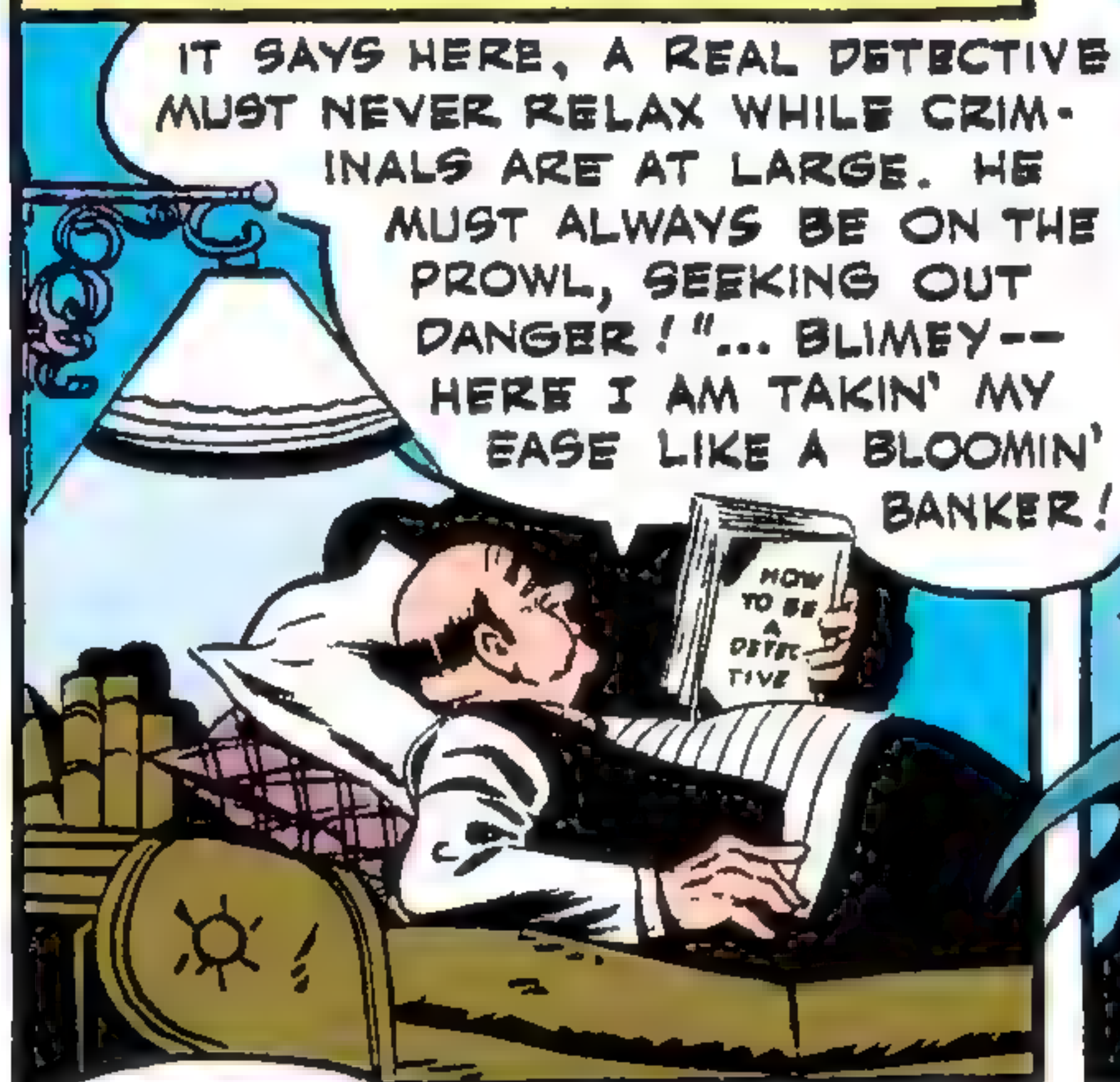
GOT ME...AND ROBIN TOO...

HEY! HE AIN'T DEAD!

HE WILL BE -- AND THE NEWS WILL BREAK SO DRAMATICALLY THAT HENCEFORTH EVERYBODY WILL SHUDDER WHENEVER THE ROBBER BARON'S NAME IS MENTIONED! TOO BAD THE BOY DROWNED BEFORE WE COULD GET TO HIM...



DEATH LEERS AT ONE ARCHENEMY OF CRIME -- WHILE IN THE WAYNE HOME, AMBITION STIRS IN ANOTHER...



IT SAYS HERE, A REAL DETECTIVE MUST NEVER RELAX WHILE CRIMINALS ARE AT LARGE. HE MUST ALWAYS BE ON THE PROWL, SEEKING OUT DANGER! "... BLIMEY -- HERE I AM TAKIN' MY EASE LIKE A BLOOMIN' BANKER!

DANGER -- THAT'S THE THING! FEARLESS ALFRED, THEY'LL BE CALLIN' ME IN THE UNDERWORLD!



PRESENTLY, IN THE RIVERFRONT AREA DESIGNATED ON THE BATMAN'S MAP AS THE ROBBER BARON'S HOME TERRITORY...



NO ACTION! DISGUSTIN'!... I'LL AWSK THESE BOATMEN, WHEN THEY DOCK, IF THEY'VE SEEN ANYTHING OF A SUSPICIOUS NATURE!



I SAY, CHAPPIES, BEASTLY QUIET NIGHT, WHAT ?... EH?... IS THAT THE BATMAN?

ANOTHER MEDDLER! GRAB HIM, ONE OF YOU!

BUTTIN' INTA DA ROBBER BARON'S BUSINESS AIN'T HEALTHY, CHUM!

MY WORD!... IT'S THE TH-THE R-ROBBER B-BARON?... I BEG OF YOU, YOUR LORDSHIP -- SPARE ME!

BRING HIM ALONG, BINGO! THE MORE, THE MERRIER!



PLEASE, YOUR LORDSHIP -- I'M HARMLESS AS A BALLY BUTTERFLY! LET ME GO!

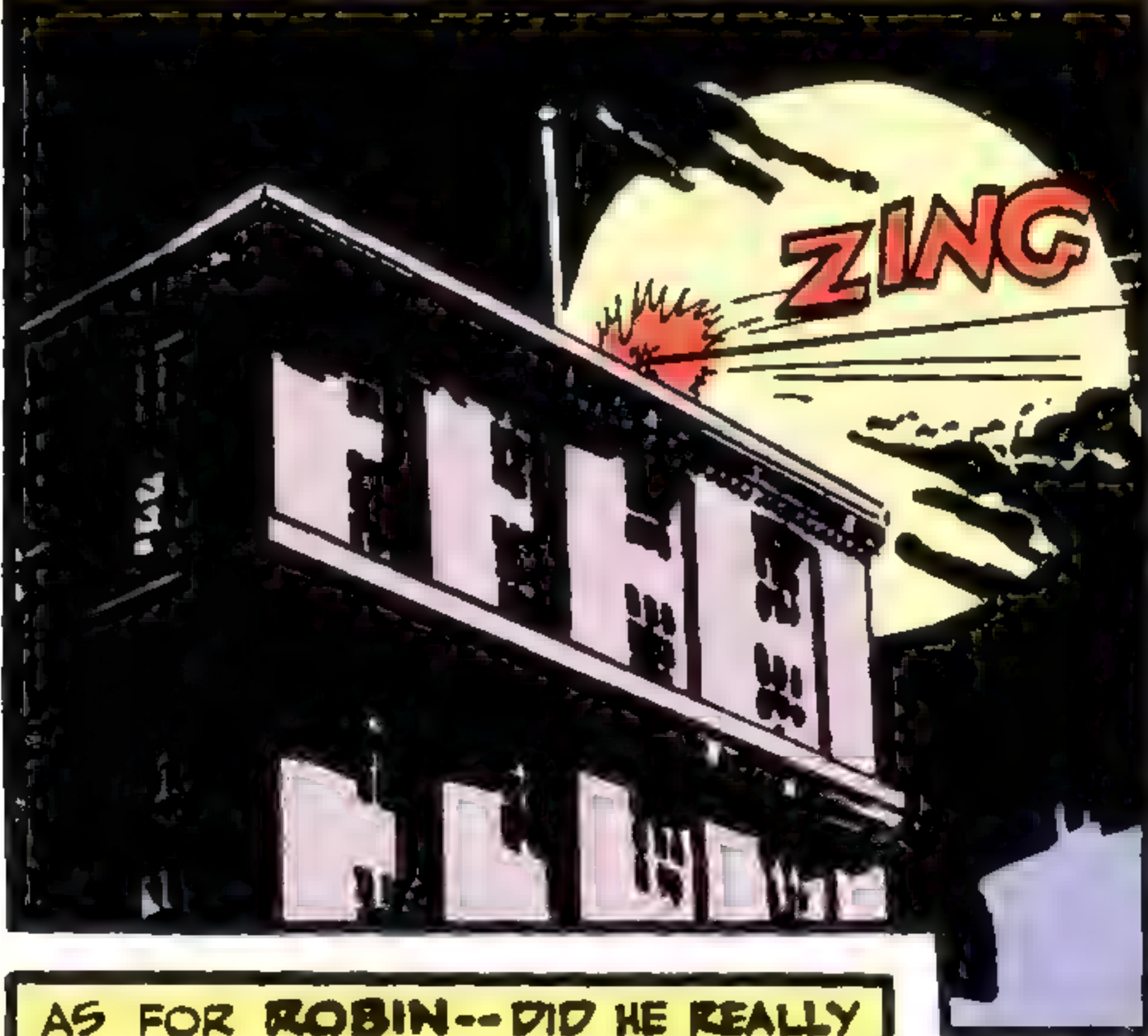
THE IDIOT TALKS TOO MUCH! BIND HIM AND GAG HIM AS YOU DID TO THE BATMAN, AS SOON AS WE REACH THE TOWER!

MINUTES LATER... THAT WHITE BUILDING WITH THE FLAGPOLE IS POLICE HEADQUARTERS! OUR SPECIAL DELIVERY MESSAGE OF DEFIANCE WILL BE DELIVERED THERE PROMPTLY! HA, HA, HA!

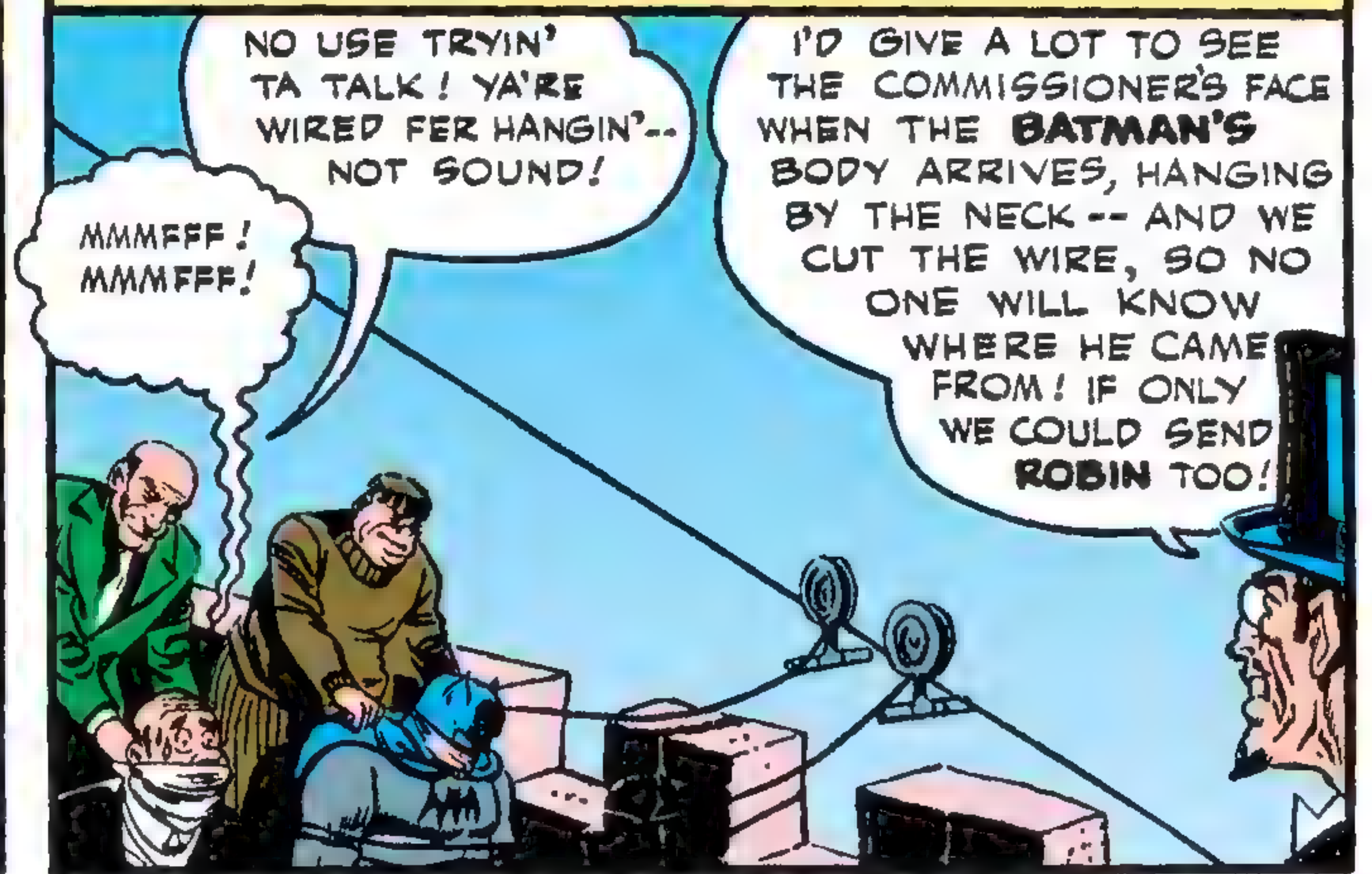


I GOTTA TAKE ME HAT OFF TO YA, BARON! IT'S DA SLICKEST TRICK O' DA YEAR!

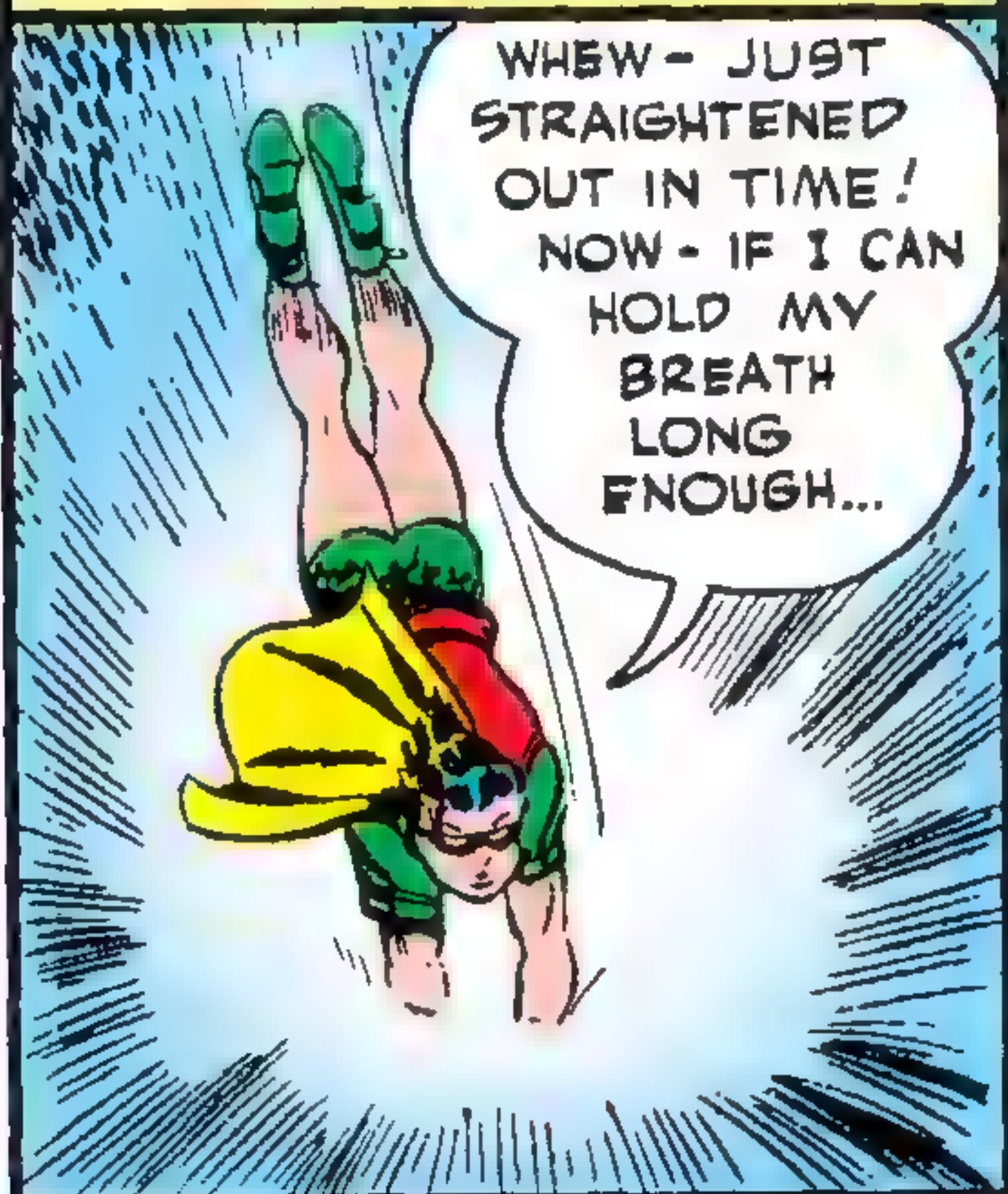
STEEL HOOKS HURTLE ACROSS THE CITY TO GRAPPLE THE ROOF OF THE CENTRAL POLICE STATION...



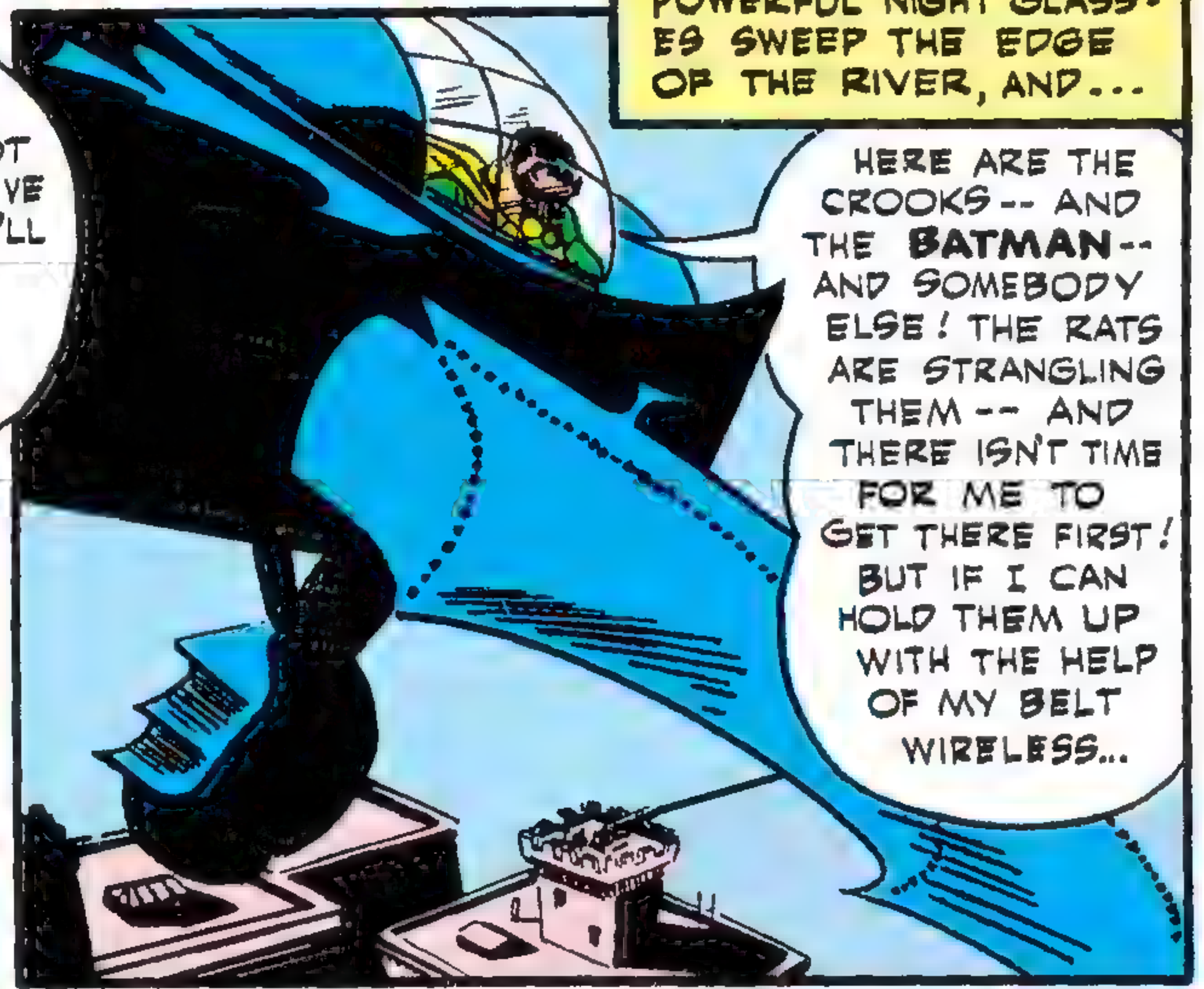
AND NOW THE FULL FIENDISHNESS OF THE BARON'S PLAN BECOMES APPARENT!



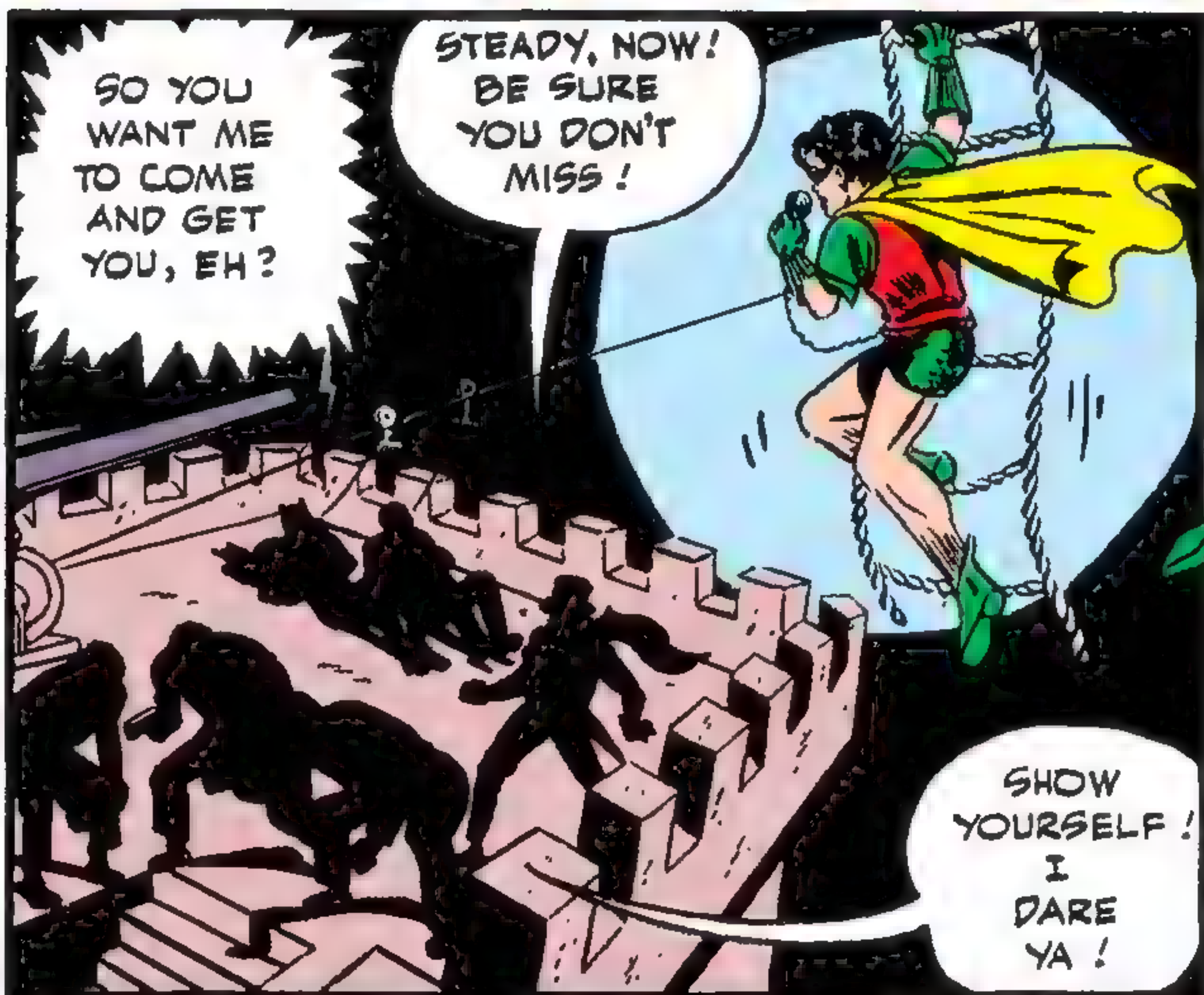
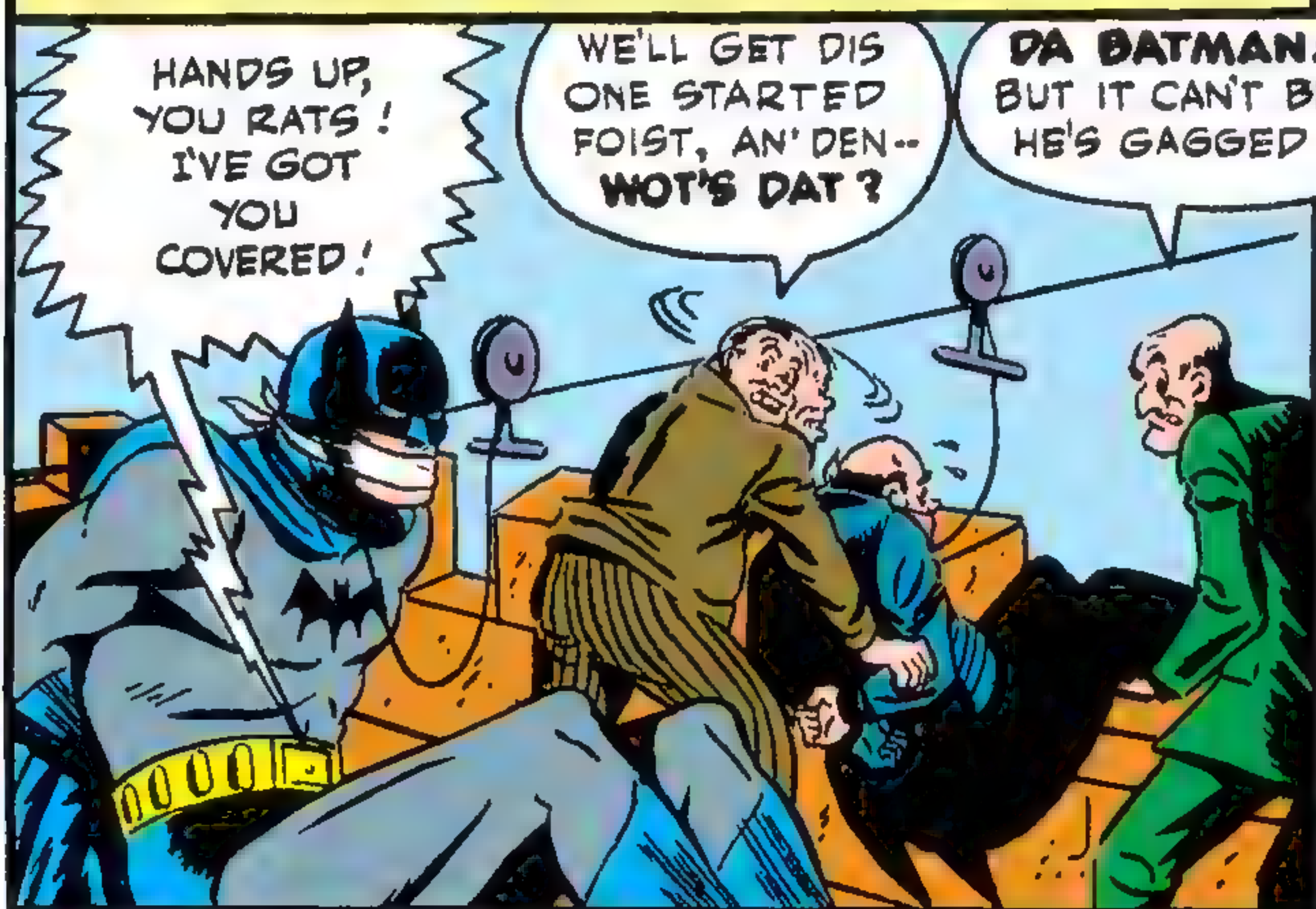
AS FOR **ROBIN**--DID HE REALLY DIE IN THAT PERILOUS PLUNGE? LET US LOOK BACK TO THE MOMENT HIS LITHE BODY STRUCK THE WATER...

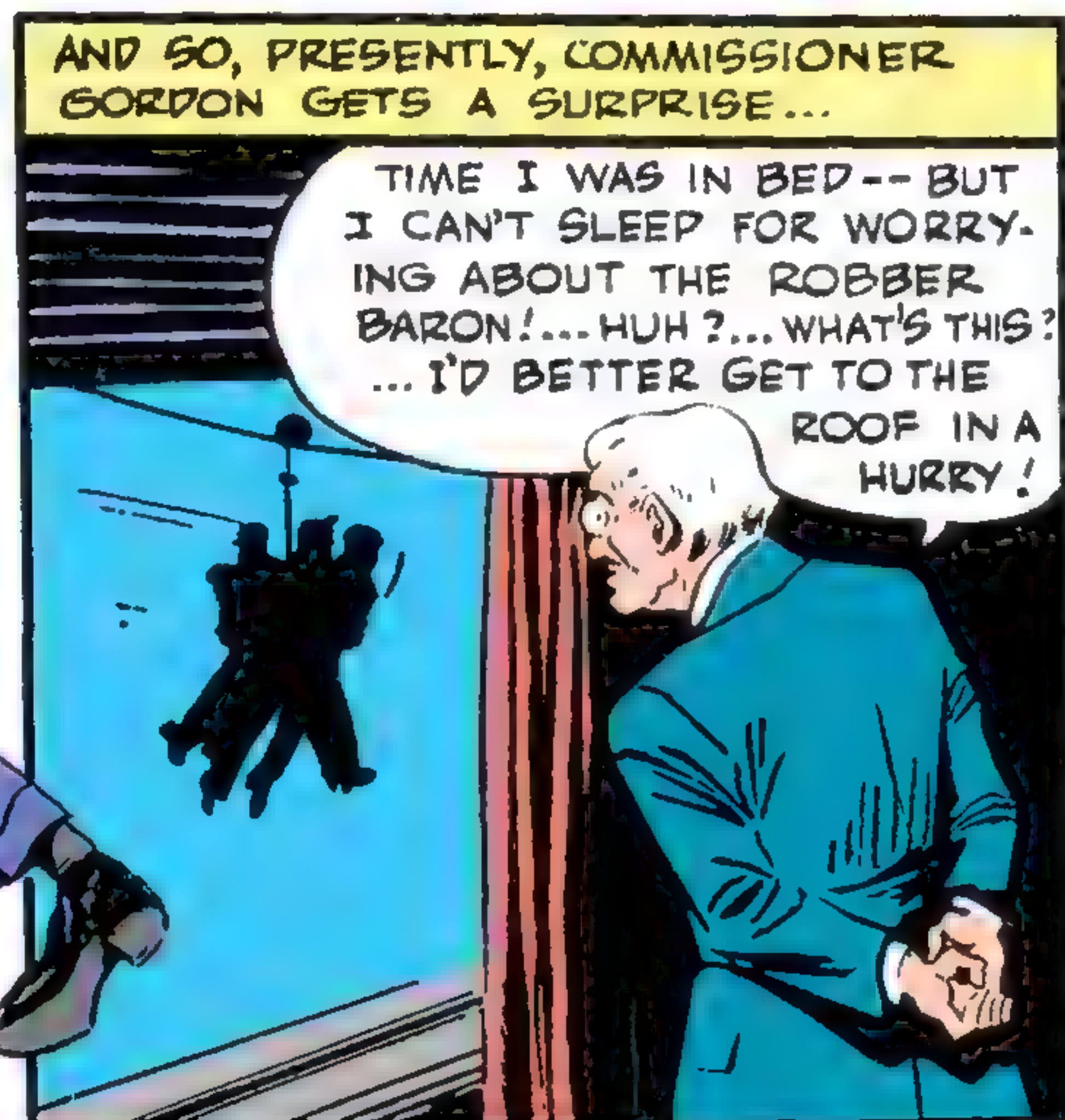
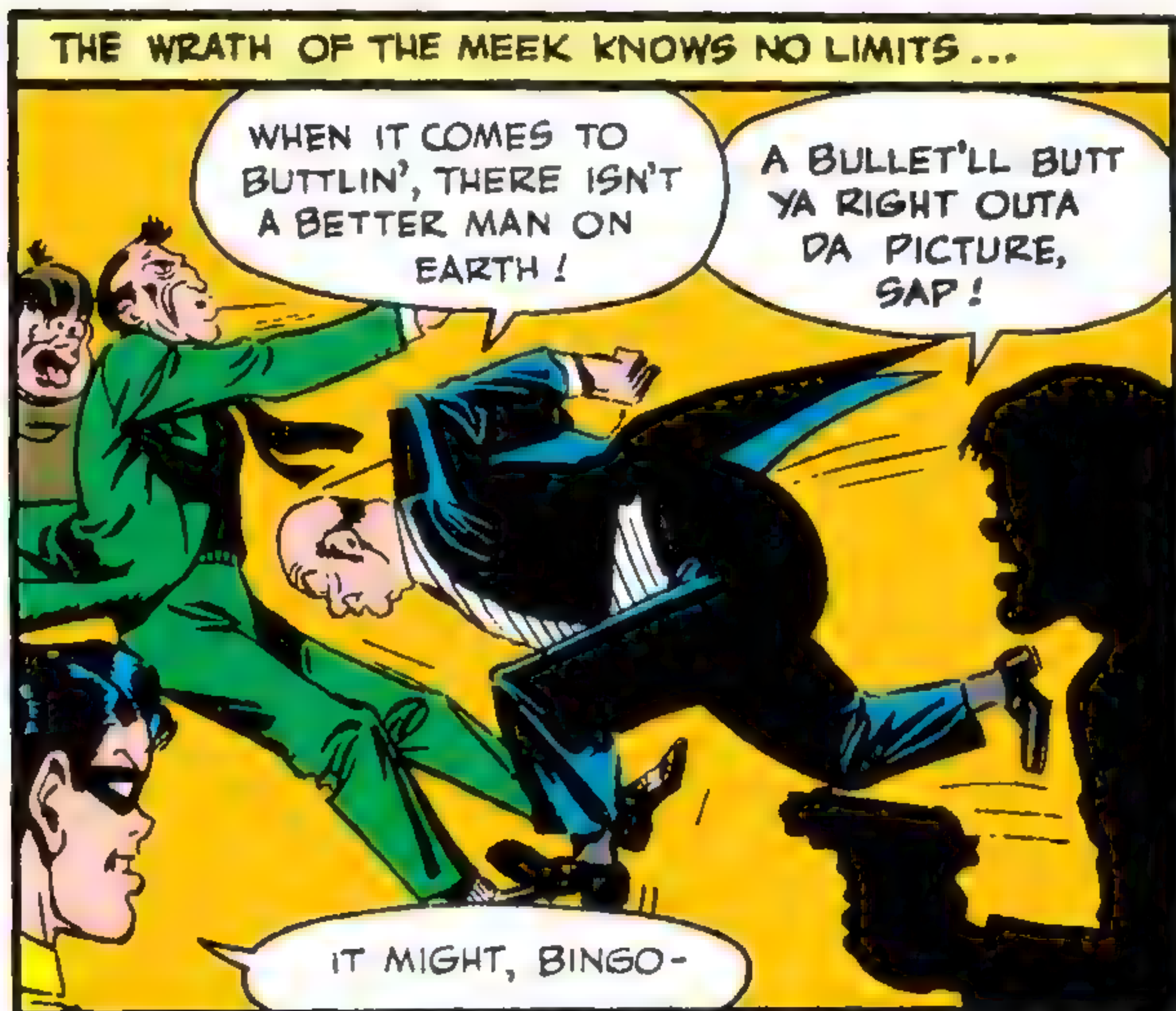


AND MANY SECONDS LATER...



ABRUPTLY, FROM THE TINY RADIO SPEAKER CONCEALED IN THE BATMAN'S BELT BUCKLE, A RINGING COMMAND HALTS THE GRIM BUSINESS OF MURDER!

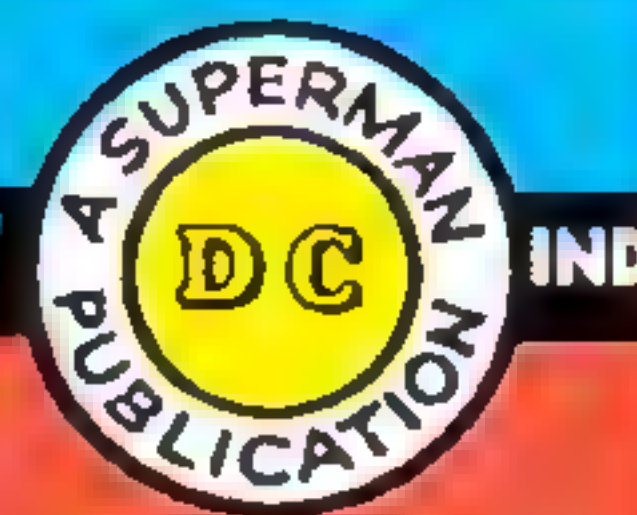






No. 76

BOY COMMANDOS



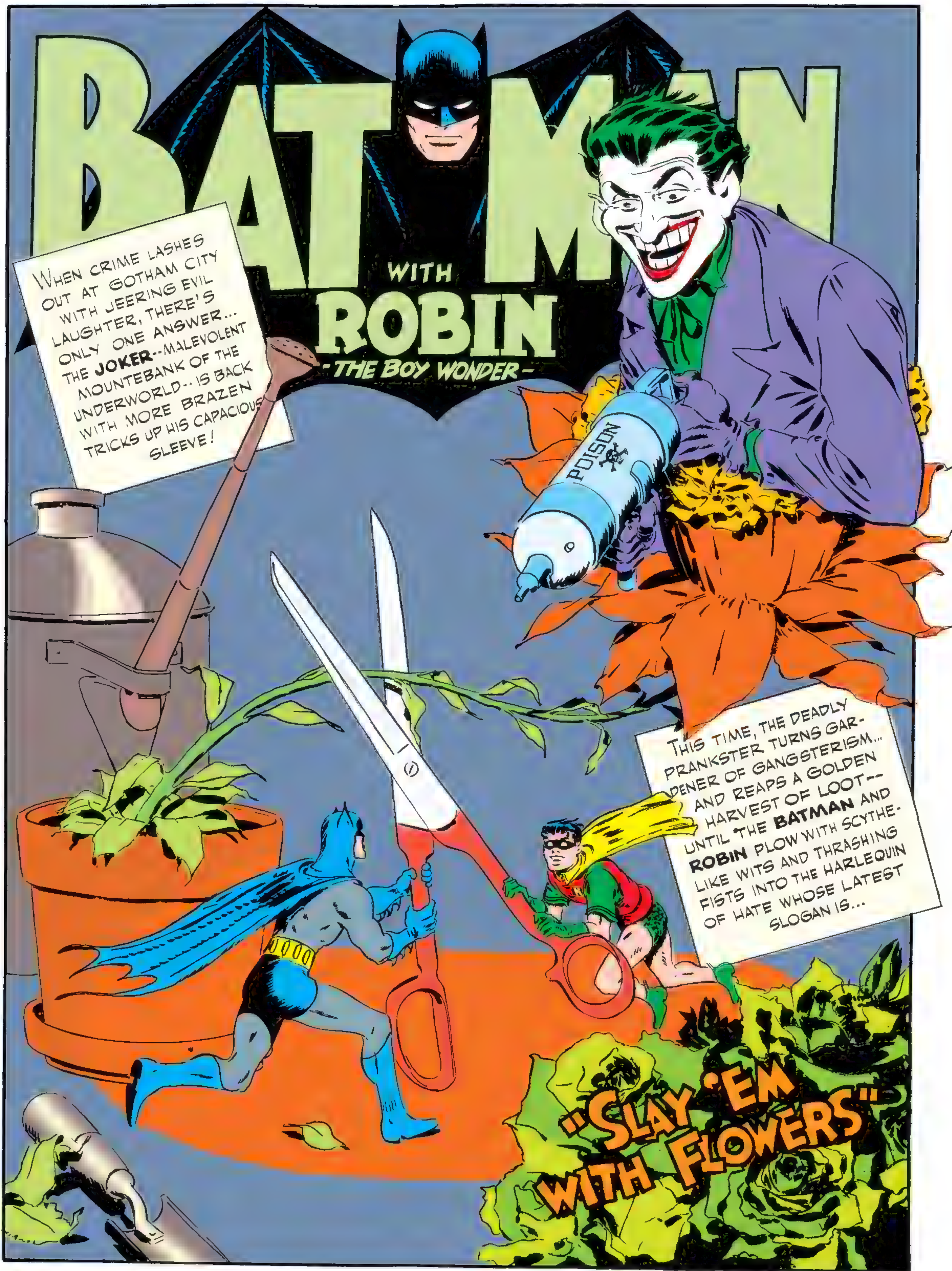
The BATMAN

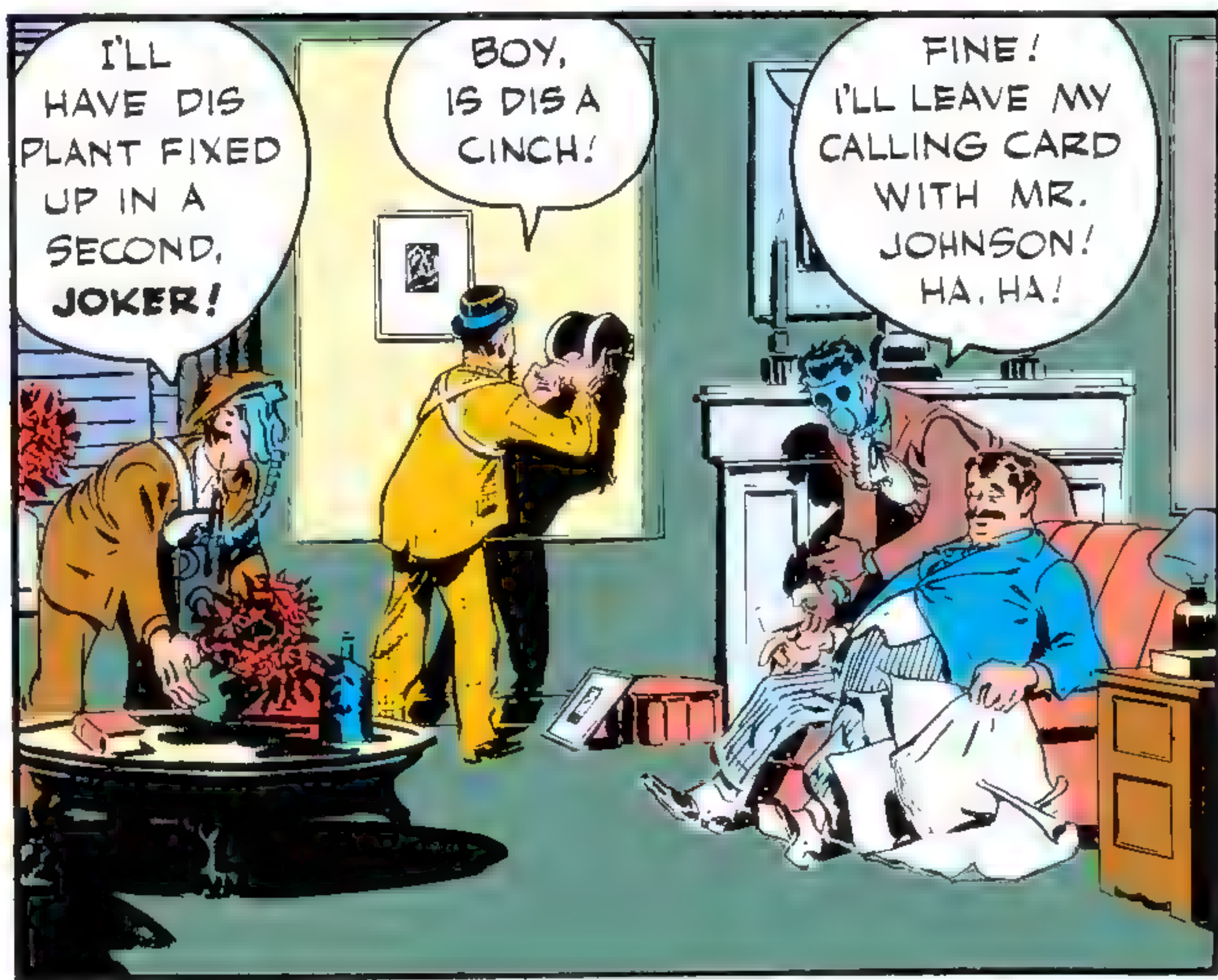
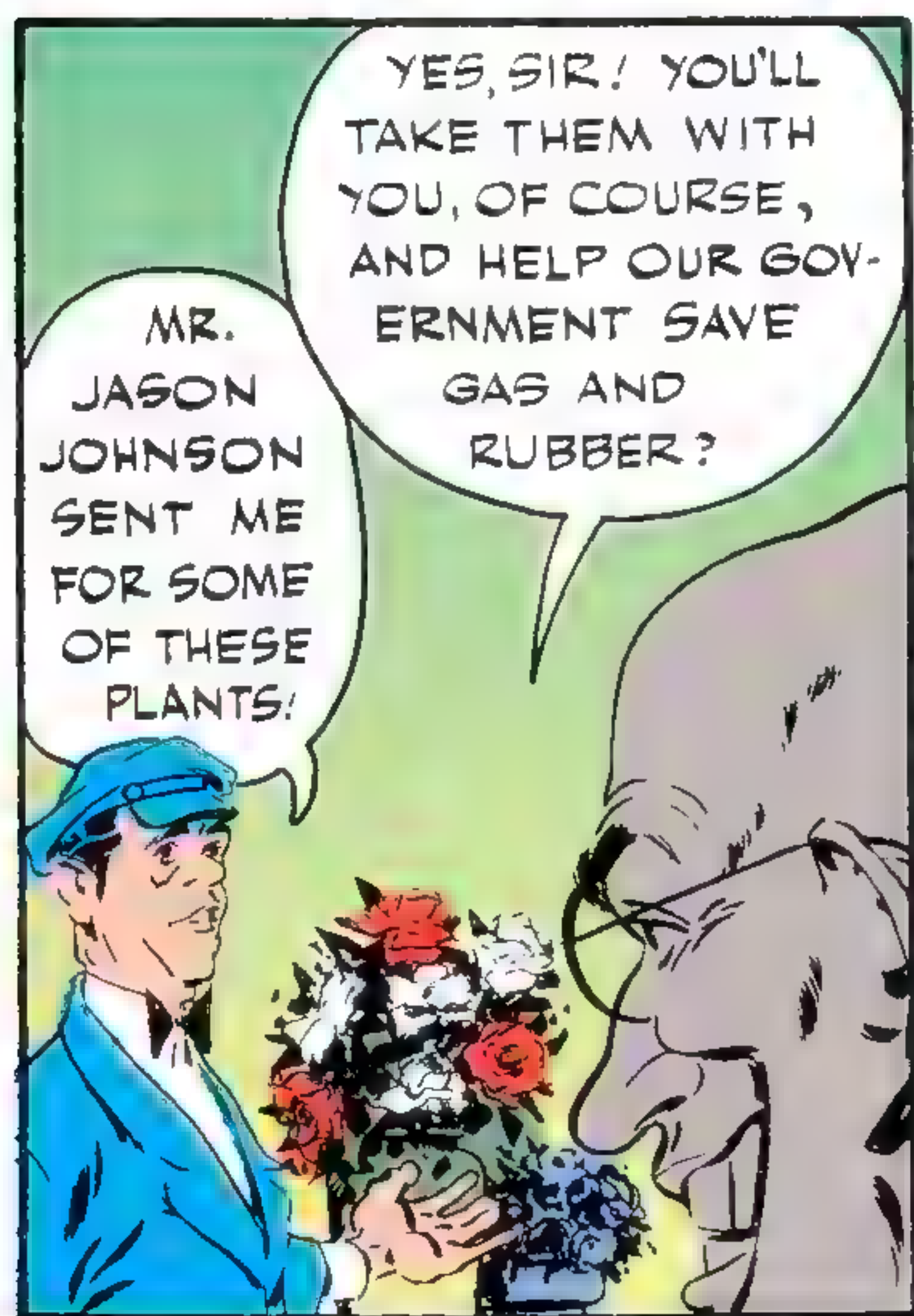
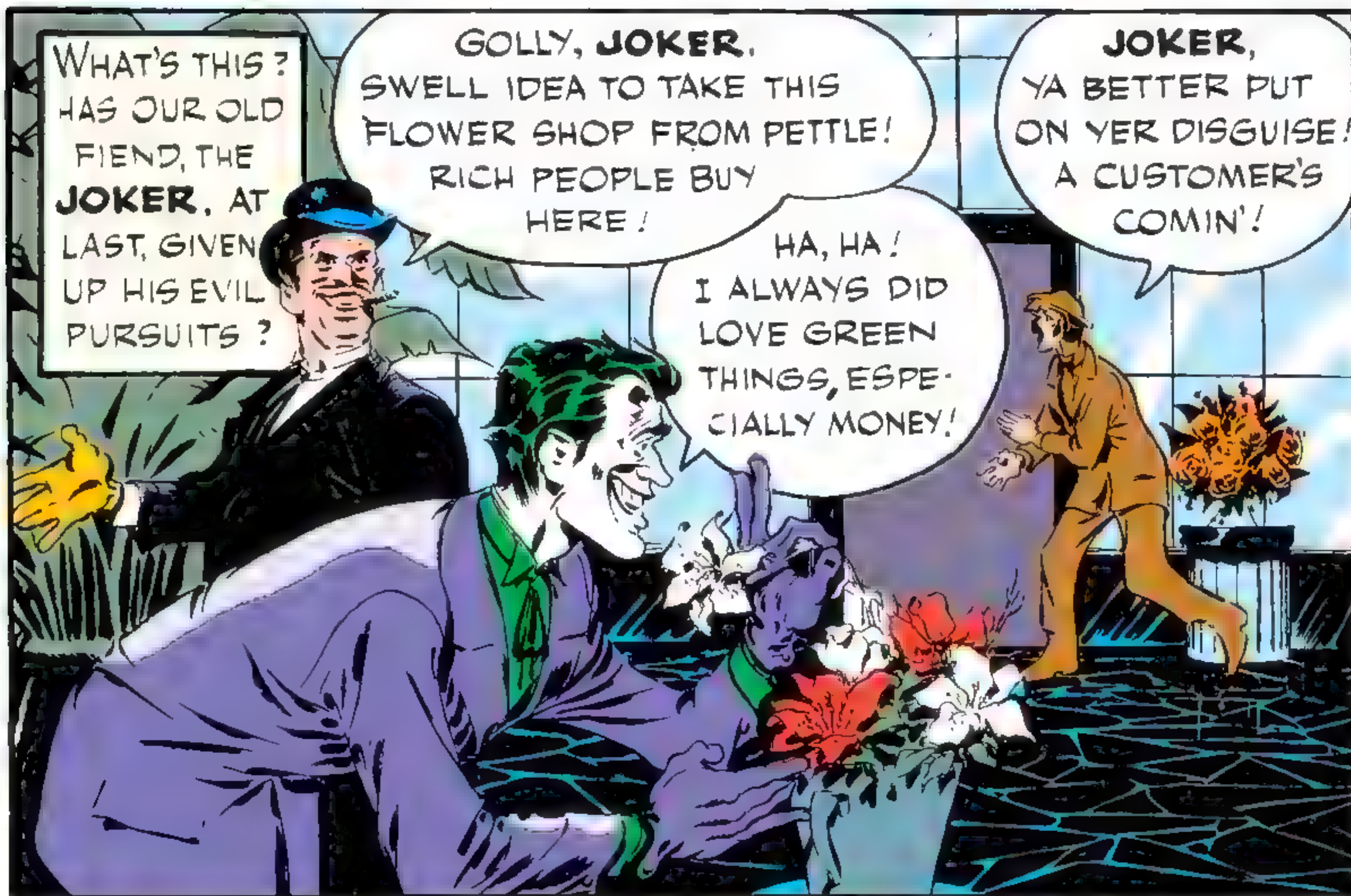
Detective COMIC

JUNE



BATMAN and ROBIN
VERSUS THEIR FAVORITE ENEMY
THE JOKER
IN
"SLAY 'EM WITH FLOWERS"





PRESENTLY...

THE **JOKER** PULLED THIS CRIME! BUT HOW IN BLAZES DID HE PUT EVERYBODY IN THE WHOLE HOUSE TO SLEEP?

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! I WAS WATERING THOSE PLANTS THE CHAUFFEUR BROUGHT... WHEN **BLOOEY!** I WENT OUT LIKE A LIGHT!

LEAVE IT TO THE **JOKER** TO SPRING A PUZZLER! BUT THERE'S SOMEBODY WHO'S ALWAYS SOLVED THEM -- THE **BATMAN!** HE'LL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THIS!

SOON, FROM POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS A GIANT SEARCH-LIGHT PAINTS AN EERIE SYMBOL AGAINST THE SKY-- CALLING THE **BATMAN!**

AND SO, NEXT DAY, TWO FAMILIAR FIGURES--PLAYBOY **BRUCE WAYNE** AND HIS YOUNG WARD, **DICK GRAYSON**, SALLY FORTH...

I DON'T GET IT, **BRUCE!** THE **JOKER'S** LOOSE... AND WE'RE GOING TO A FLOWER SHOW!

IT'S EDUCATIONAL! BESIDES, FROM SOMETHING THE POLICE CAPTAIN MENTIONED, I HAVE A HUNCH ABOUT THIS PUZZLE...

ASCENDING TO THE ROOF GARDEN...

LOOKS LIKE MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT, **DICK!**

GREAT SCOTT! WHAT'S THAT!

AND THE MIGHTY MANHUNTER IS LAUNCHED ON ANOTHER CRIME-BUSTING CAMPAIGN!

THE **JOKER** SAYS THIS IS THE ONLY ROSEBUSH OF ITS KIND... WORTH \$10,000!

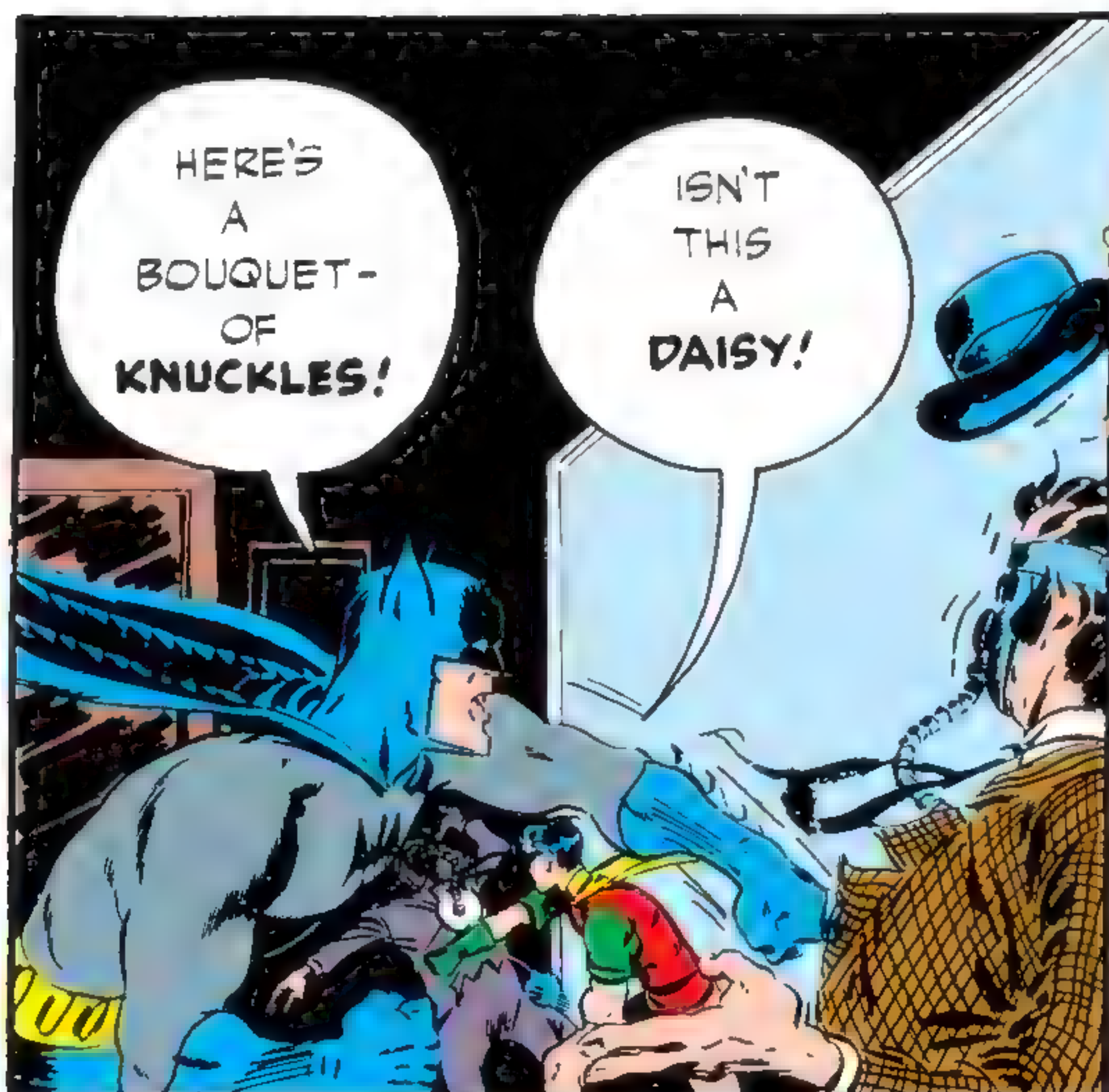
BOY, DO THESE POSY-LOVERS CARRY DOUGH ON THEM!

FIX THE PLANTS IN OUR EXHIBIT AND LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

A SWIFT SWITCH IN THE SHELTER OF THE ELEVATOR SHAFT AND...

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

WE'LL PUT ON A SHOW OF OUR OWN, **JOKER!**



HERE'S A BOUQUET- OF KNUCKLES!

ISN'T THIS A DAISY!



GET HIM, YOU FOOLS!

THIS IS NO BED OF ROSES FOR YOU, JOKER!

BUT THE BRAZEN BUFFOON'S HENCHMEN FALL BACK BEFORE A BOTANICAL BARRAGE ...



A PLANT A SECOND KEEPS THE JOKER AWAY!

NOT FOR LONG, BATMAN!

AND SUDDENLY DISASTER STRIKES!



I'M... GETTING DIZZY!

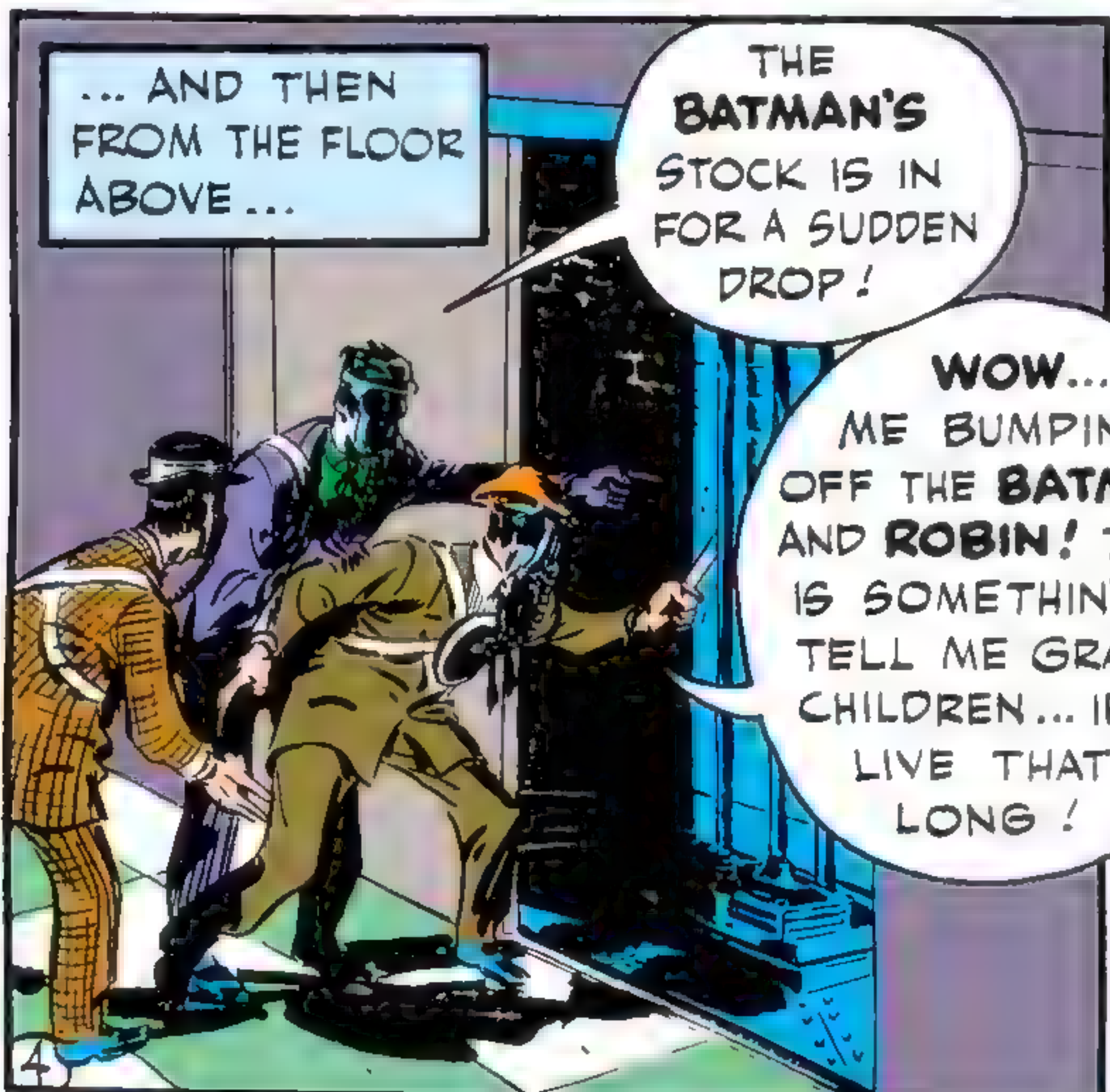
ME TOO... I CAN HARDLY... STAND UP...



MOMENTS LATER ...

HA, HA! WE'LL GET

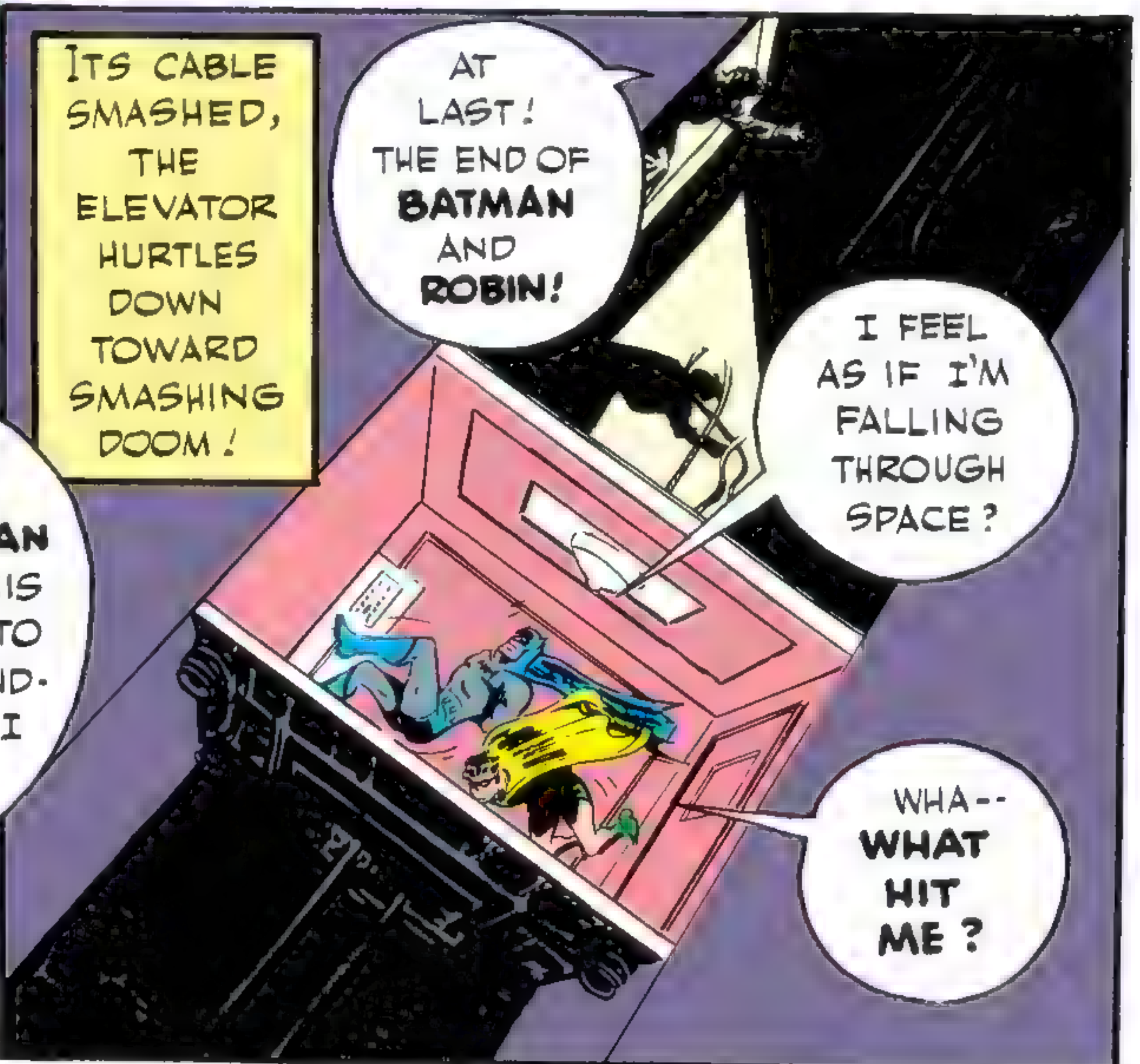
RID OF THEM FOR GOOD! TIE THEM UP AND PUT THEM INTO THE ELEVATOR!



... AND THEN FROM THE FLOOR ABOVE ...

THE BATMAN'S STOCK IS IN FOR A SUDDEN DROP!

WOW... ME BUMPIN' OFF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN! THIS IS SOMETHIN' TO TELL ME GRAND-CHILDREN... IF I LIVE THAT LONG!

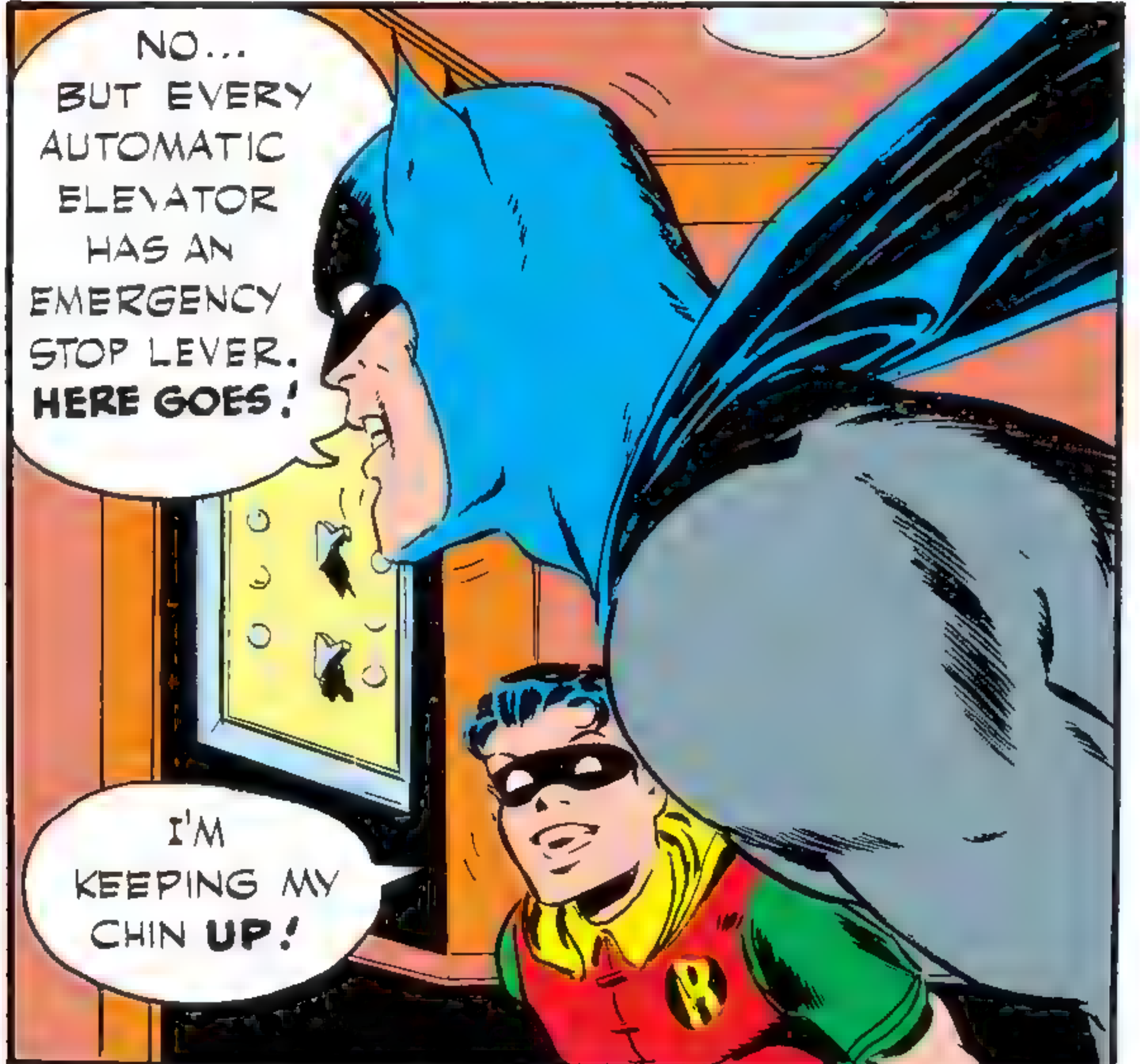
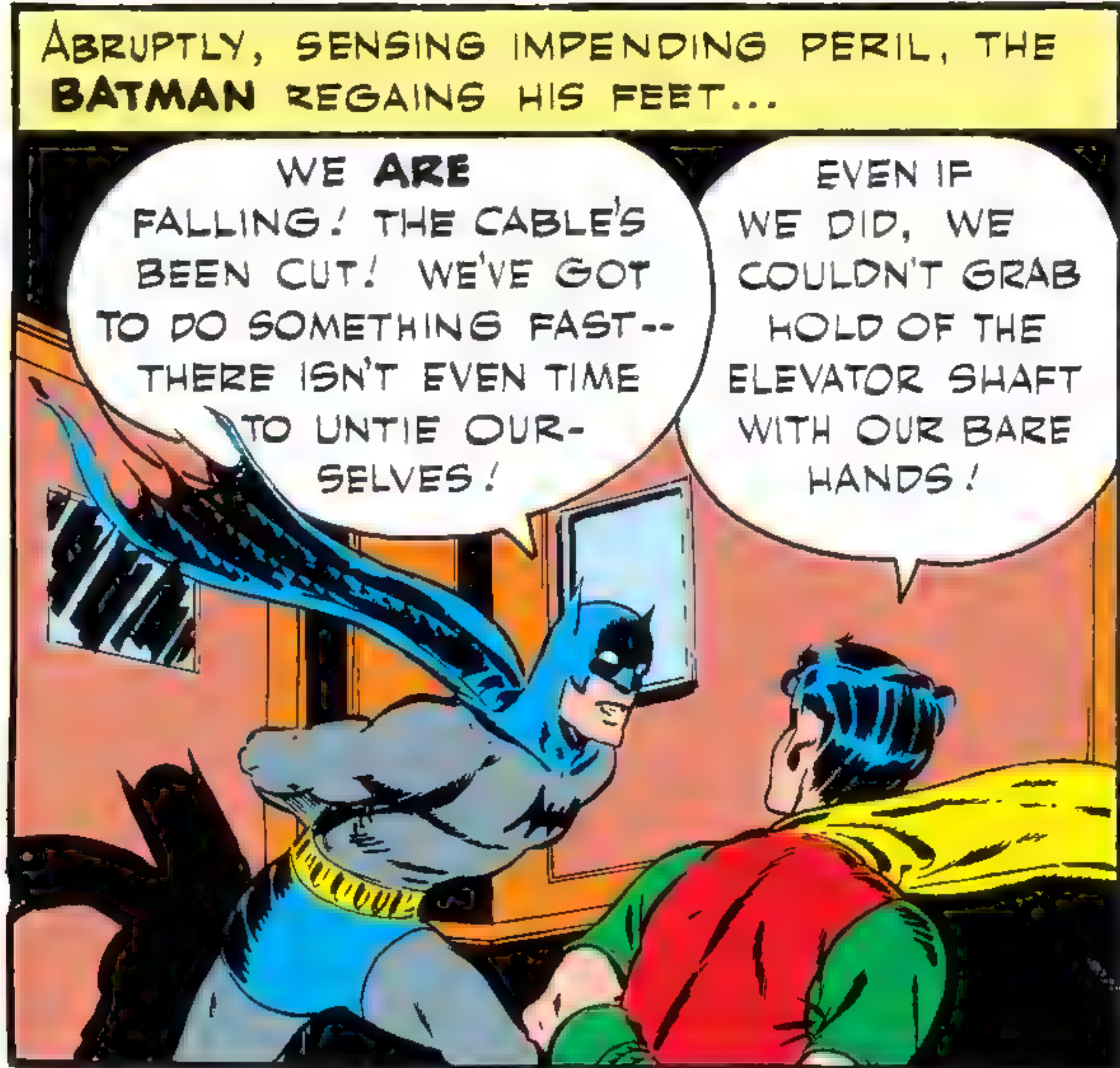


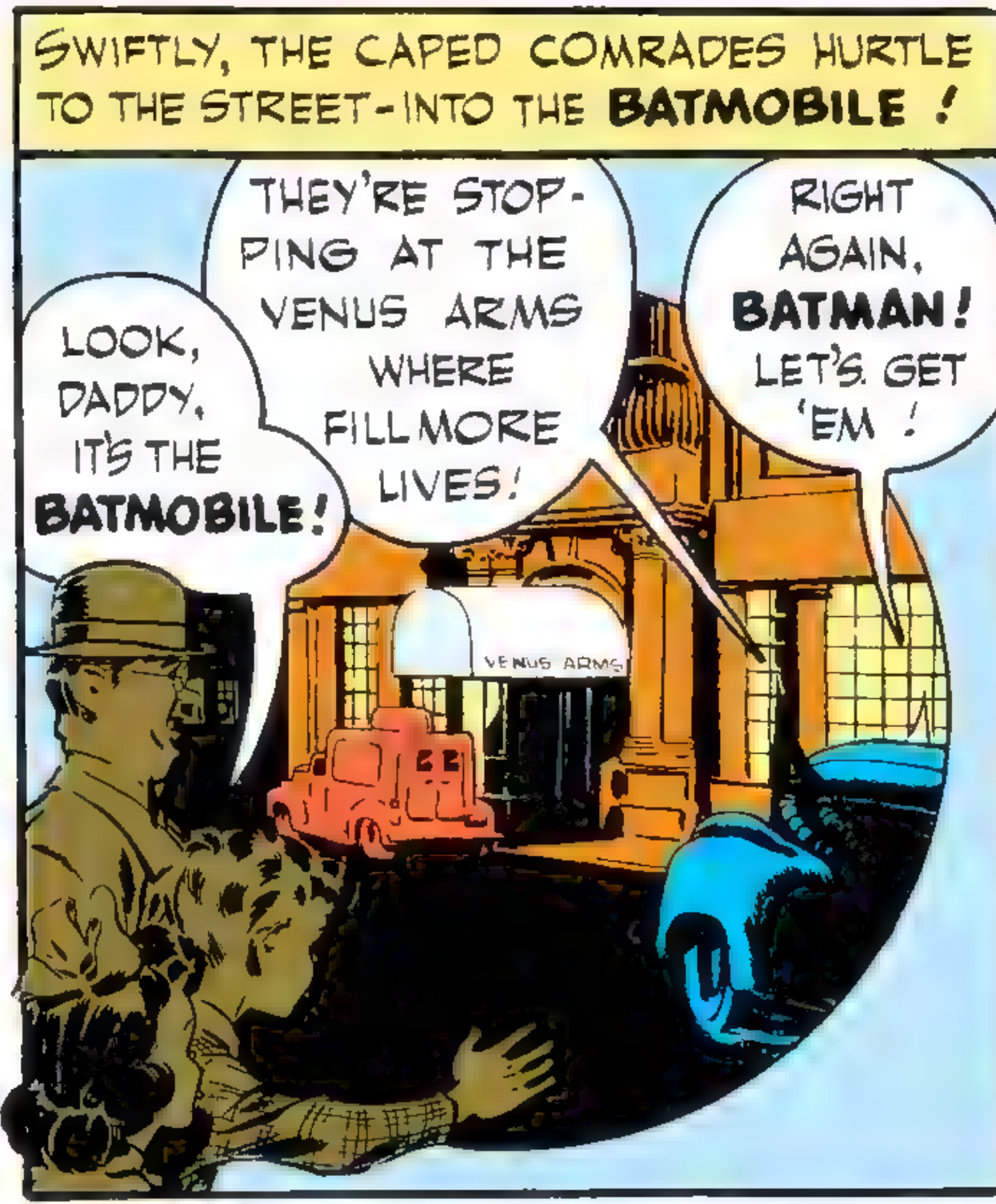
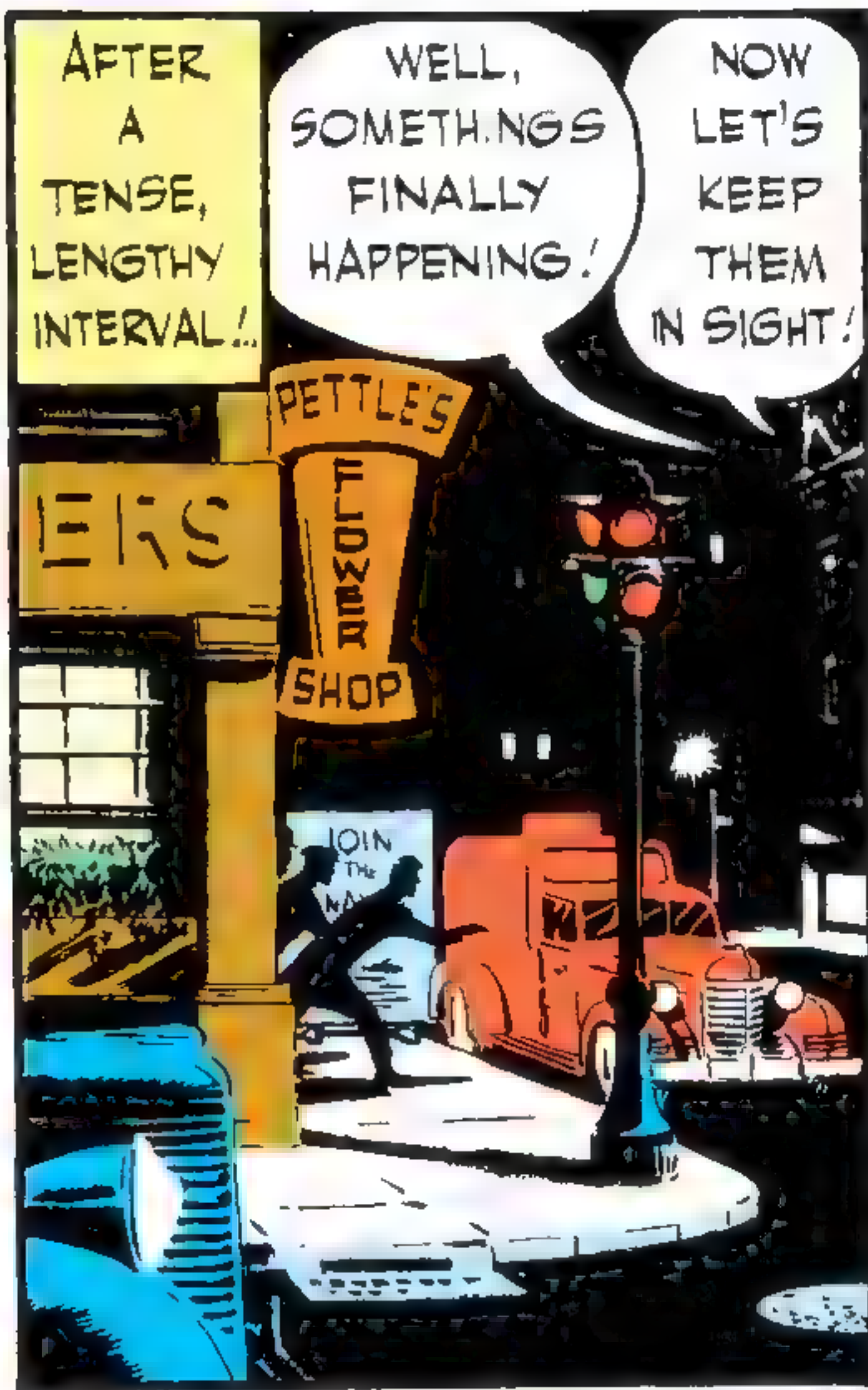
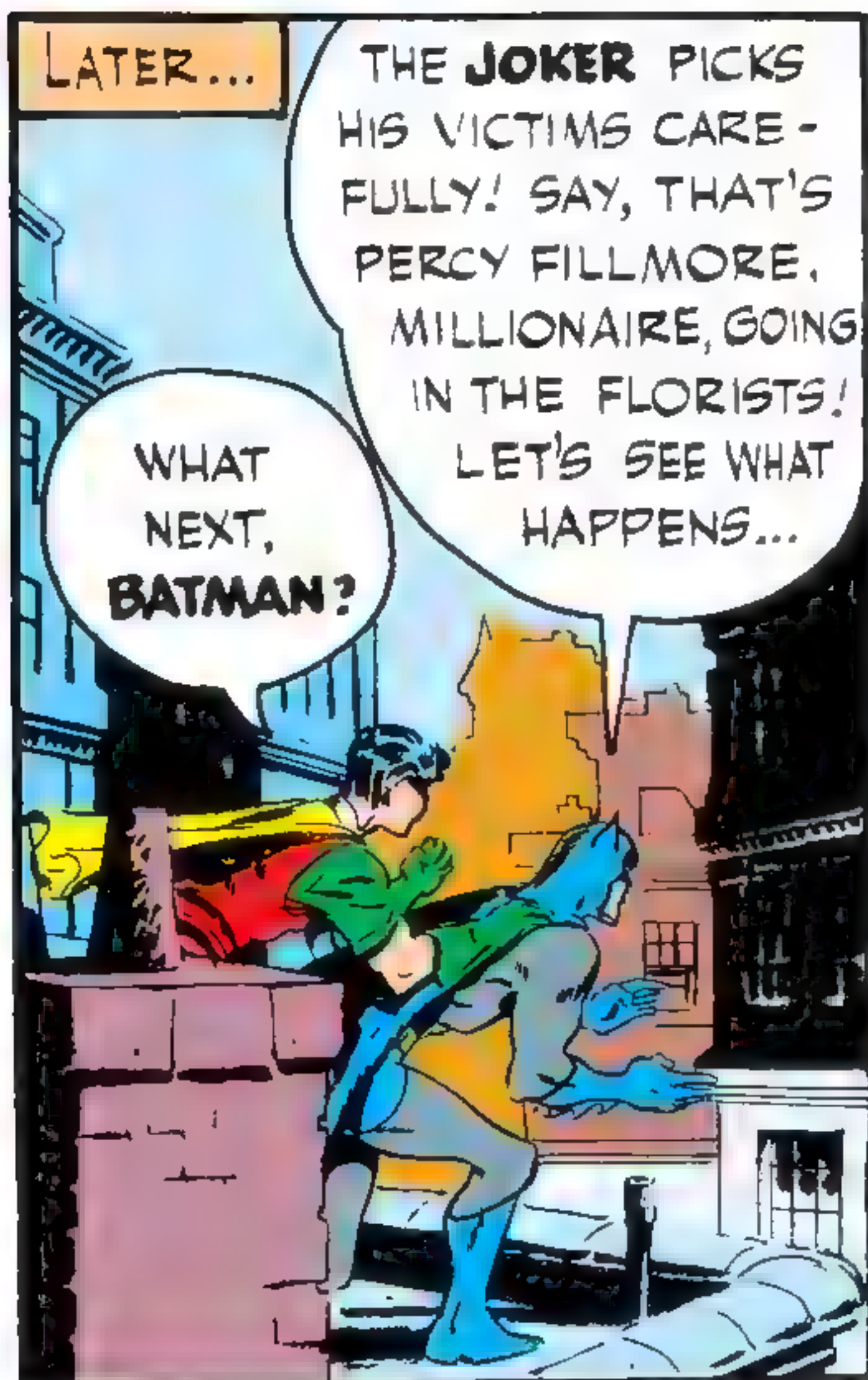
ITS CABLE SMASHED, THE ELEVATOR HURTLES DOWN TOWARD SMASHING DOOM!

AT LAST! THE END OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

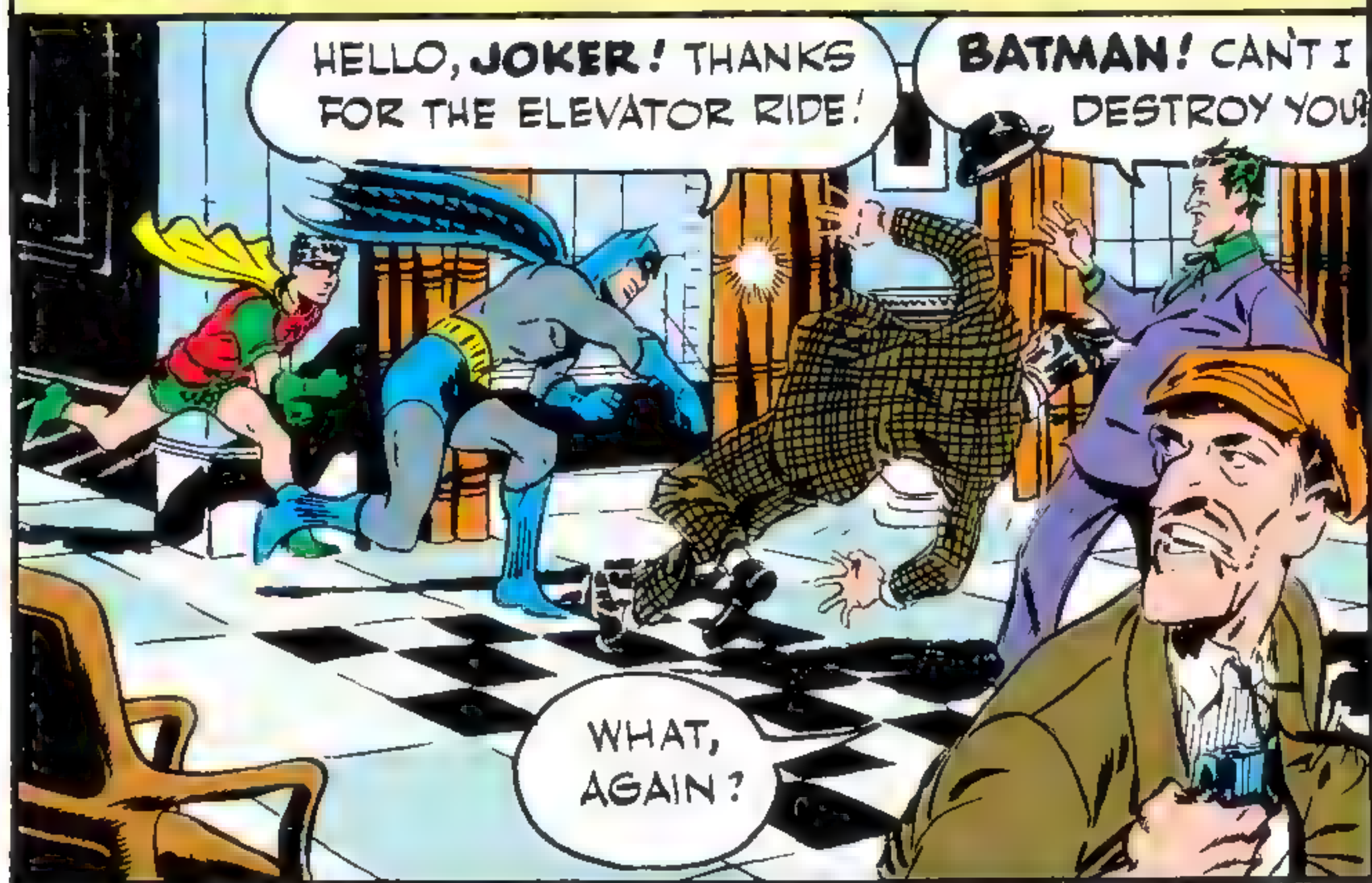
I FEEL AS IF I'M FALLING THROUGH SPACE?

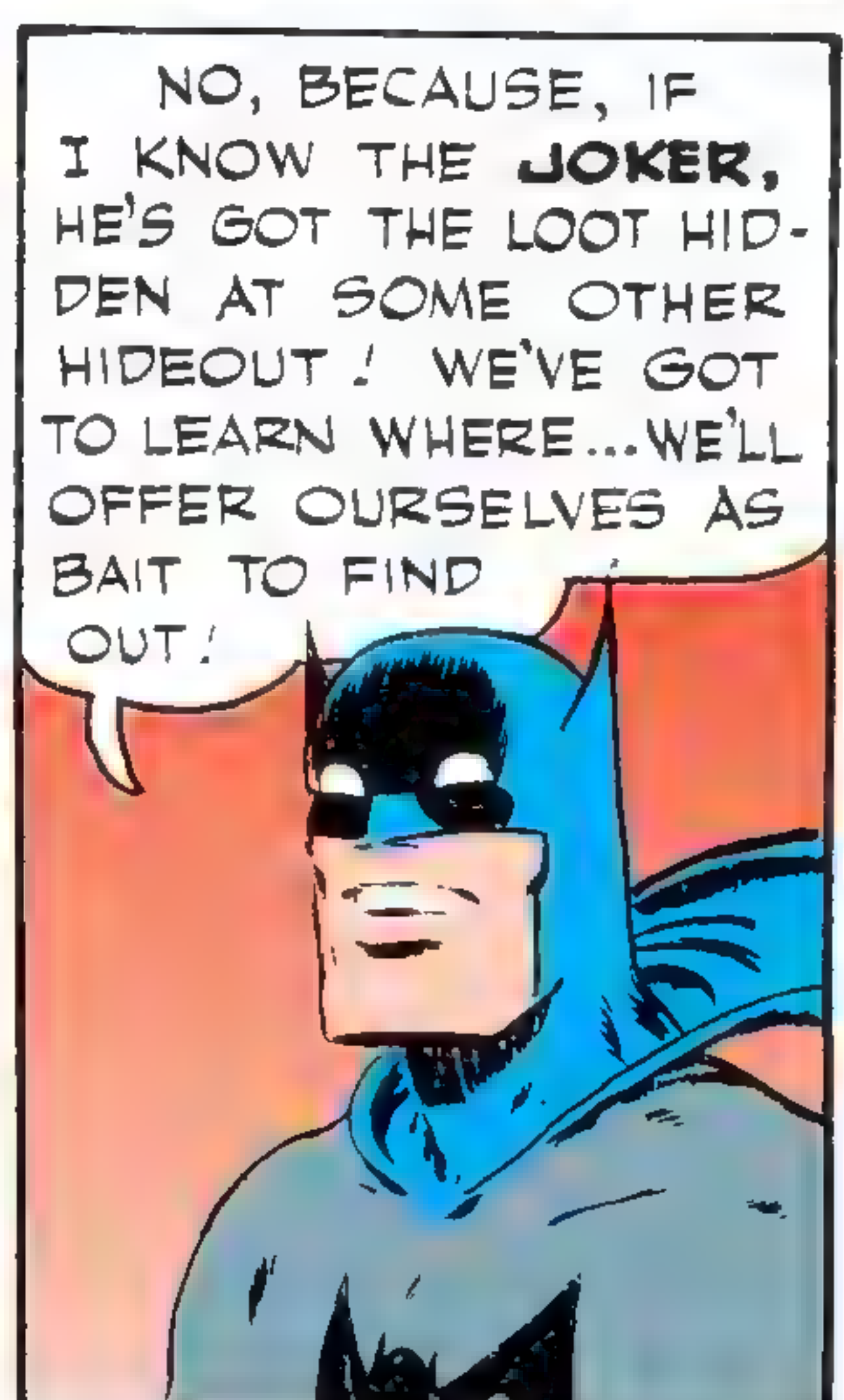
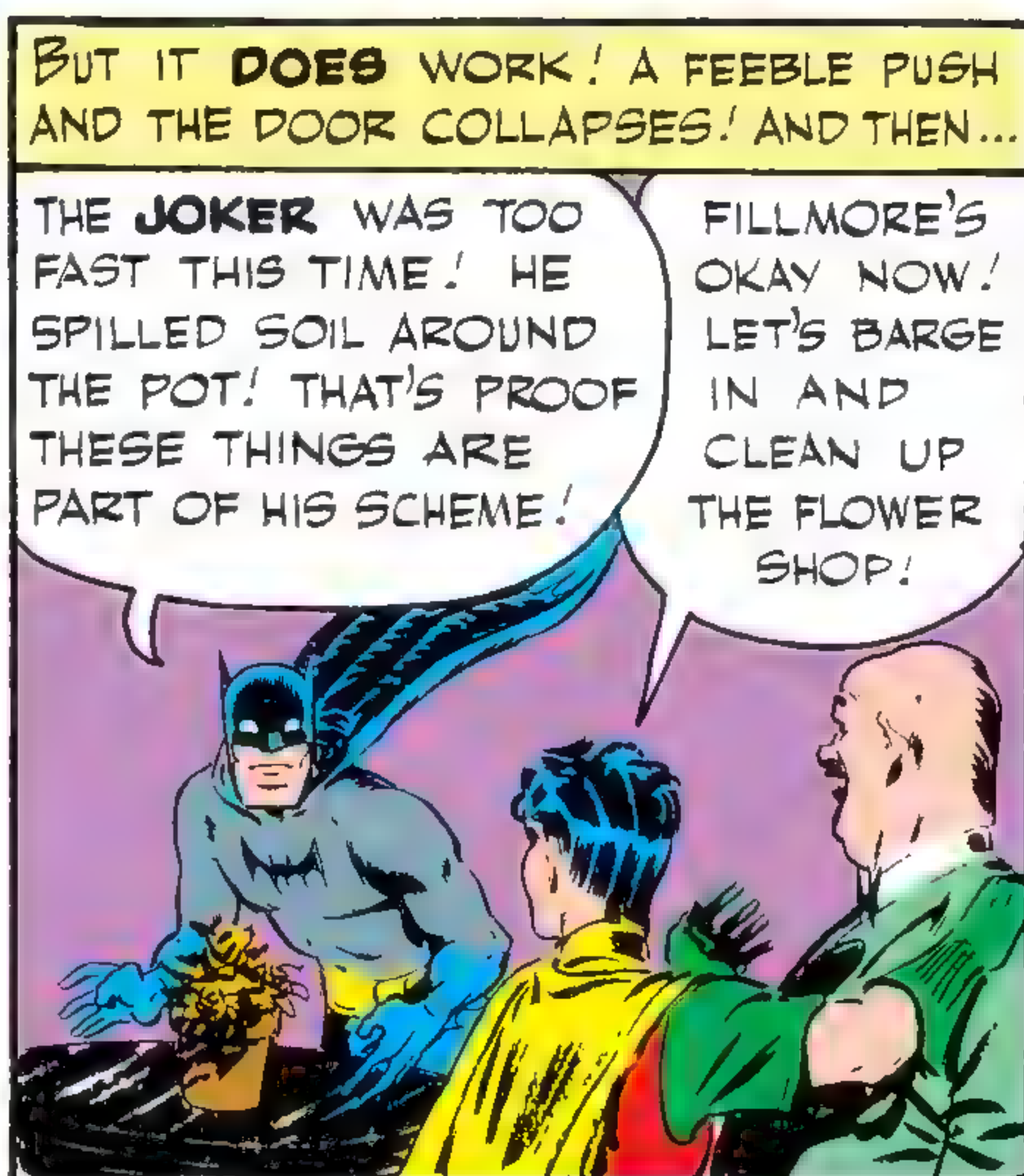
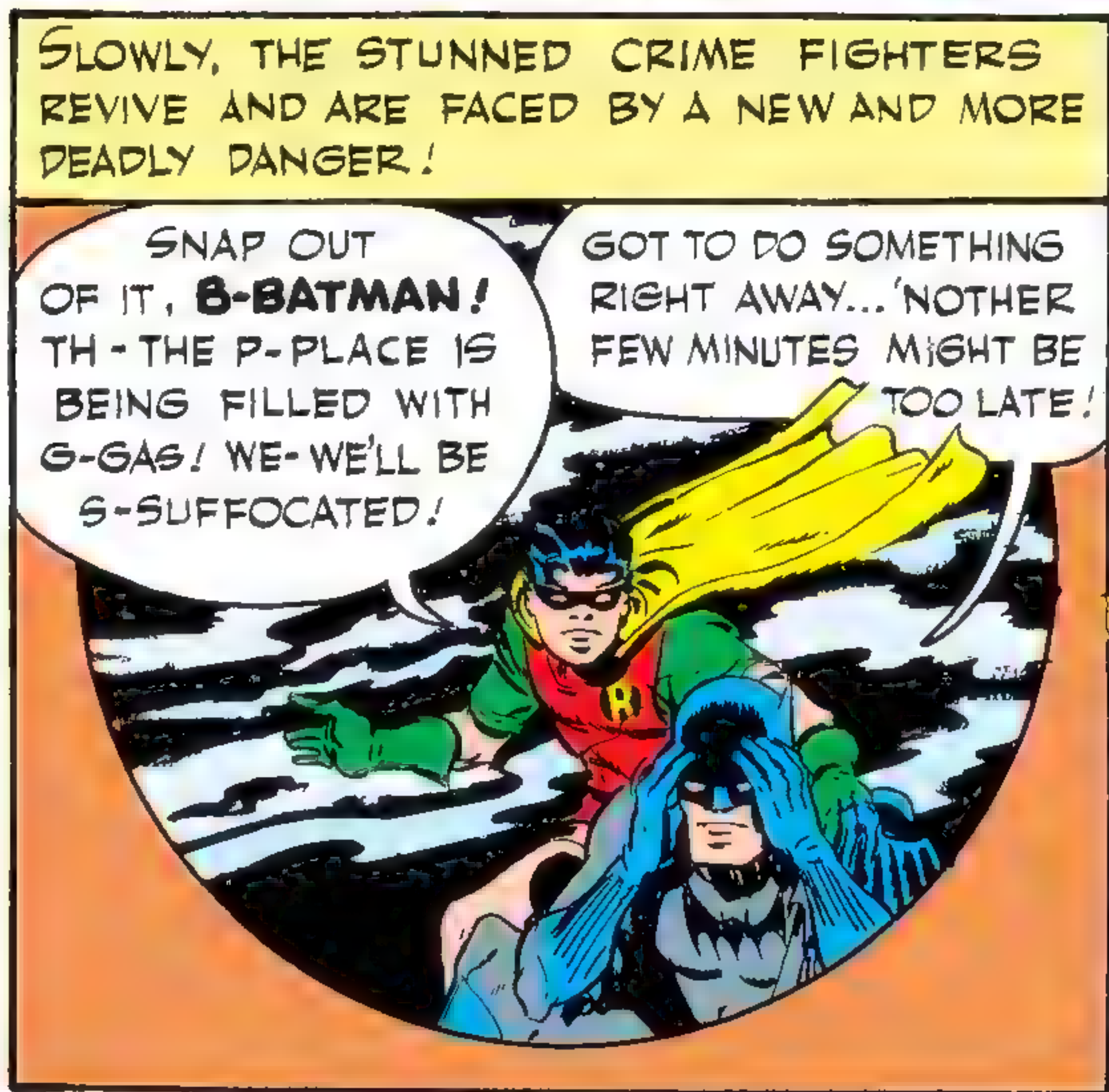
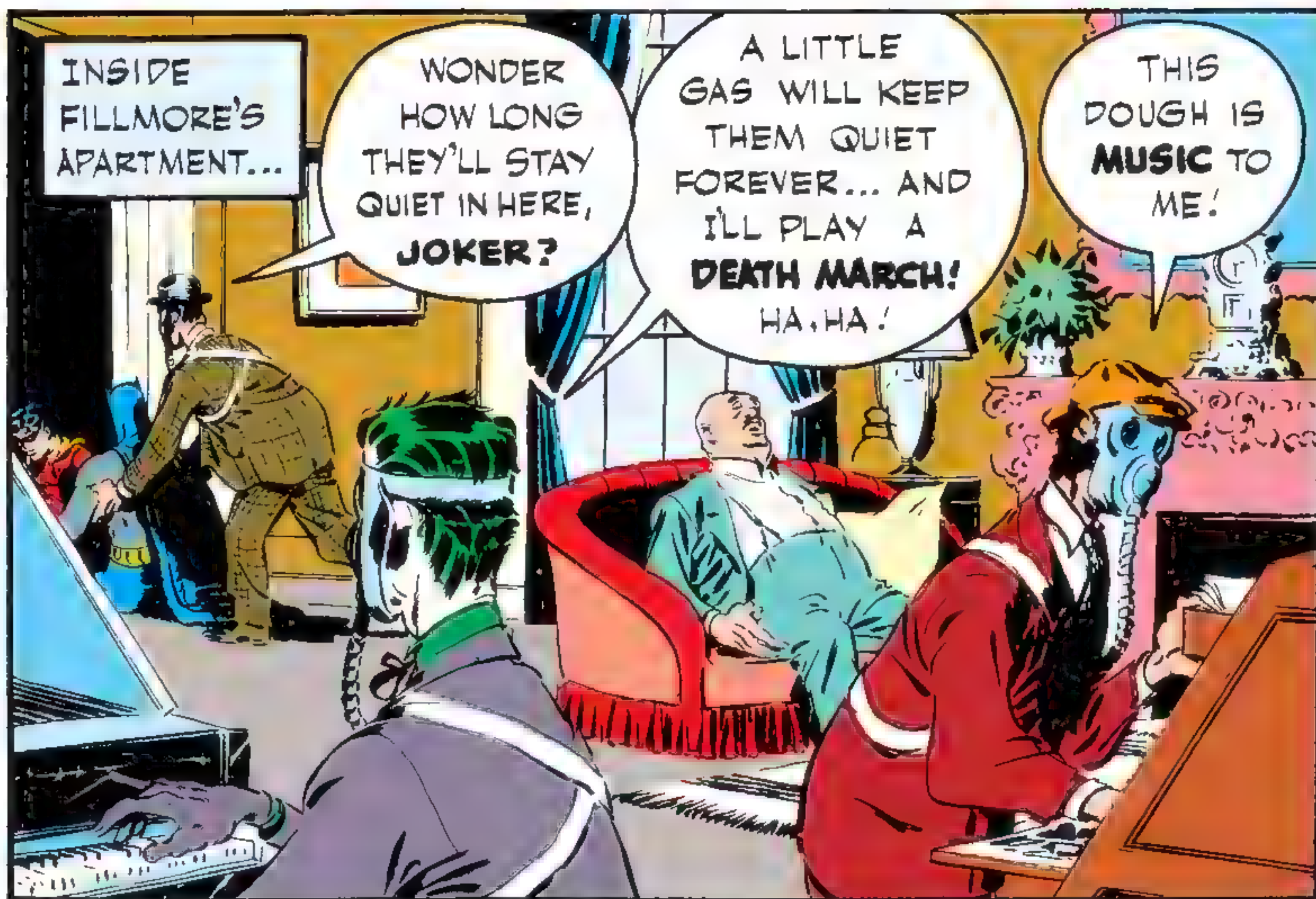
WHA-- WHAT HIT ME?



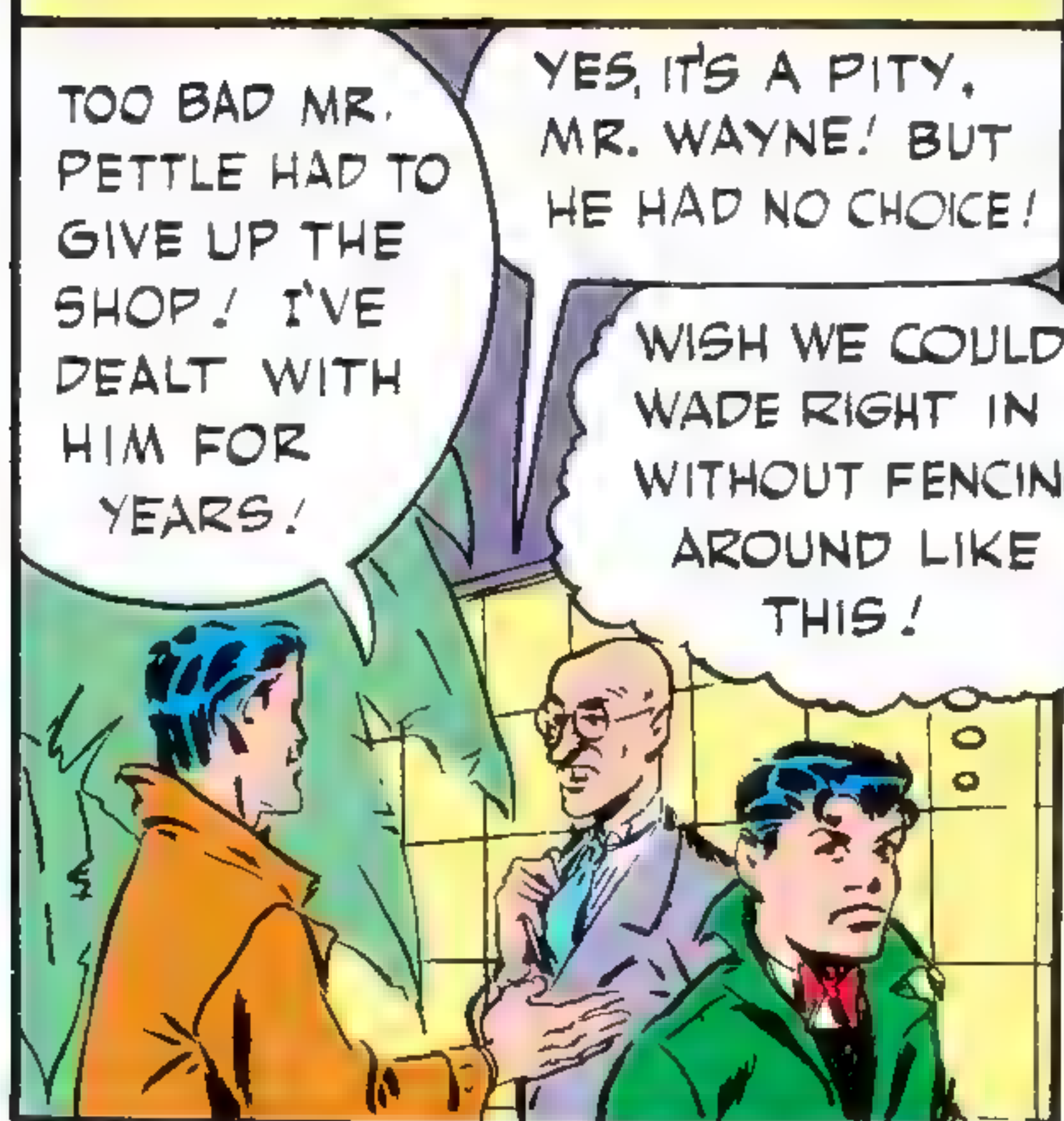


INTO THE EXCLUSIVE DWELLING RACE THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE AND HIS MINIONS... FOLLOWED BY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**...





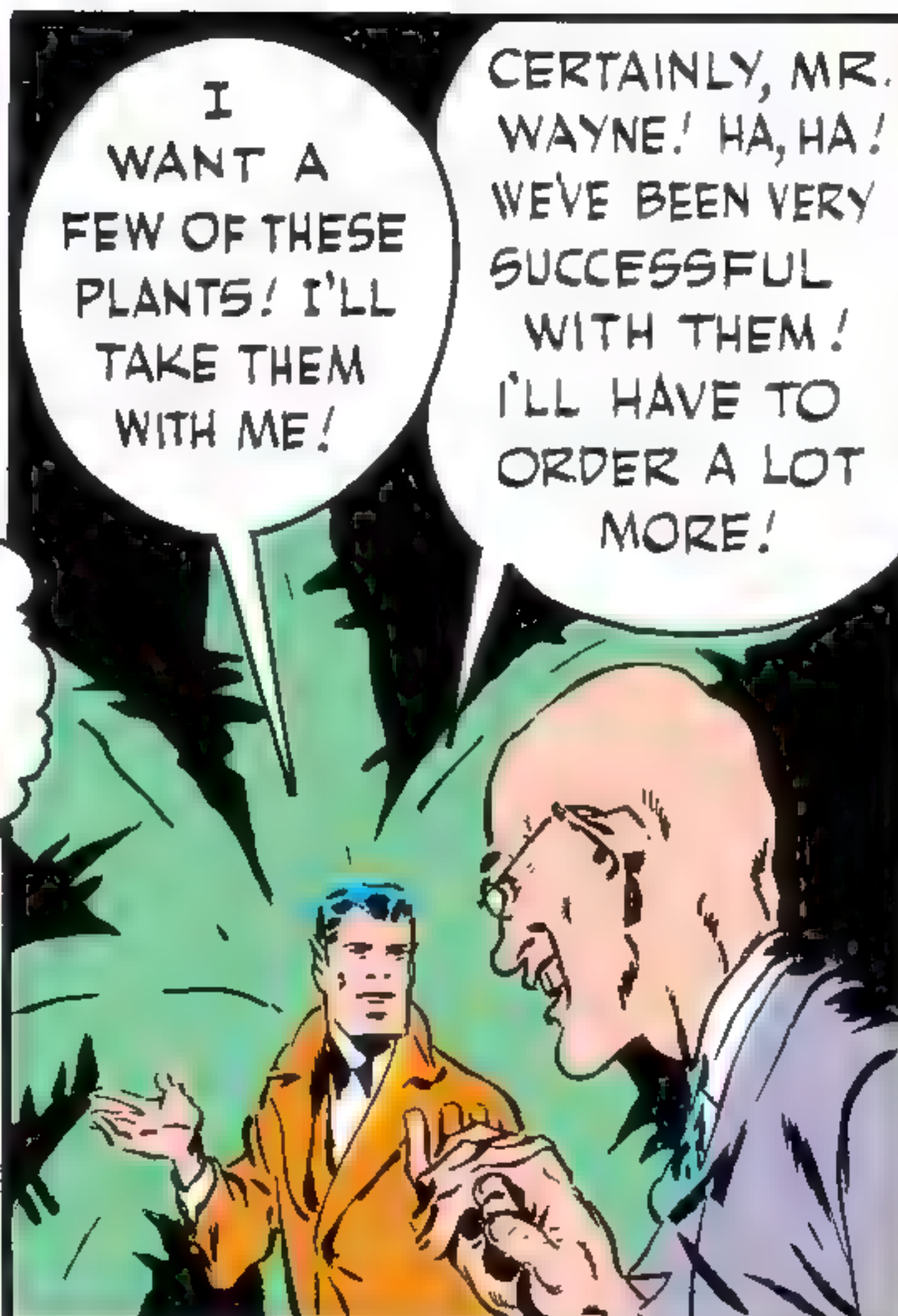
PRESENTLY, AT THE PETTLE FLOWER SHOP, TWO BITTER FOES IN DISGUISE FACE EACH OTHER ACROSS A COUNTER!



TOO BAD MR. PETTLE HAD TO GIVE UP THE SHOP! I'VE DEALT WITH HIM FOR YEARS!

YES, IT'S A PITY, MR. WAYNE! BUT HE HAD NO CHOICE!

WISH WE COULD WADE RIGHT IN WITHOUT FENCING AROUND LIKE THIS!



I WANT A FEW OF THESE PLANTS! I'LL TAKE THEM WITH ME!

CERTAINLY, MR. WAYNE! HA, HA! WE'VE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL WITH THEM! I'LL HAVE TO ORDER A LOT MORE!

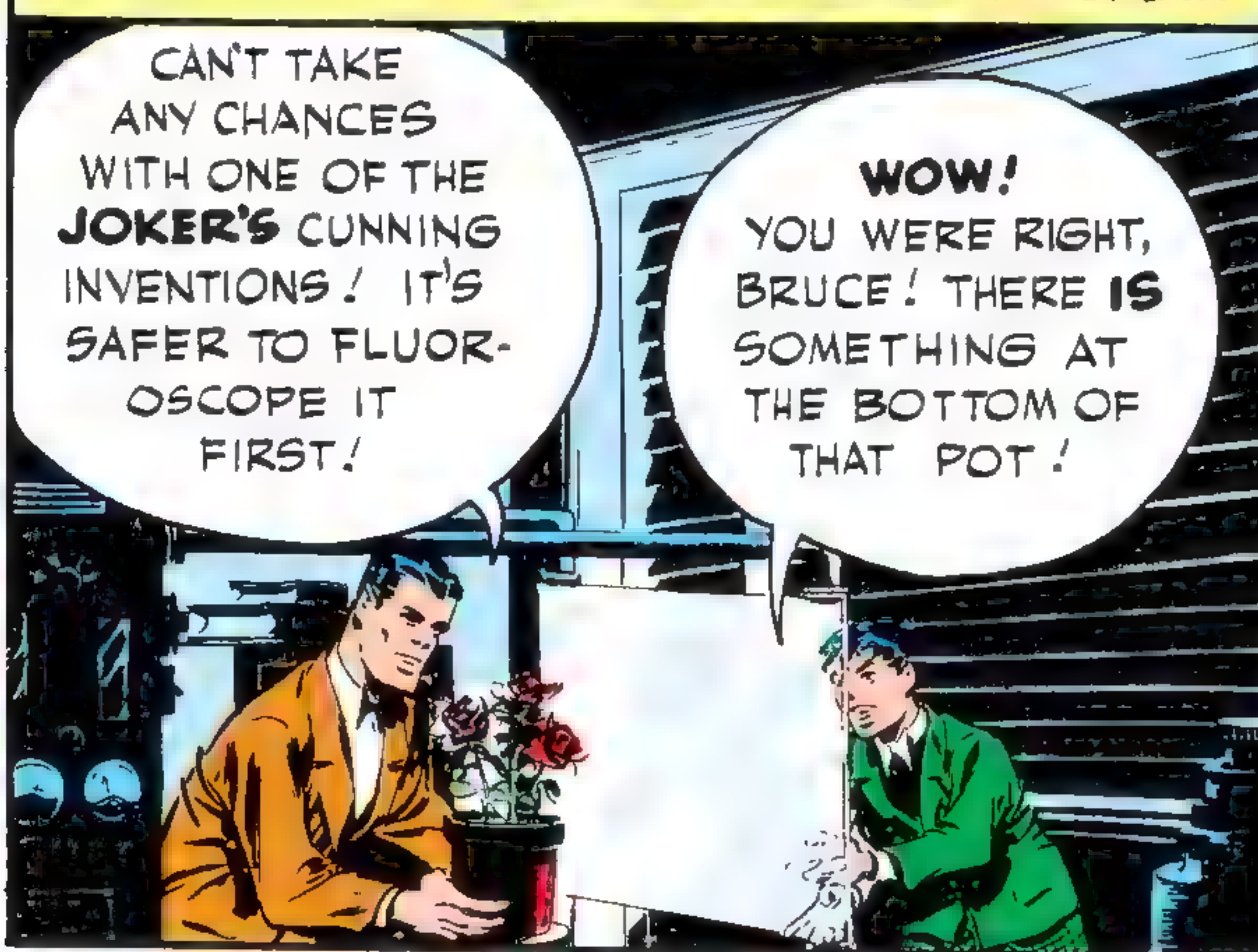


WHEN THE CUSTOMERS DEPART...

BRUCE WAYNE, DA SOCIETY PLAYBOY! WHAT A HOUSE HE'S GOT TO KNOCK OVER! WE'LL GRAB US A FORTUNE!

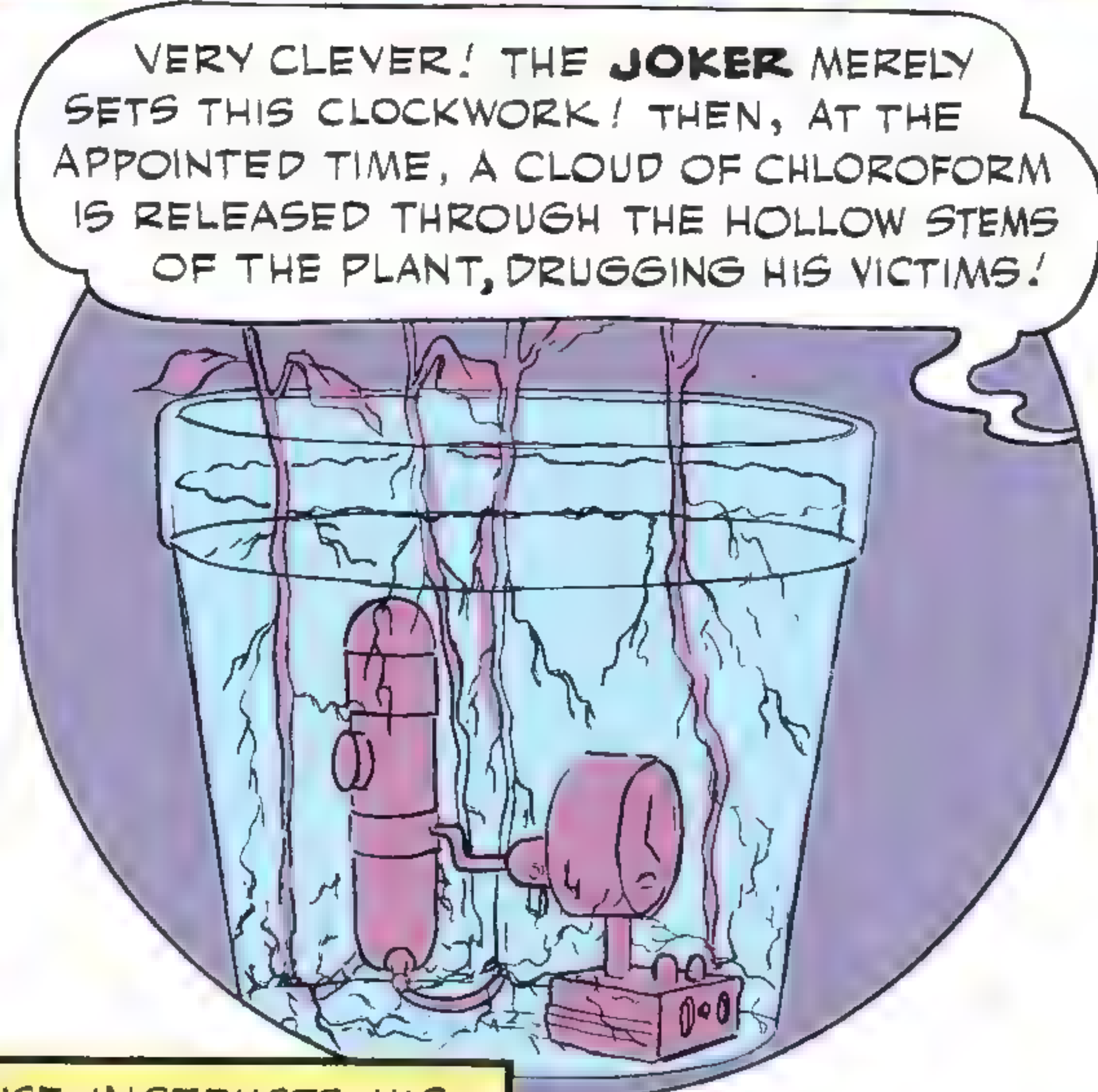
RIGHT! THIS WILL BE THE EASIEST AND MOST PROFITABLE HAUL OF ALL! HA, HA, HA!

PERHAPS, **JOKER** - AND PERHAPS NOT! FOR THE MOMENT THE INTENDED VICTIMS REACH HOME...

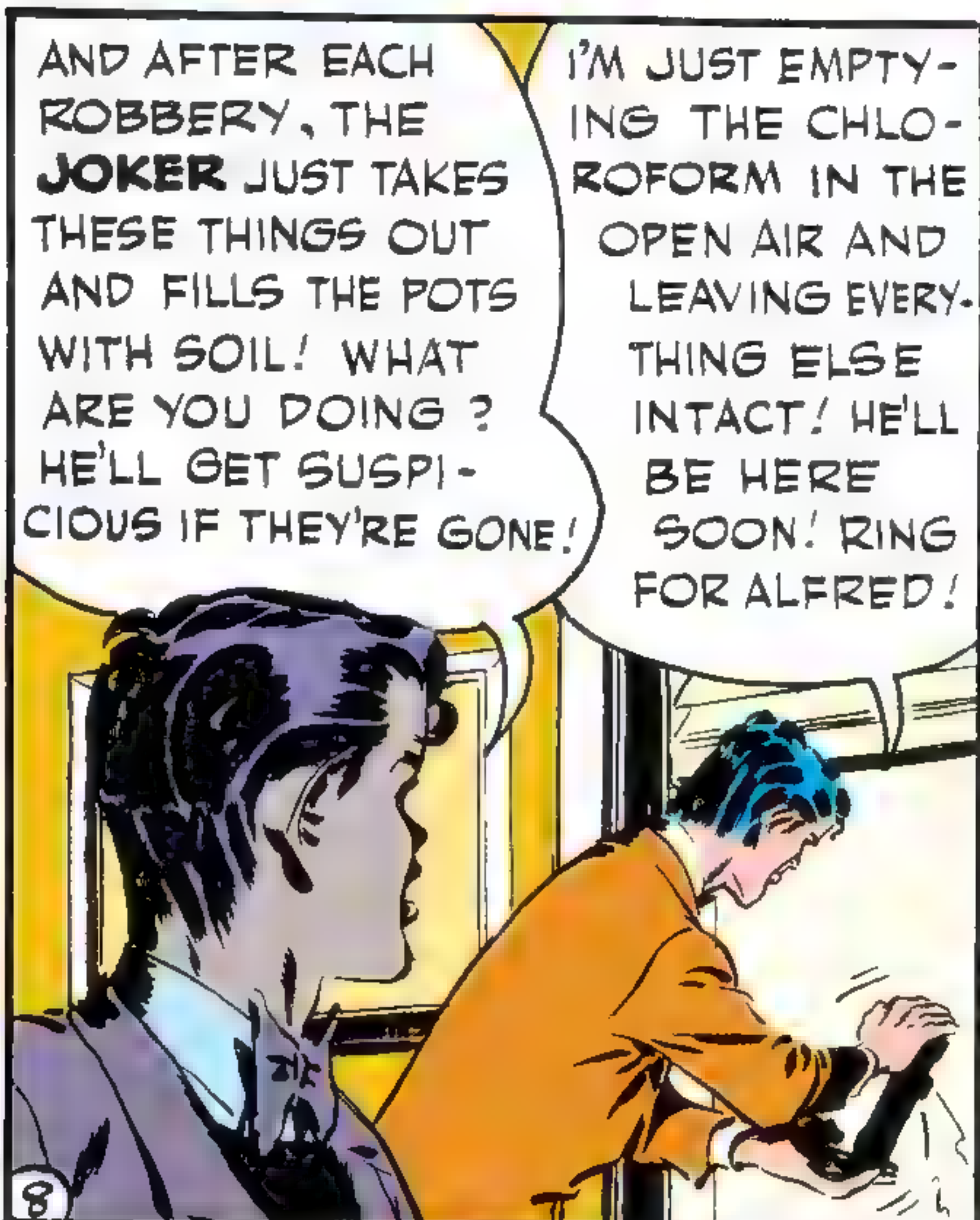


CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES WITH ONE OF THE **JOKER'S** CUNNING INVENTIONS! IT'S SAFER TO FLUOROSCOPE IT FIRST!

WOW! YOU WERE RIGHT, BRUCE! THERE IS SOMETHING AT THE BOTTOM OF THAT POT!



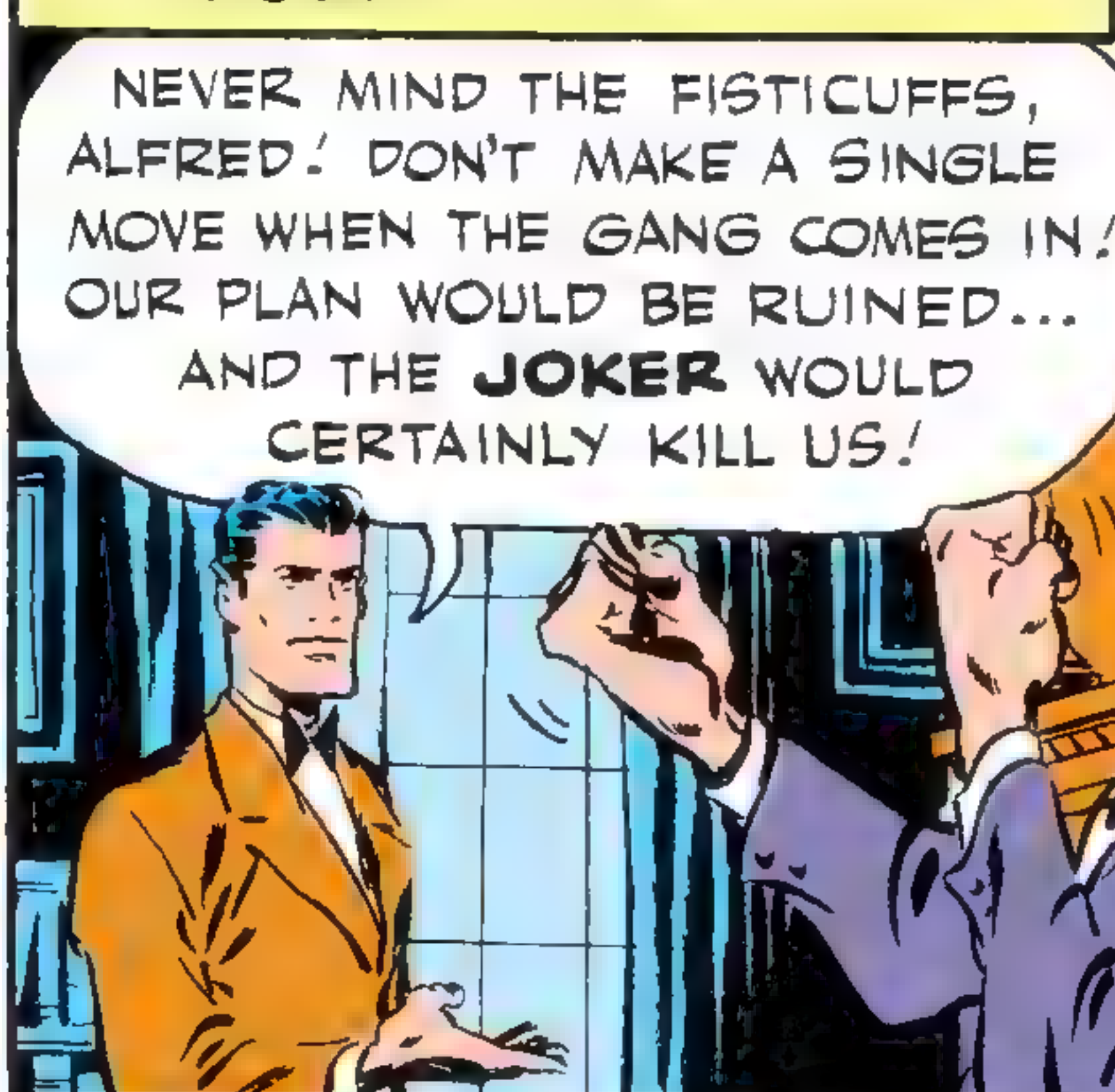
VERY CLEVER! THE **JOKER** MERELY SETS THIS CLOCKWORK! THEN, AT THE APPOINTED TIME, A CLOUD OF CHLOROFORM IS RELEASED THROUGH THE HOLLOW STEMS OF THE PLANT, DRUGGING HIS VICTIMS!



AND AFTER EACH ROBBERY, THE **JOKER** JUST TAKES THESE THINGS OUT AND FILLS THE POTS WITH SOIL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HE'LL GET SUSPICIOUS IF THEY'RE GONE!

I'M JUST EMPTYING THE CHLOROFORM IN THE OPEN AIR AND LEAVING EVERYTHING ELSE INTACT! HE'LL BE HERE SOON! RING FOR ALFRED!

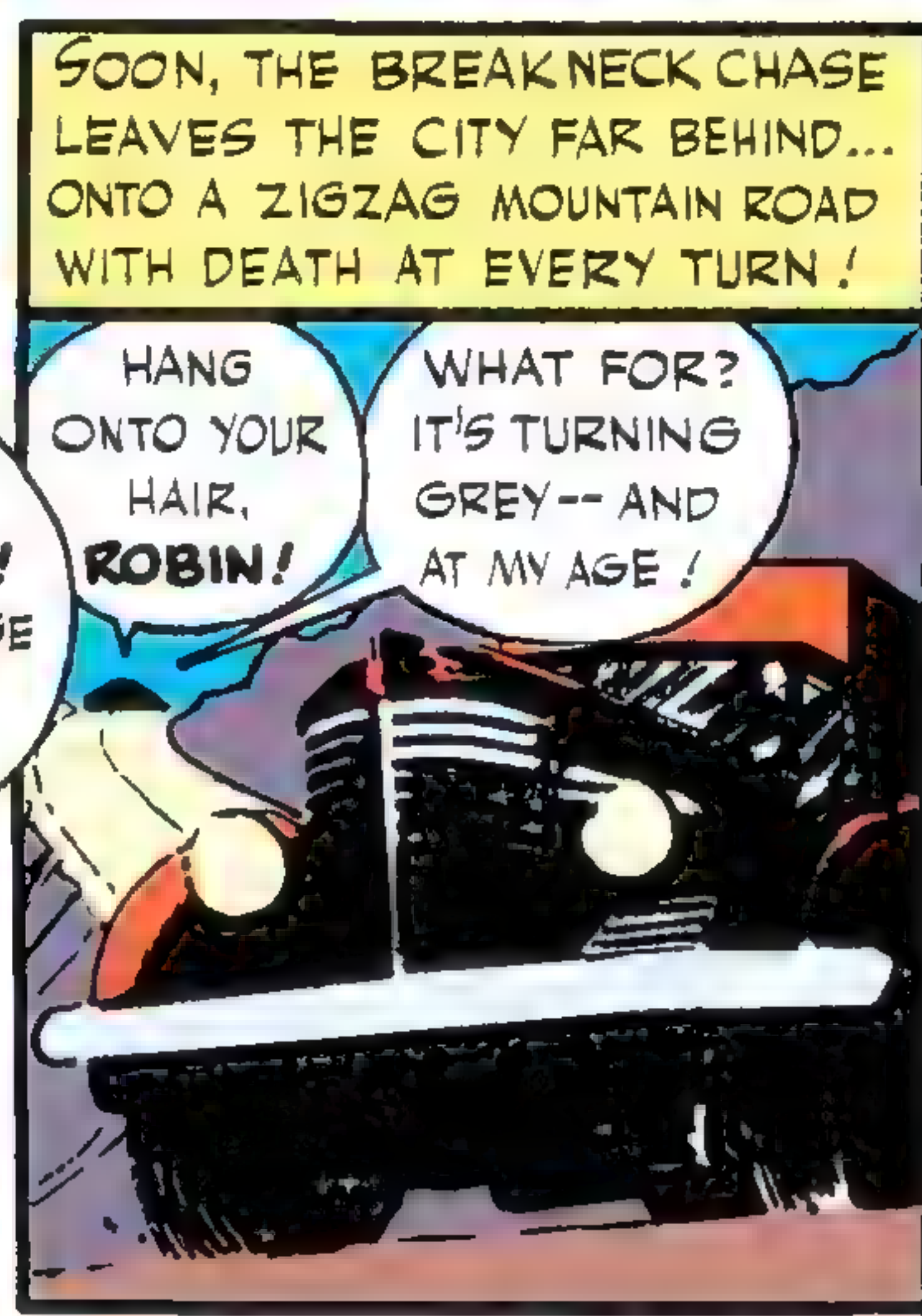
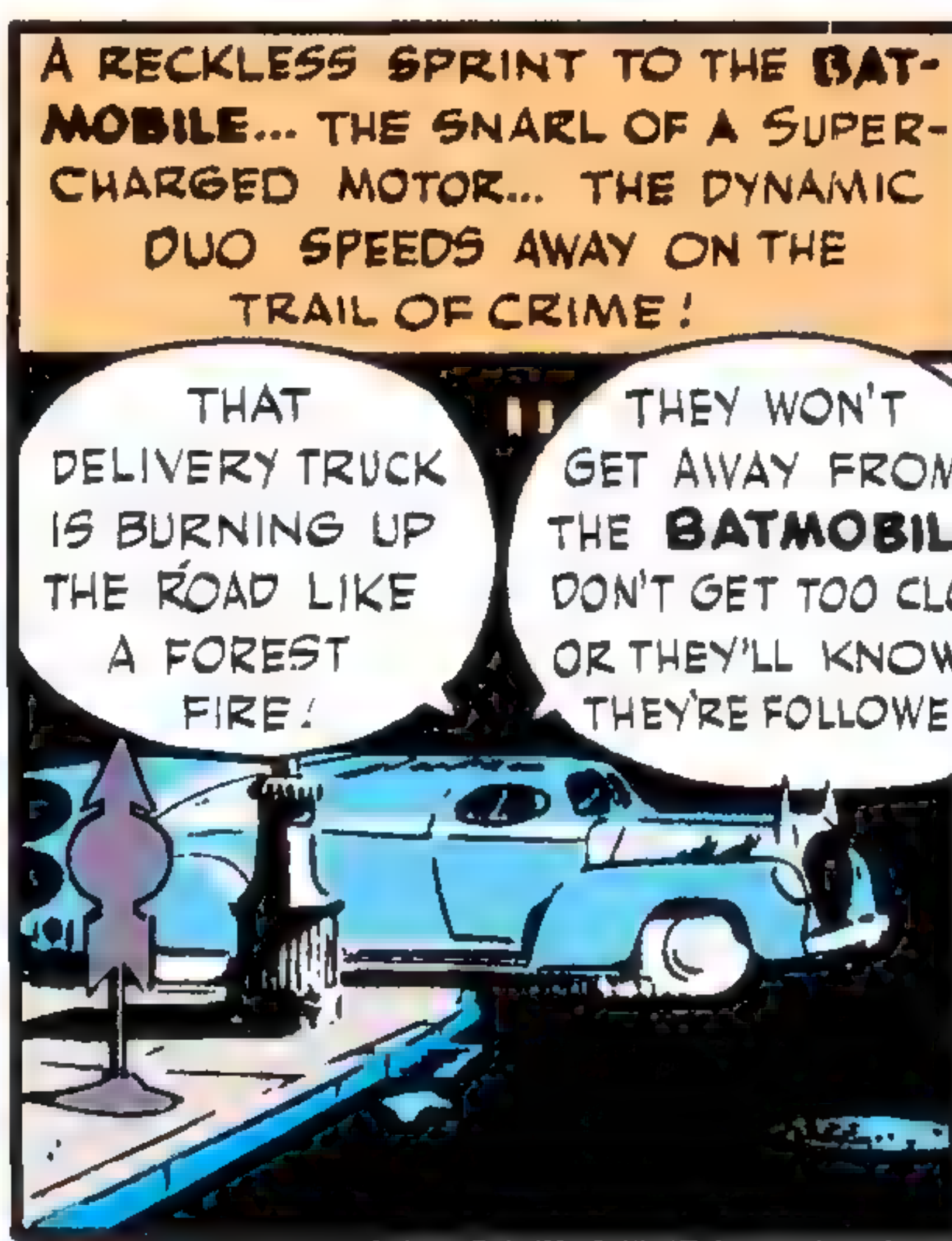
SWIFTLY BRUCE INSTRUCTS HIS BUTLER, ALFRED, THE ONLY PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO KNOWS THE TRUE IDENTITIES OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**...

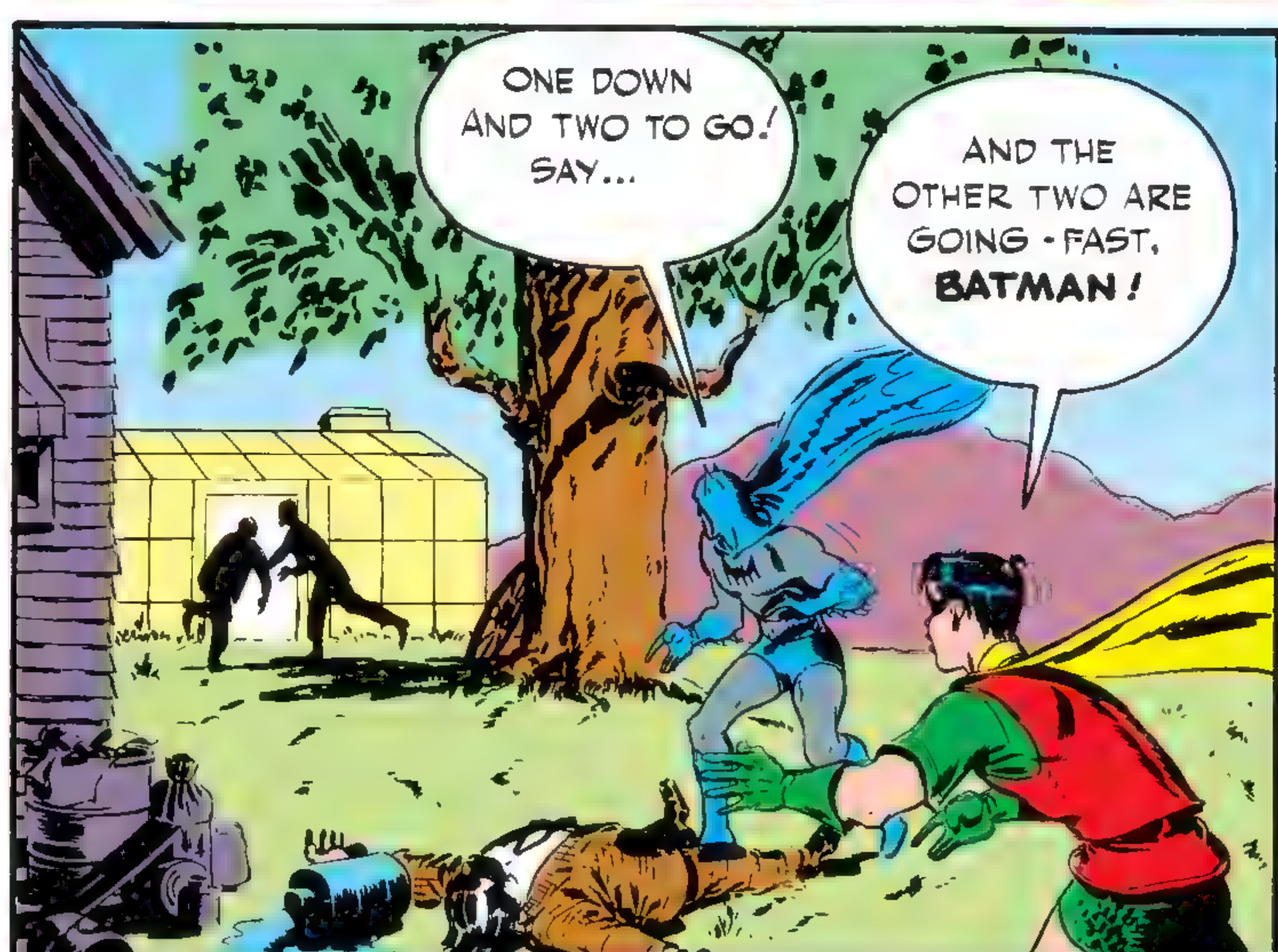
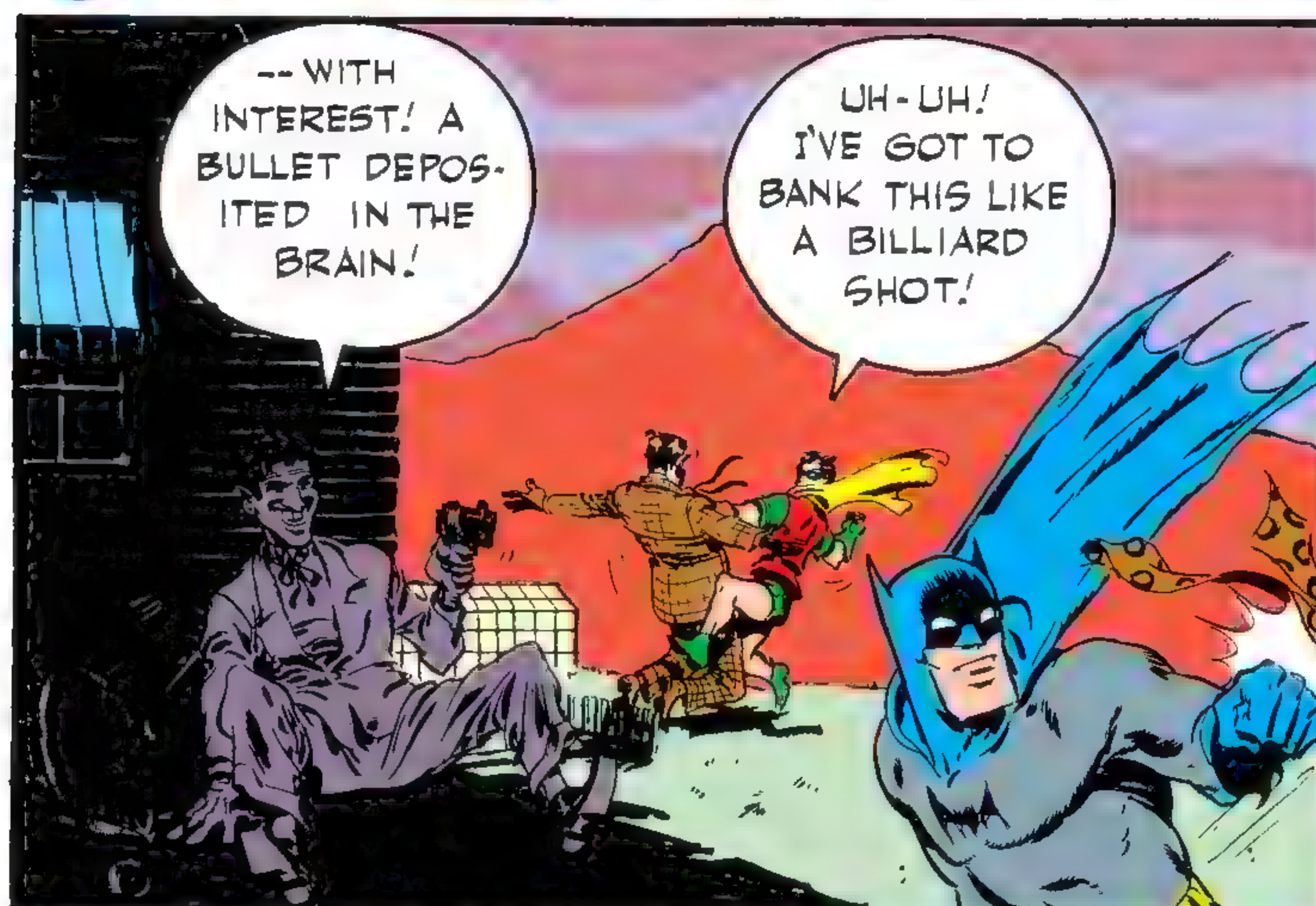


NEVER MIND THE FISTICUFFS, ALFRED! DON'T MAKE A SINGLE MOVE WHEN THE GANG COMES IN! OUR PLAN WOULD BE RUINED... AND THE **JOKER** WOULD CERTAINLY KILL US!



BUT THE **JOKER**! WHY DON'T WE OFFER RESISTANCE? MY PUGILISTIC INSTINCTS ARE AROUSED!







THEY CAN'T GET US HERE!

WISH YOU'D T'UGHT OF THAT BEFORE THEY HIT ME!

HIDING OUT IN A GLASS HOTHOUSE! LET'S GET THEM!

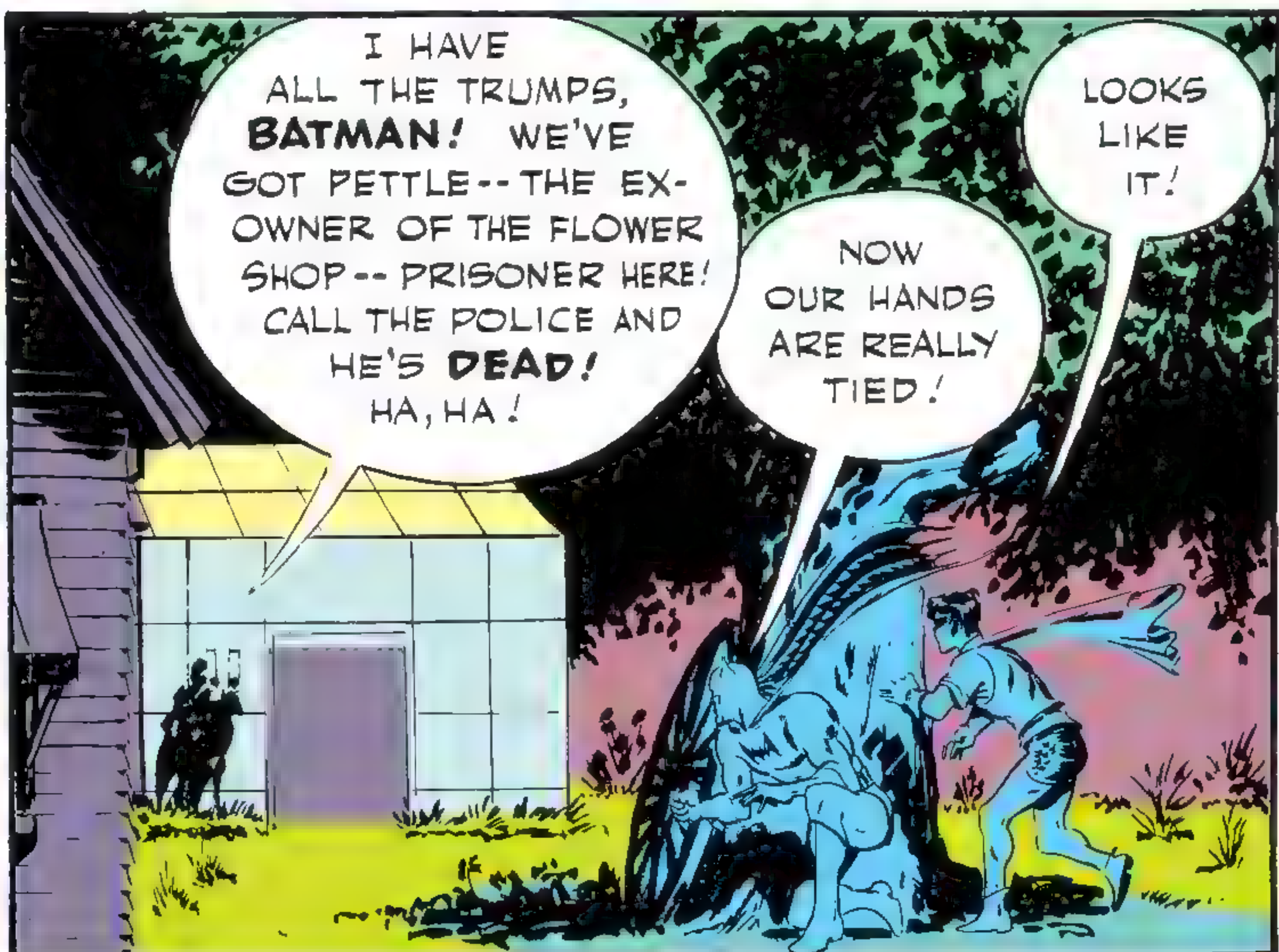
AS THE CLOAKED CRIME-BUSTERS STARE IN STARK SURPRISE ...

UH-HUH! I THOUGHT SO! BULLETPROOF GLASS! THE JOKER'S NOT SO CRAZY!



HA, HA! COME AHEAD, MY FRIENDS!

HAW! LOOK AT 'EM TAKE COVER!



I HAVE ALL THE TRUMPS, **BATMAN!** WE'VE GOT PETTLE--THE EX-OWNER OF THE FLOWER SHOP-- PRISONER HERE! CALL THE POLICE AND HE'S **DEAD!** HA, HA!

LOOKS LIKE IT!

NOW OUR HANDS ARE REALLY TIED!

BUT THE CUNNING CRIME-CLOWN FORGETS HE'S DEALING WITH **BATMAN** -- SHREWD, ALERT AND RESOURCEFUL...



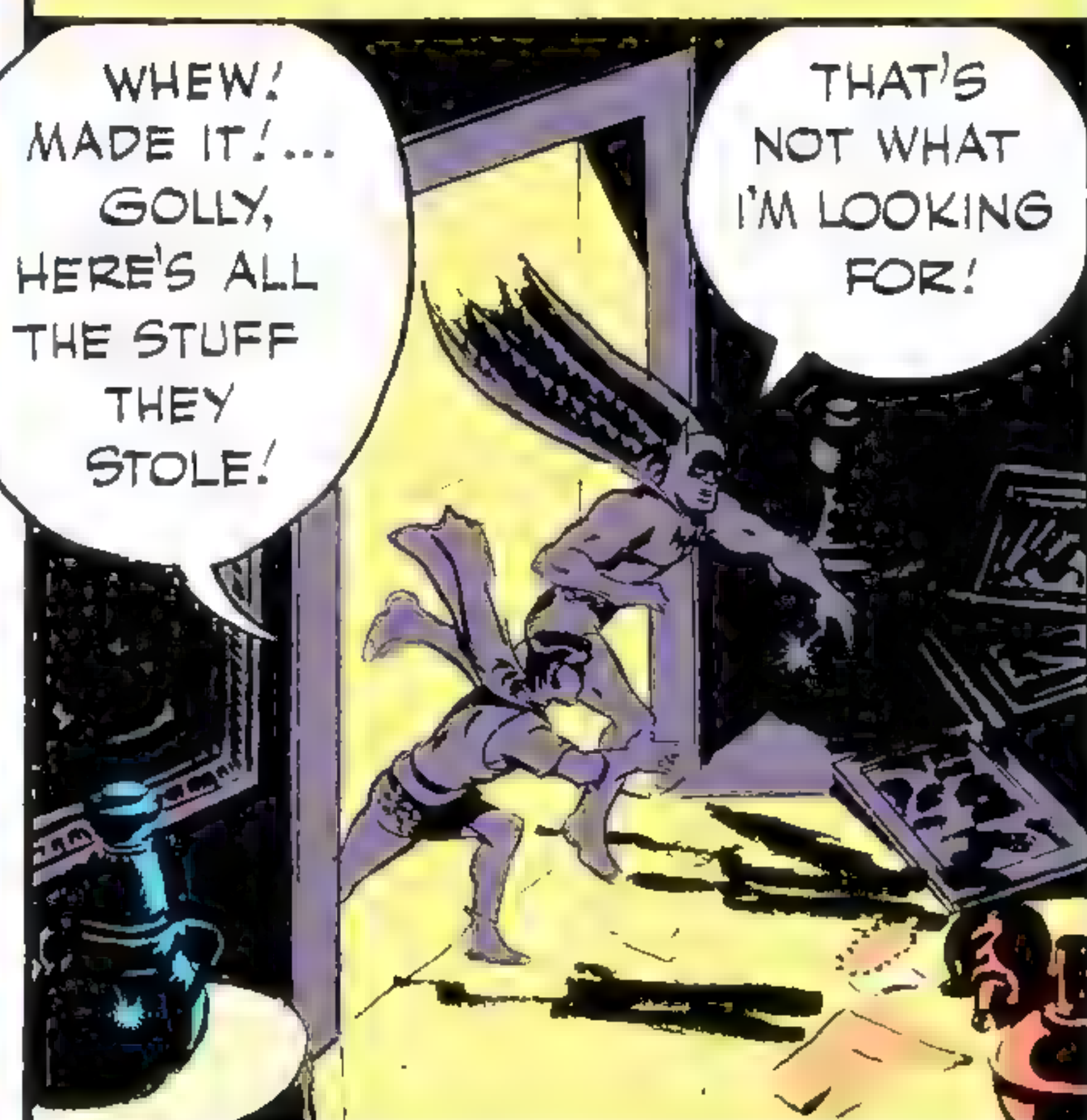
FOLLOW ME AND KEEP LOW... I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

IT BETTER BE GOOD!

UNDER A TORRENT OF LEAD, THE TORNADO TEAM REACHES SANCTUARY AT LAST ... IN THE PLANT NURSERY'S MAIN BUILDING ...

WHEW! MADE IT!... GOLLY, HERE'S ALL THE STUFF THEY STOLE!

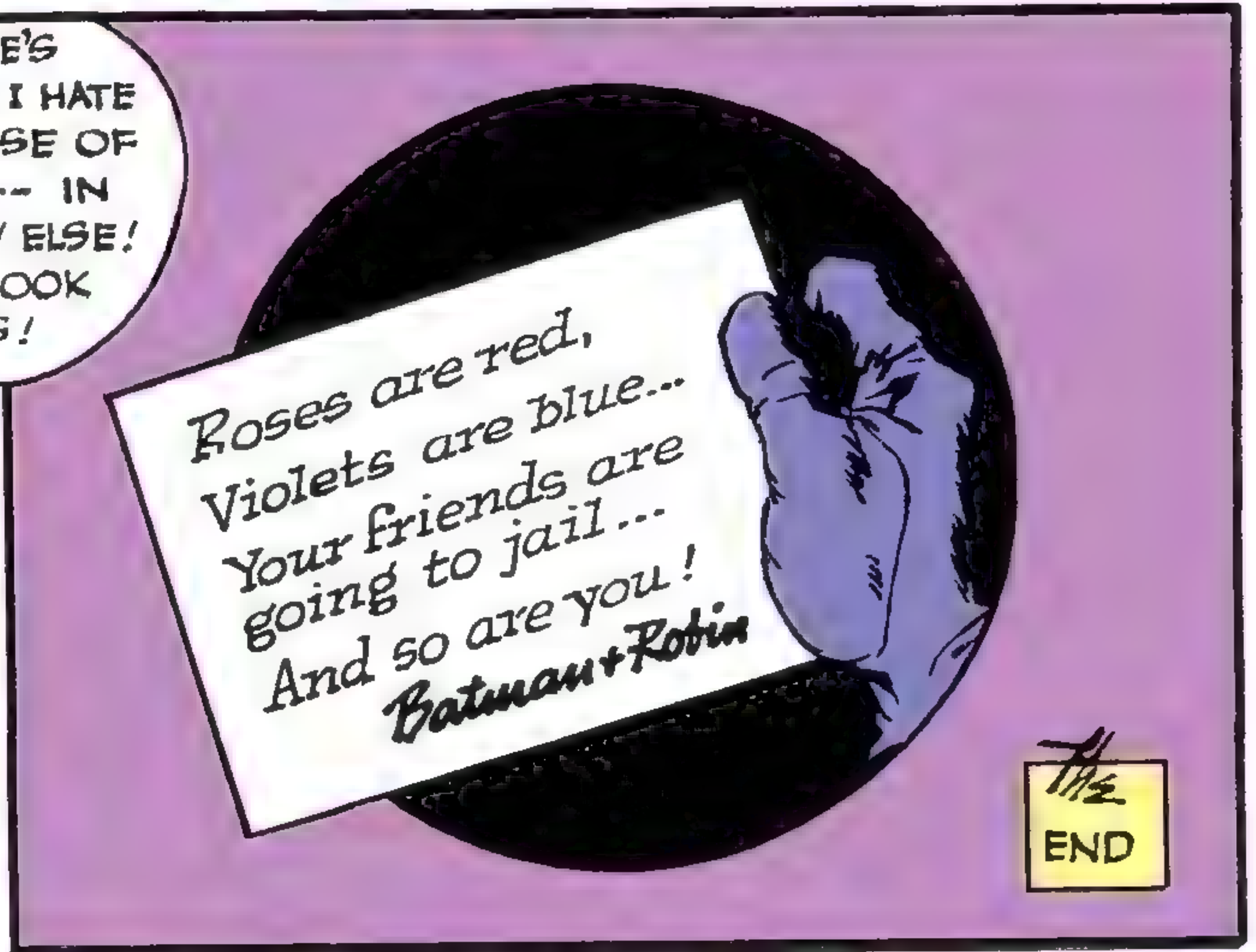
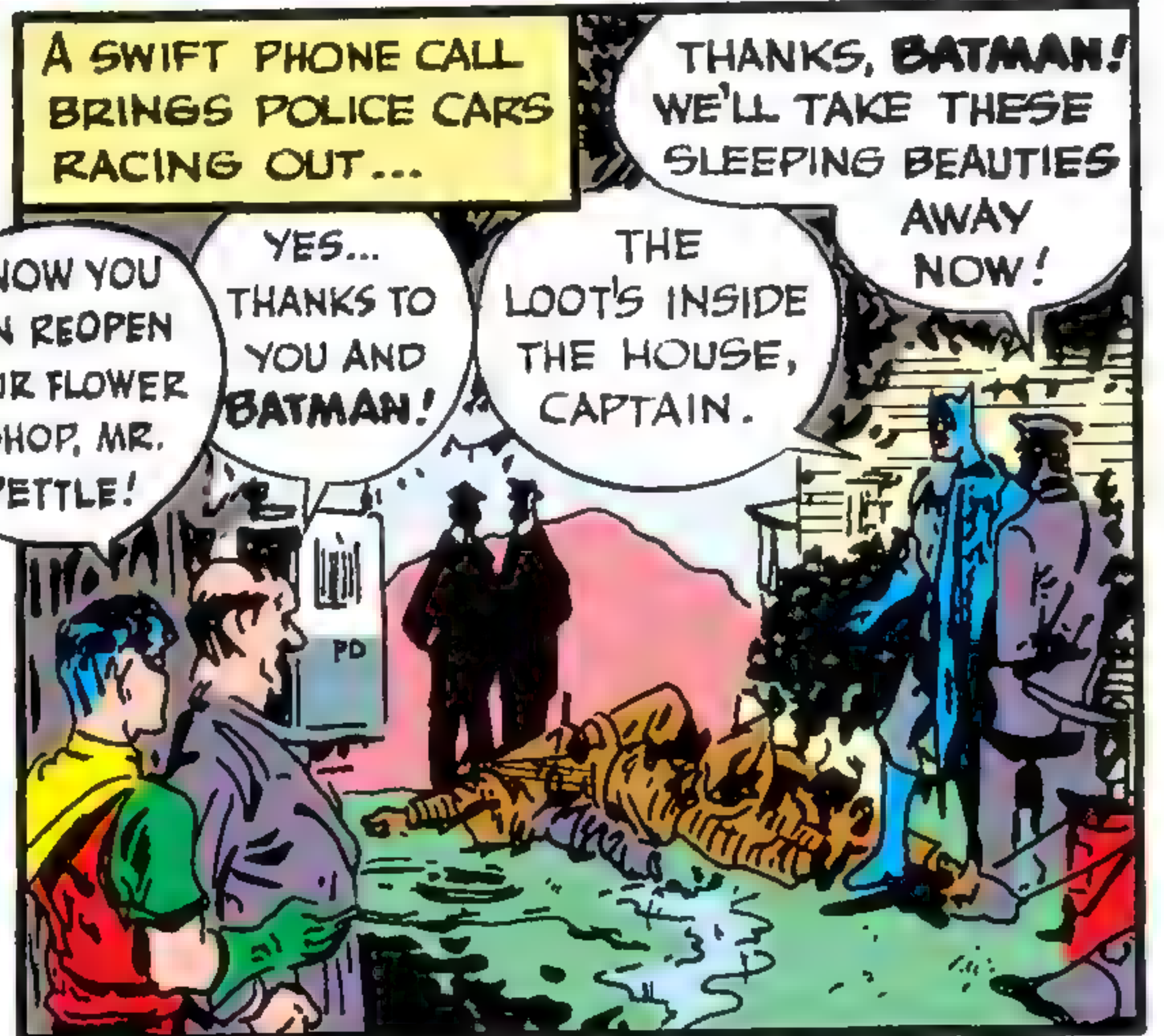
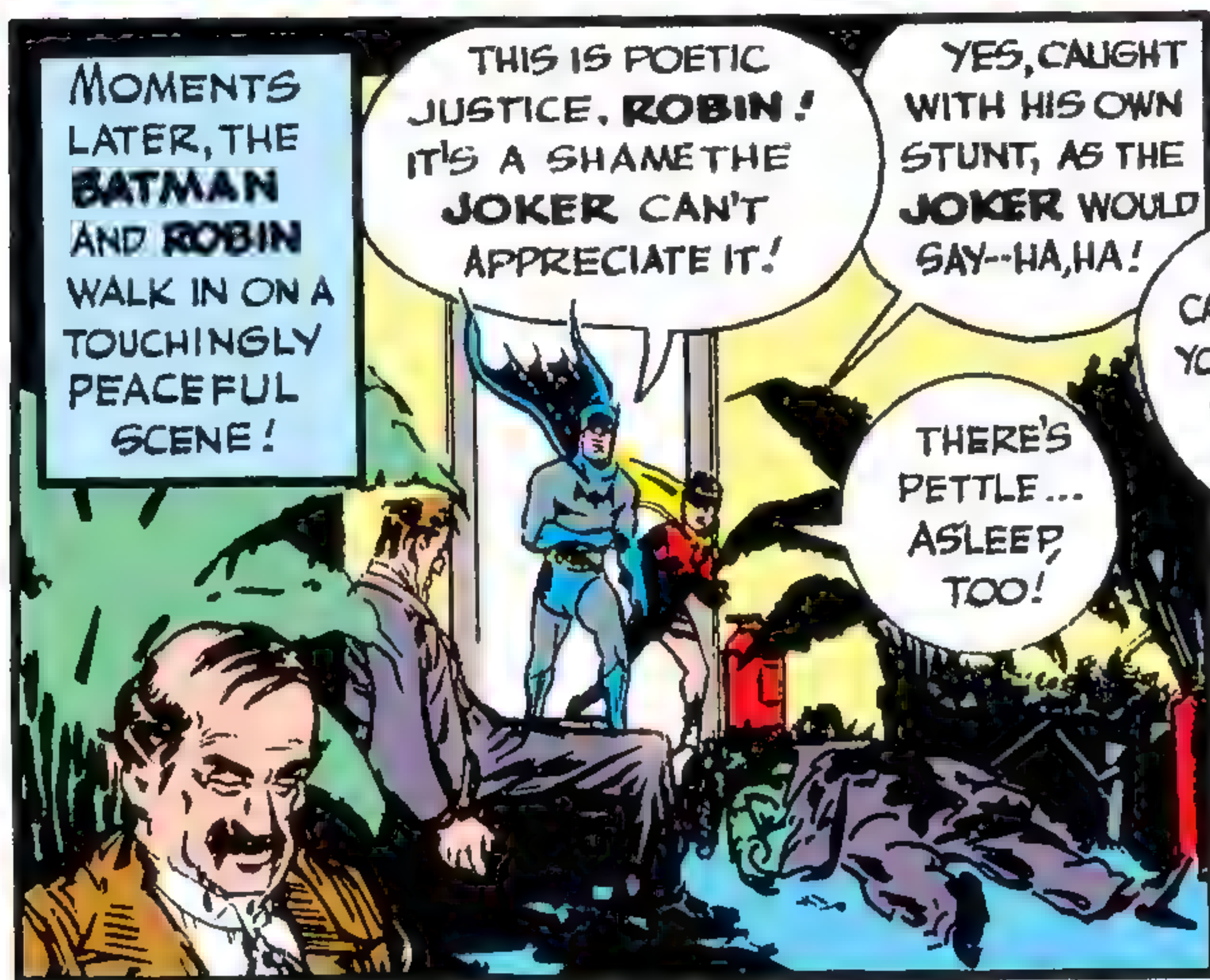
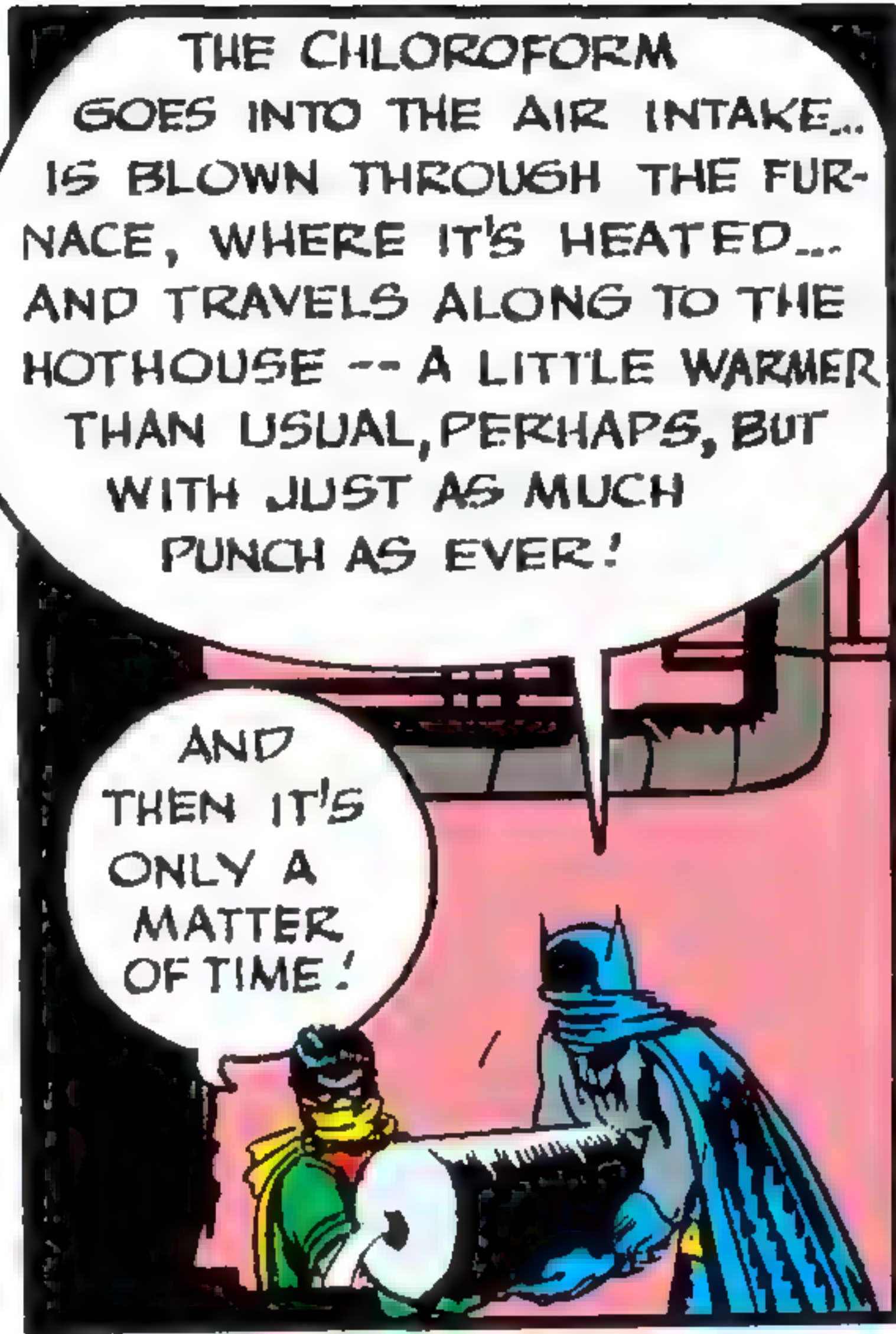
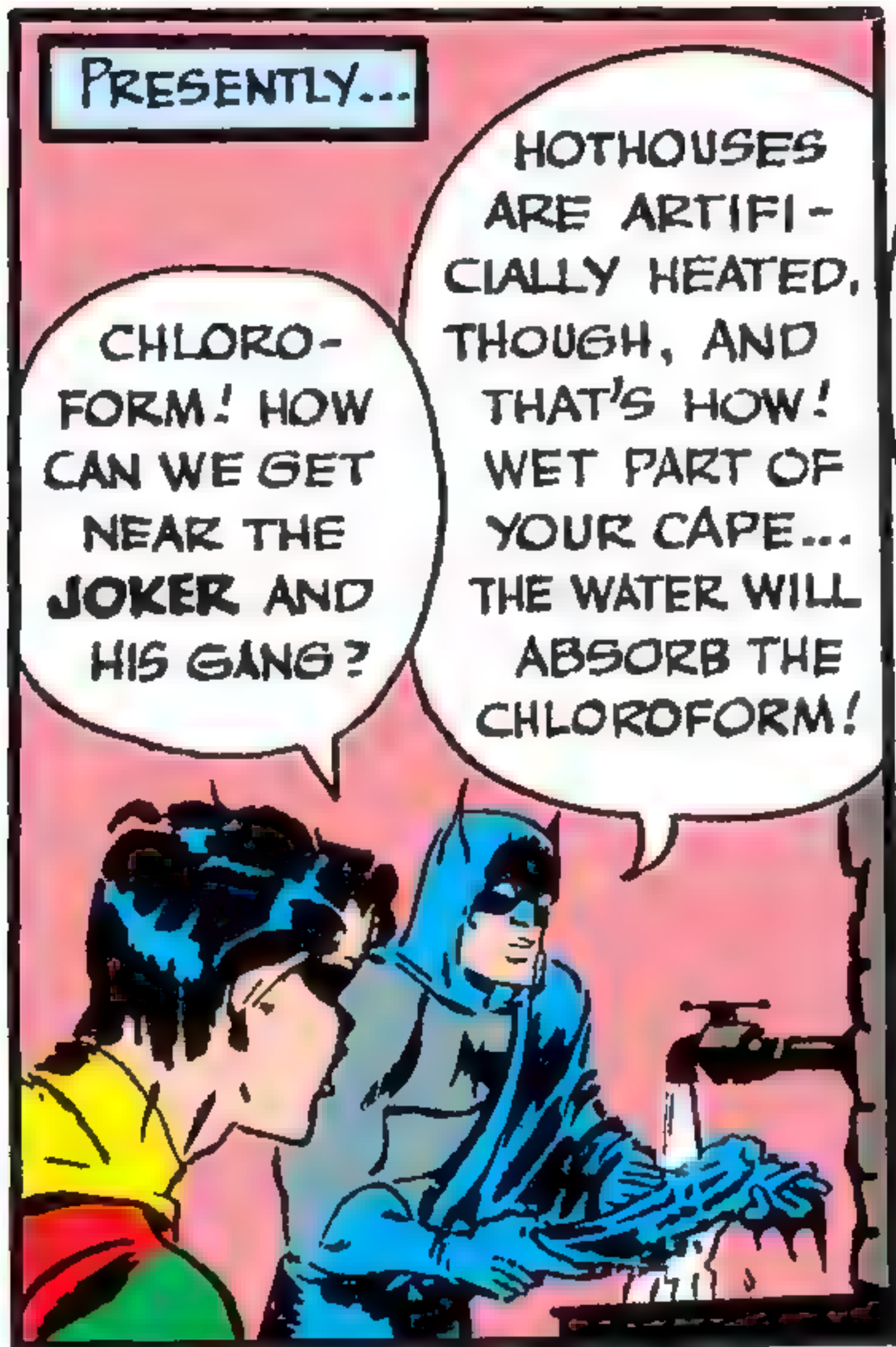
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!



BUT THIS IS ! HELP ME LUG ONE OF THESE BARRELS DOWN TO THE CELLAR!

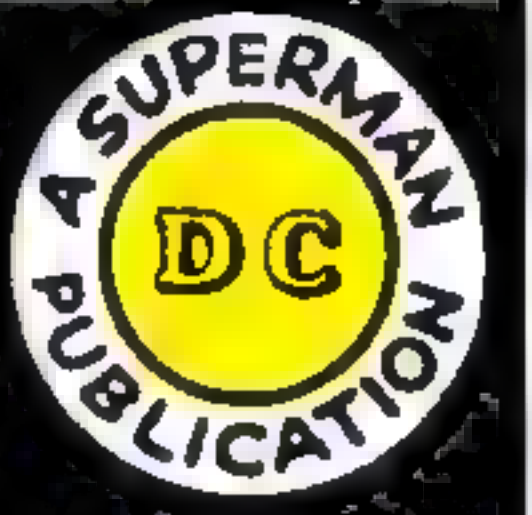
I DON'T GET IT, **BATMAN!**





BATMAN
No. 17

JUNE
JULY



BATMAN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

KEEP
THE AMERICAN
EAGLE FLYING!
BUY WAR BONDS
AND STAMPS!



BOB
KANE

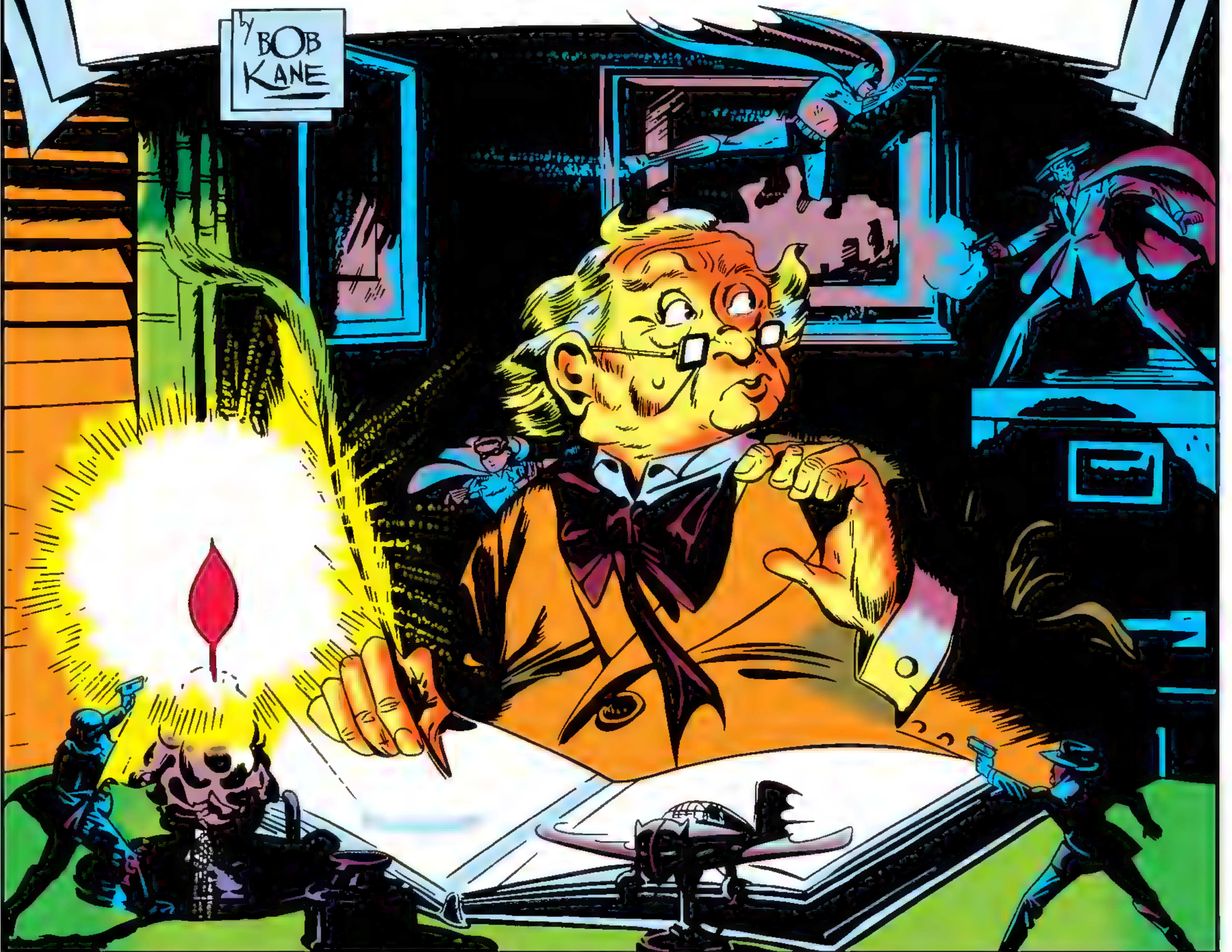
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

H HE WAS AN INSIGNIFICANT LITTLE MAN, IMPORTANT ONLY TO THE CHILDREN WHO LOVED HIS STIRRING TALES -- YET HE DREAMED OF GIVING THE WORLD A SHRINE AND A BOOK TO IMMORTALIZE THE SHINING IDEALS OF TWO HEROES HE HAD NEVER MET -- THE **BATMAN AND ROBIN!**... BUT WHEN CRIMINALS OF DIABOLICAL CLEVERNESS BEGAN TO PROFIT BY HIS UNSELFISH LABORS, HE THOUGHT HIS LIFE A TRAGIC FAILURE -- UNTIL THE MIGHTY CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE THEMSELVES FLASHED INTO DAZZLING ACTION TO SHATTER THE CUNNING CONJURER'S EVIL ILLUSIONS AND BRING SUPREME HAPPINESS TO -- "**THE BATMAN'S BIOGRAPHER!**"

by BOB
KANE



MANY MEN IN GOTHAM CITY ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN B. BOSWELL BROWNE, BUT NONE IS MORE POPULAR WITH THE CHILDREN OF HIS NEIGHBORHOOD...

PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT THEM, MR. BROWNE!

GEE, THEY'RE BRAVE LIKE THE KNIGHTS OF KING ARTHUR'S TIME, AREN'T THEY?

YOU BET THEY'RE BRAVE, BOBBY! I TELL YOU IT MAKES ME FEEL YOUNG AND ADVENTUROUS JUST TALKING ABOUT THEM!

ENTER BRUCE WAYNE WEALTHY YOUNG MAN-ABOUT-TOWN, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

THE KIDS SEEM FASCINATED BY THAT LITTLE OLD MAN! LET'S SEE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!

HE'S PROBABLY TELLING THEM FAIRY TALES!

... AND IT WOULD BE A FINER WORLD IF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN COULD LIVE FOREVER! BUT SINCE THEY CAN'T, THE NEXT BEST THING IS FOR EVERY BOY AND GIRL TO TRY TO BE AS HONEST AND KIND AS THEY!

BRUCE, DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

PARDON ME -- BUT WE COULDN'T HELP HEARING! YOU SEEM TO THINK A LOT OF ROBIN AND THE BATMAN!

INDEED I DO! I FLATTER MYSELF THAT I KNOW MORE ABOUT THEM THAN ANY OTHER PERSON, AND I AM WRITING A BOOK ABOUT THEM FOR THE INSPIRATION OF FUTURE GENERATIONS!

A BOOK? BOY, WOULD I LOVE TO READ IT!

I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE INTERESTED... HAVE YOU BY ANY CHANCE FOLLOWED THEIR AMAZING ADVENTURES?

WELL -- ER-- YOU MIGHT SAY WE'VE KEPT UP WITH THEM, MORE OR LESS!

YOU MUST COME TO MY ROOM AND SEE MY BATMAN SOUVENIRS! I'M DEVOTING MY LIFE TO COLLECTING THEM, AND I HOPE THEY WILL SOME DAY BE PRESERVED IN A PUBLIC SHRINE!

THIS IS VERY NICE OF YOU!

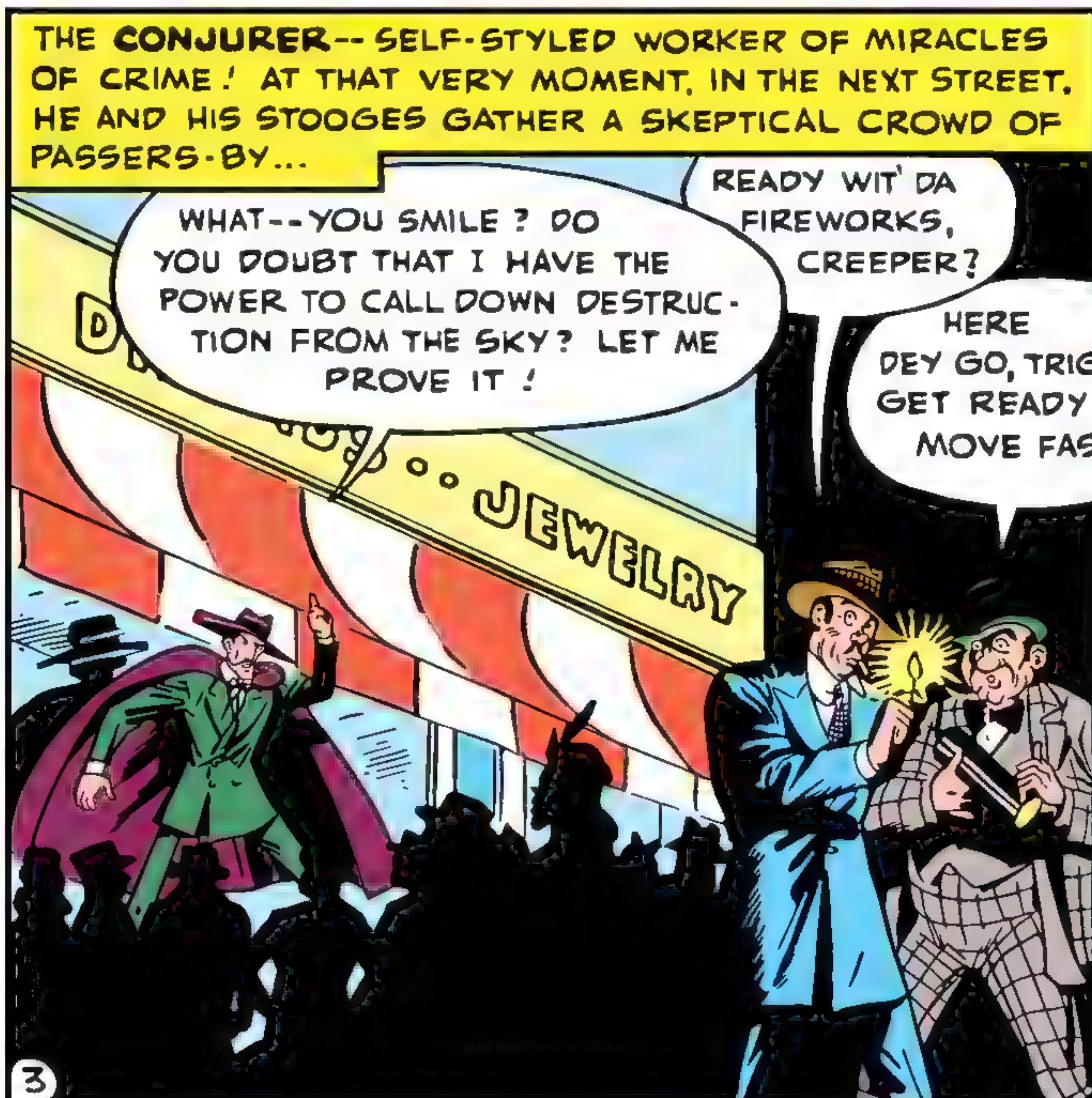
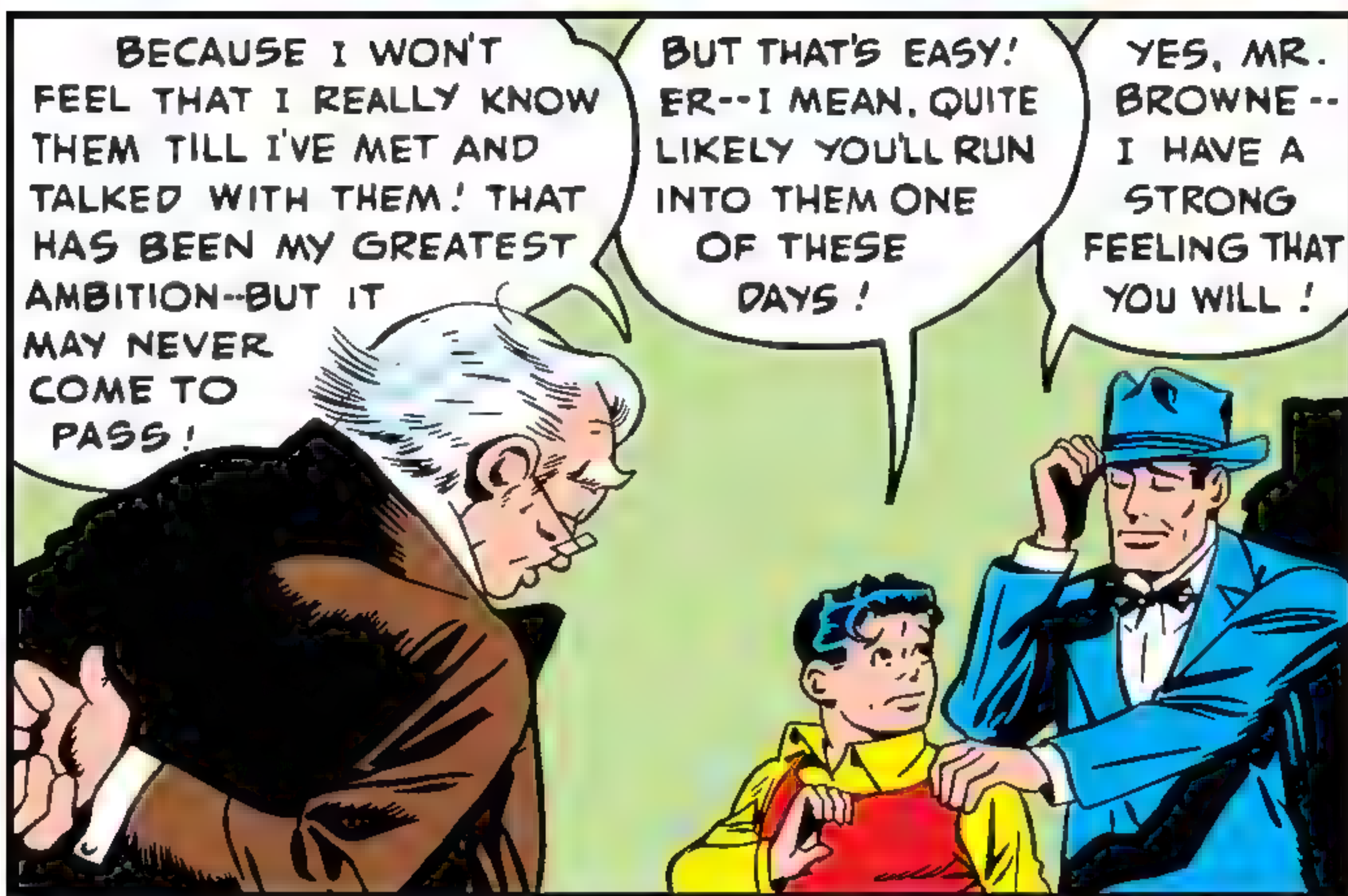
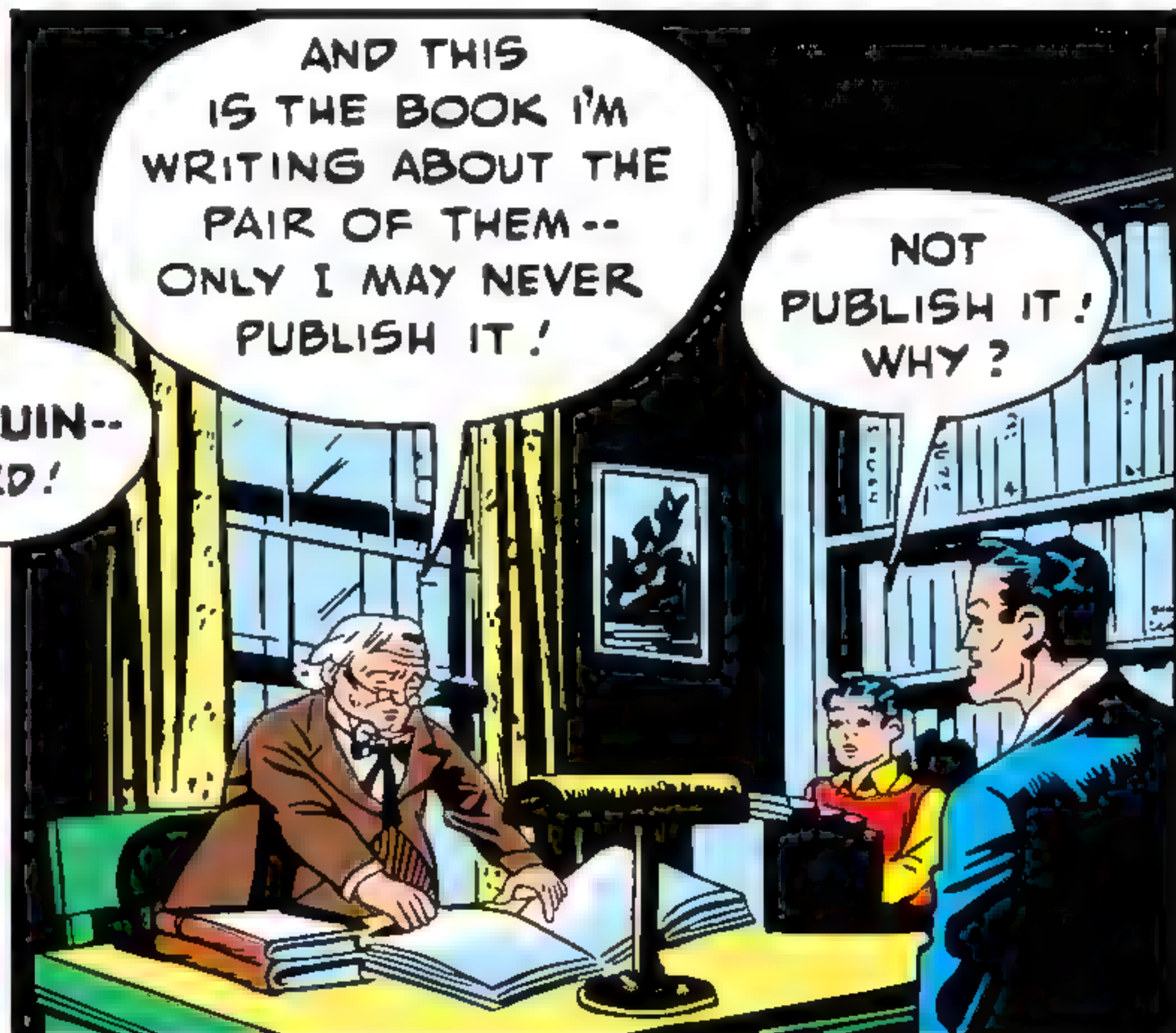
WHO DO THEY THINK THEY ARE, SPOILIN' OUR STORY?

THAT PAINTING COST MORE THAN I COULD REALLY AFFORD -- SO I MOVED TO THIS LITTLE ATTIC ROOM TO MAKE UP FOR IT!

AN EXCELLENT JOB, TOO... YOU'D THINK THE ARTIST PAINTED IT FROM LIFE!

THE BATMAN TORE THIS EMBLEM FROM HIS CHEST AND HELD IT OVER A LOCOMOTIVE HEADLIGHT TO PREVENT A TRAIN WRECK! YOU MAY HAVE READ OF IT IN THE NEWS-PAPERS!

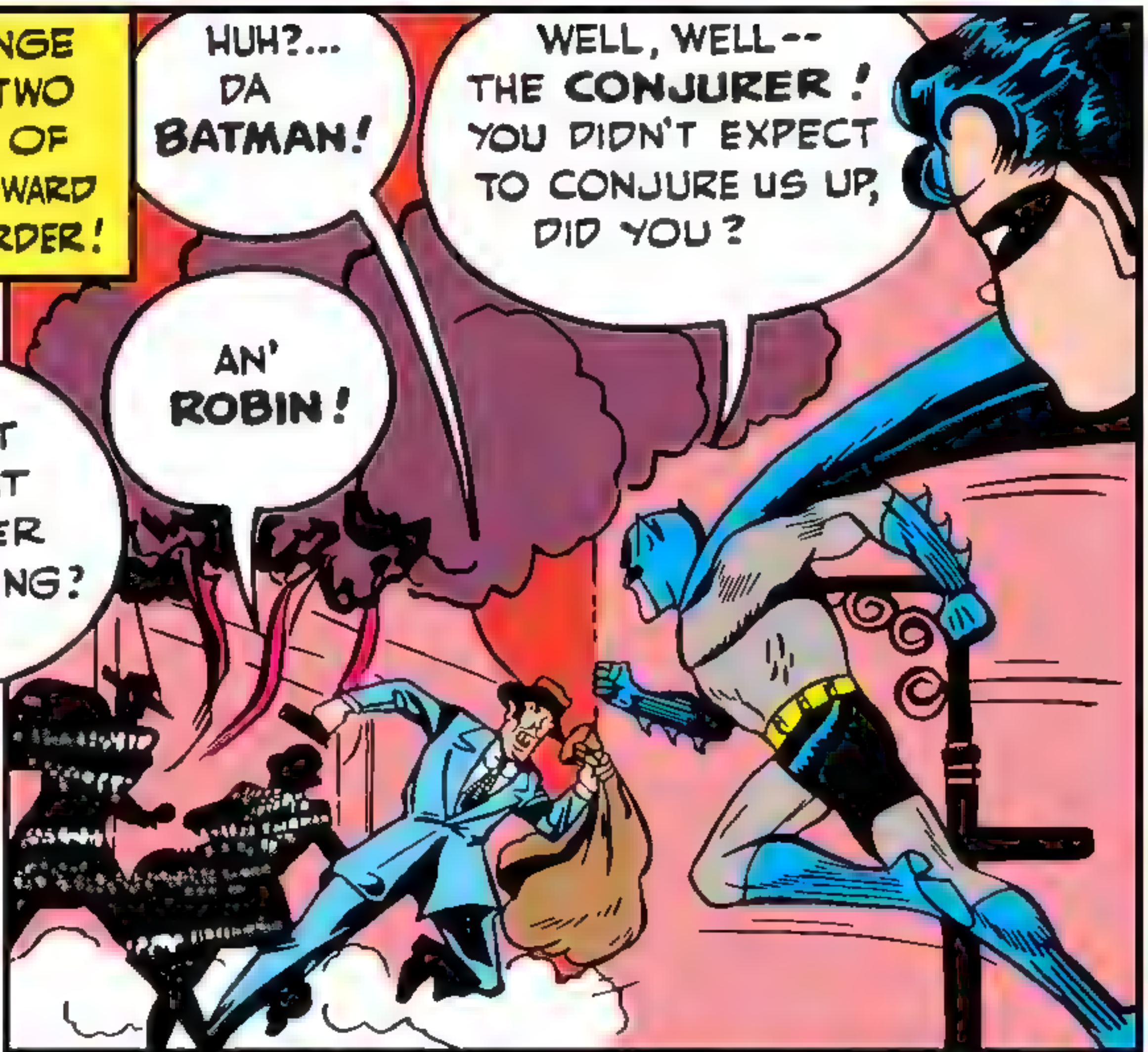
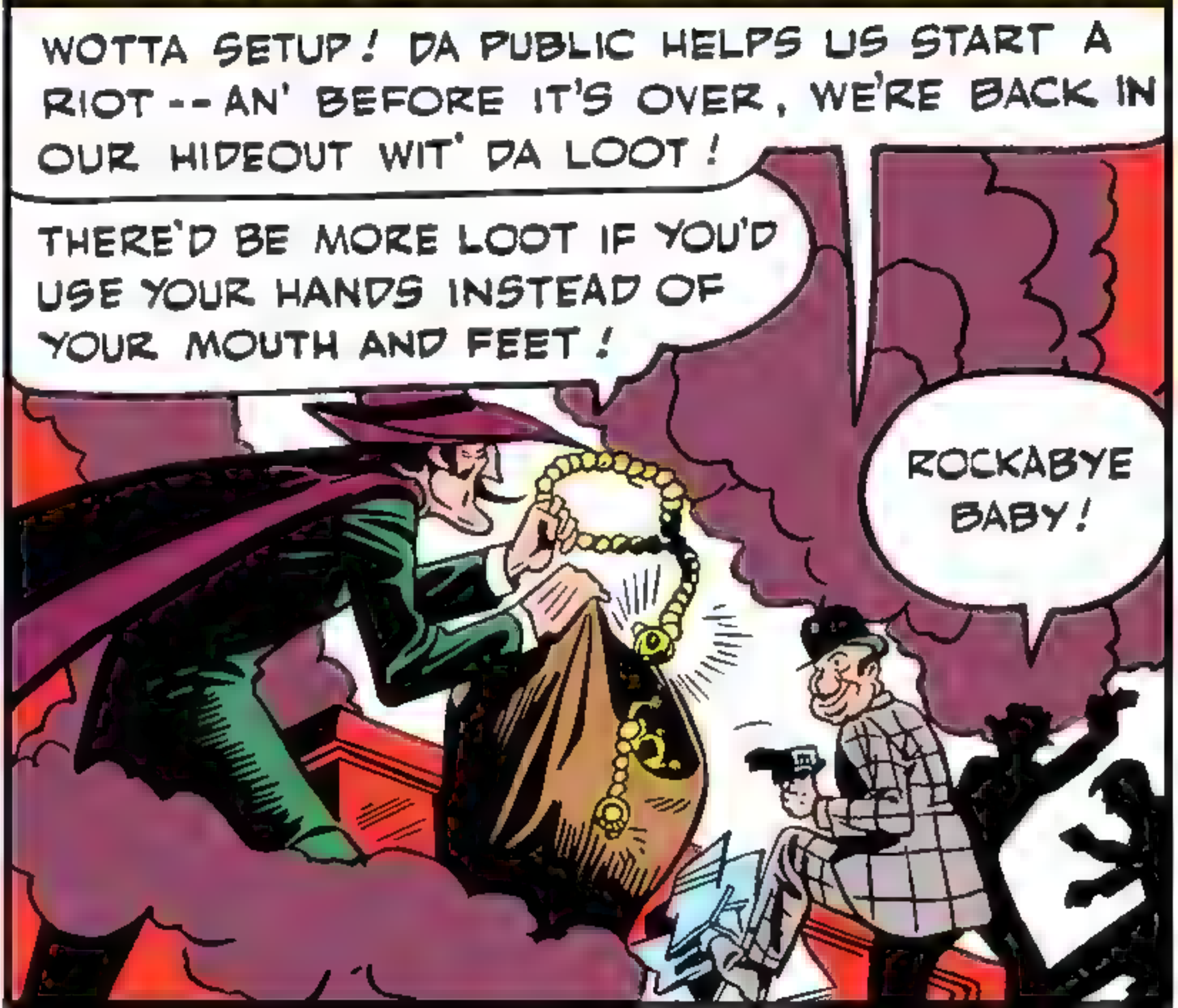
I SEEM TO RECALL IT. SOMEHOW!



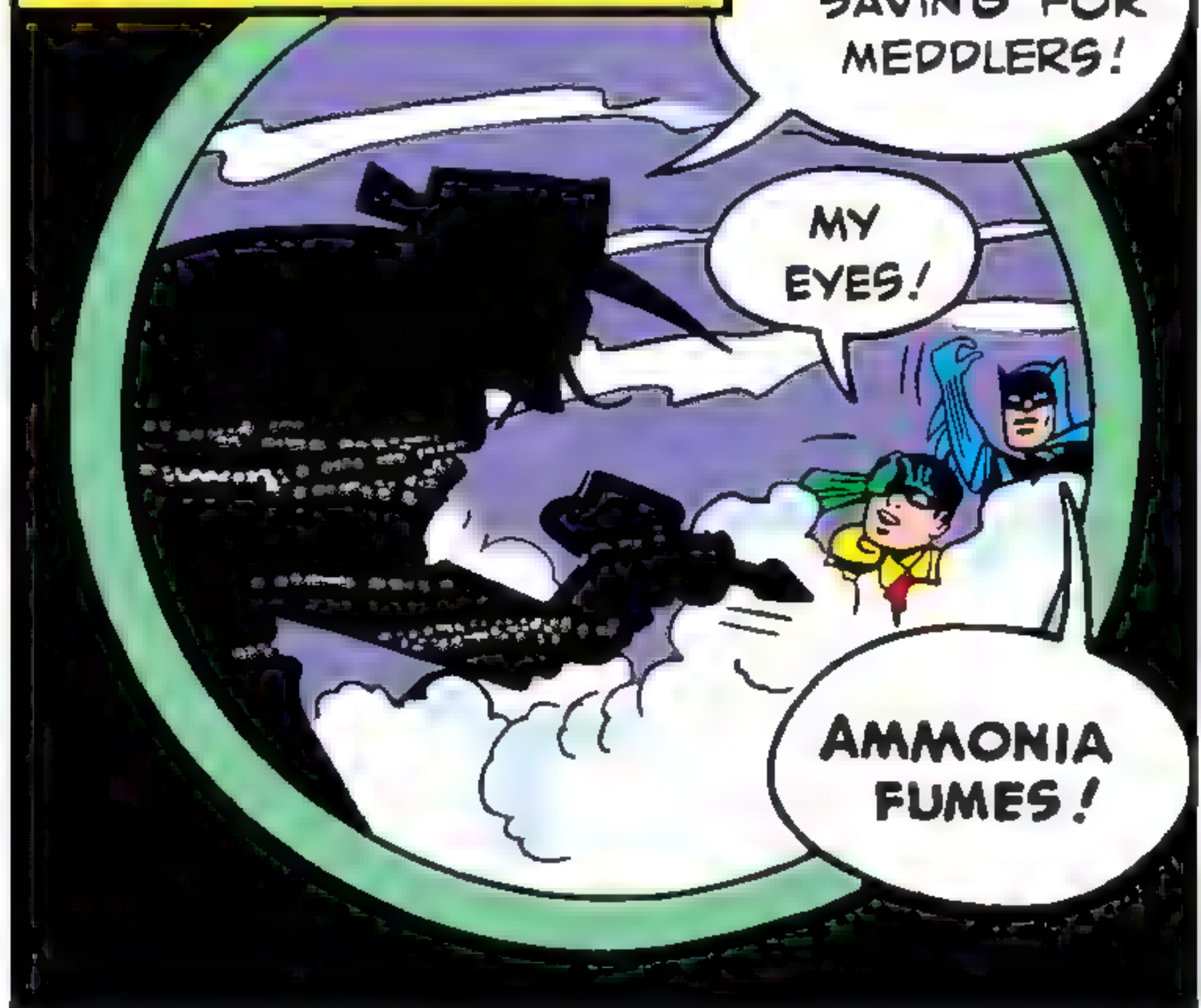
TERRIFIED MEN AND WOMEN TURN THE JEWELRY SHOP INTO A SCENE OF MAD PANDEMONIUM...



AND AS INKY SMOKE FILLS THE INTERIOR, NIMBLE HANDS STRIKE AND SMASH AND ROB!



BUT THE CONJURER PACKS A WALLOP ALSO-- IN THE FORM OF A FINE WHITE MIST !



HERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN SAVING FOR MEDDLERS!

MY EYES!

AMMONIA FUMES!

UNDER COVER OF THE AMMONIA BARRAGE, THE CRIMINALS BEAT A HASTY RETREAT -- WITHOUT THEIR LOOT !



FORGET THE LOOT! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE COPS COME !

WHERE (COUGH) ARE YOU, ROBIN ?

I'M NOT (COUGH) SURE !

AT HOME IN HIS UNDERWORLD LAIR, THE CONJURER IS A FREE MAN BUT AN UNHAPPY ONE...



HALF A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF GEMS LEFT BEHIND! WE CAN'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN! WE'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY OF OUTSMARTING THE BATMAN !

LISTEN, BOSS-- I GOT A IDEA OF SOMEBODY WHO CAN MAYBE HELP YA !

I'M IN DA PARK, SWIPIN' A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS FER ME GOIL, SEE ? AN' HERE'S DISOLD GEEZER TELLIN' STORIES ABOUT DA BATMAN TO A GANG O' BRATS ! HE CLAIMS HE KNOWS ALL ABOUT DATGUY-- ALL HIS TRICKS AN' EVERYTHIN' !



CREEPER, YOU'RE NOT AS BIG A SAP AS YOU LOOK !

SO IT IS THAT B. BOSWELL BROWNE RECEIVES AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR THAT EVENING..

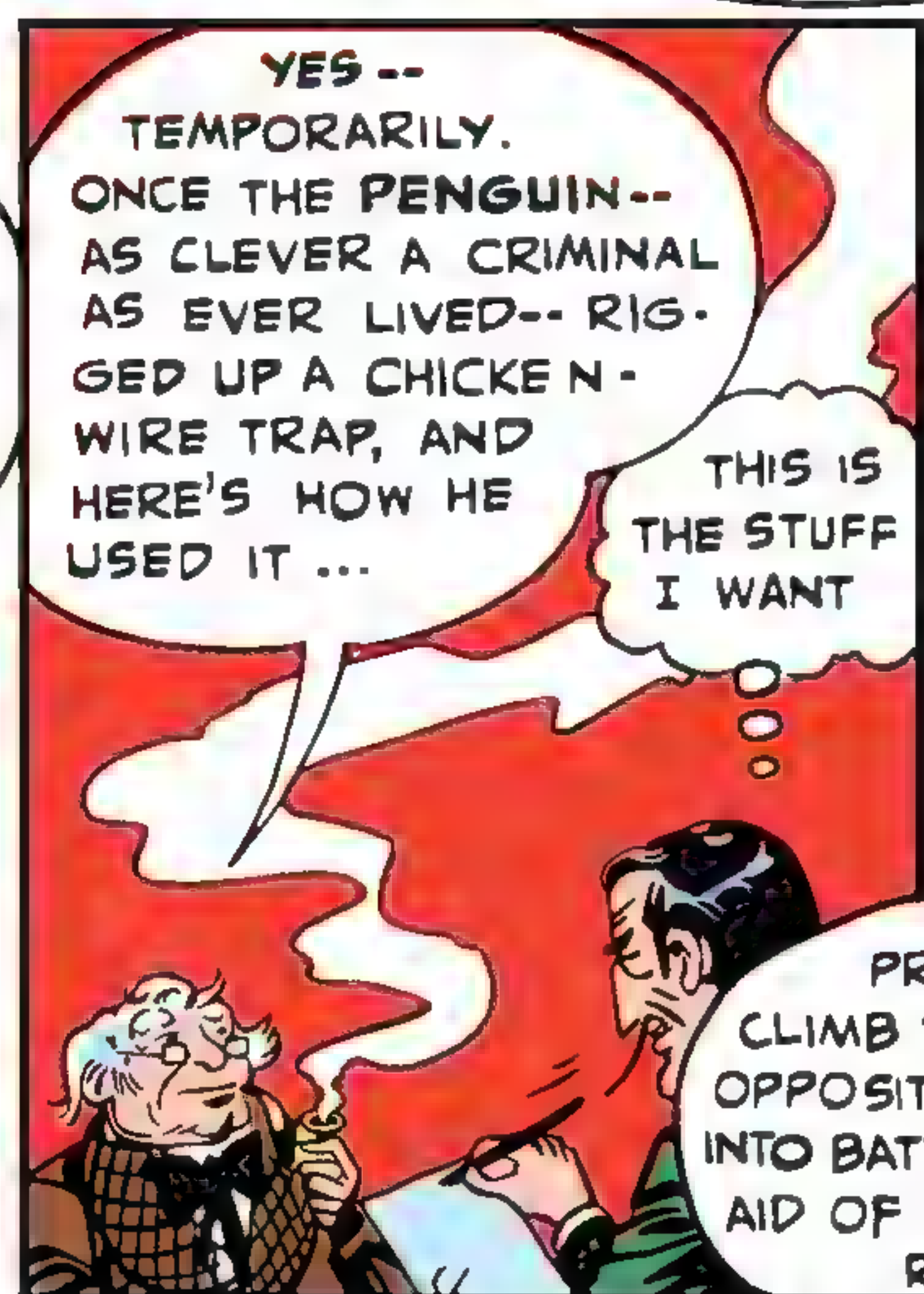


GOOD EVENING, MR BROWNE! MYNAME IS --ER-- SMITH, A REPORTER FROM THE "EVENING NEWS"!! I'D LIKE TO INTERVIEW YOU ABOUT THE BATMAN!



... AND SO YOU SEE, AFTER ALL MY YEARS OF STUDY, I FEEL THAT I UNDERSTAND THE BATMAN BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE DOES !

VERY INTERESTING! BUT THERE MUST HAVE BEEN TIMES WHEN CLEVER CROOKS OUTWITTED HIM...



YES -- TEMPORARILY. ONCE THE PENGUIN-- AS CLEVER A CRIMINAL AS EVER LIVED-- RIGGED UP A CHICKEN-WIRE TRAP, AND HERE'S HOW HE USED IT ...

THIS IS THE STUFF I WANT



VERY INTERESTING ! CAN YOU FORETELL WHAT HE WOULD DO IN A GIVEN SITUATION? LET US SUPPOSE A GANG OF THIEVES WAS ROBBING A BROKERAGE OFFICE ON AN UPPER FLOOR OF A TALL BUILDING...

PROBABLY CLIMB THE BUILDING OPPOSITE AND SWING INTO BATTLE WITH THE AID OF HIS SILKEN ROPE!

LATER, A SINISTER EVENT OCCURS IN THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT...



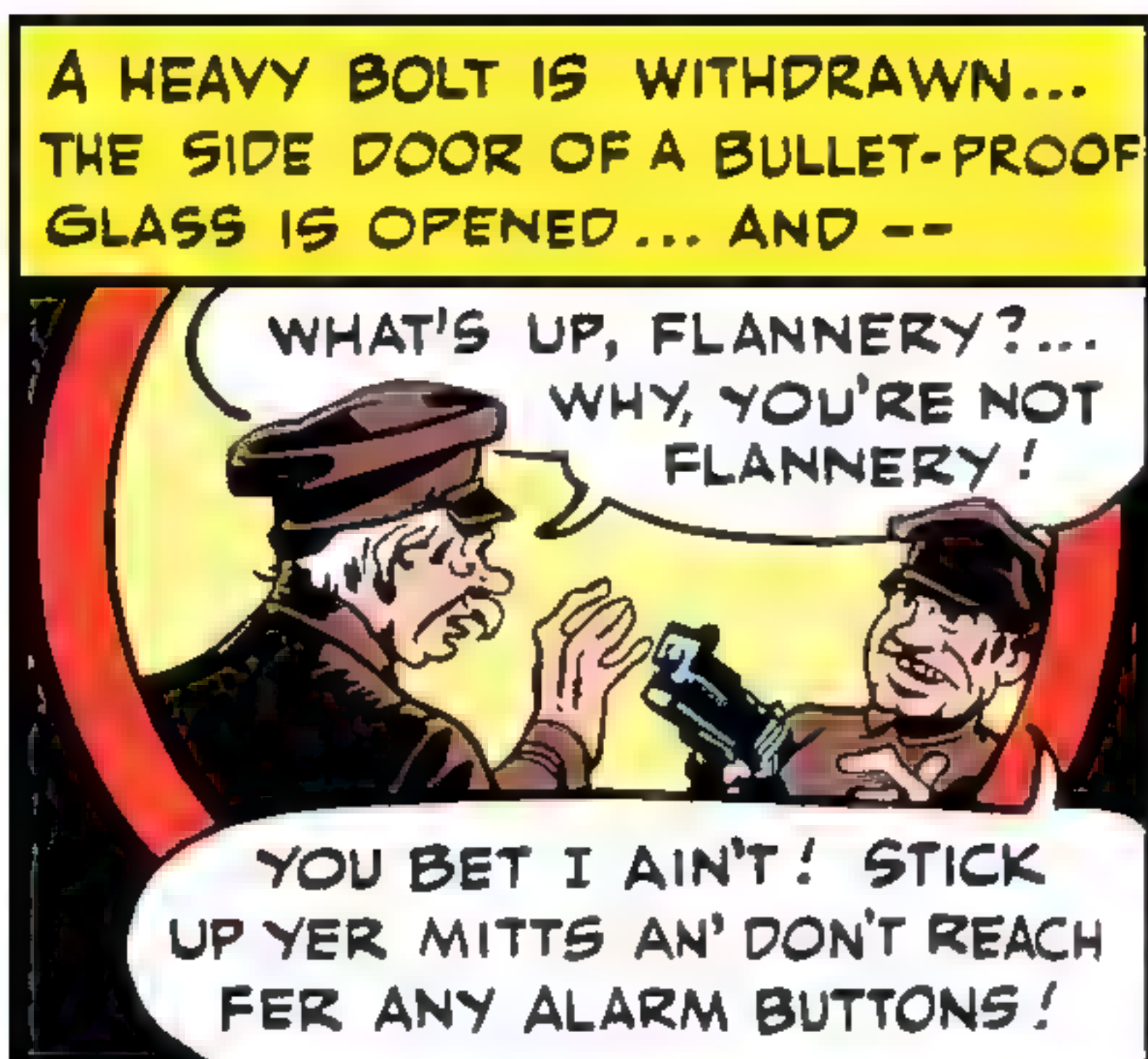
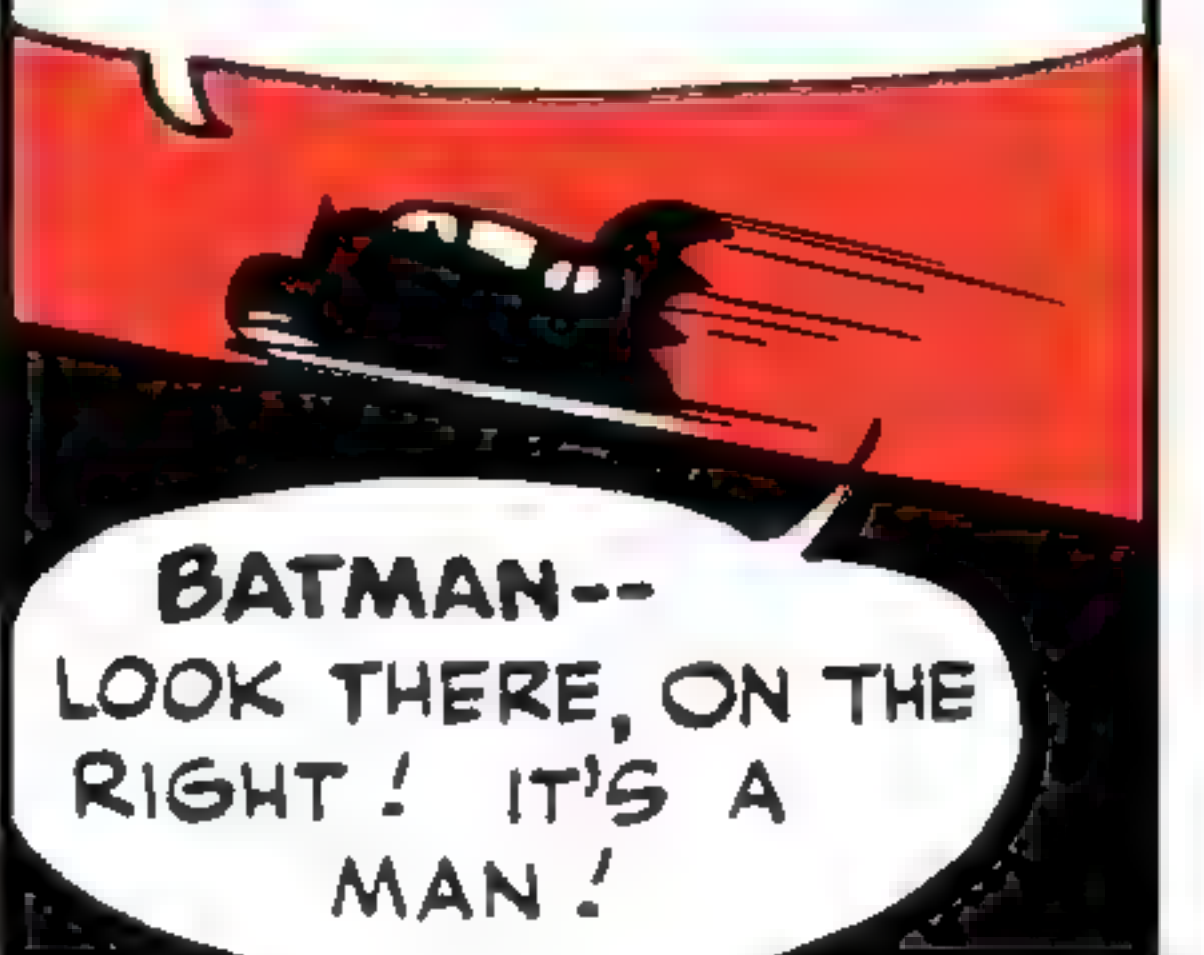
...LEADING UP TO ANOTHER ILLUSION OUT OF THE CONJURER'S BAG OF TRICKS -- LESS DRAMATIC BUT QUITE EFFECTIVE...

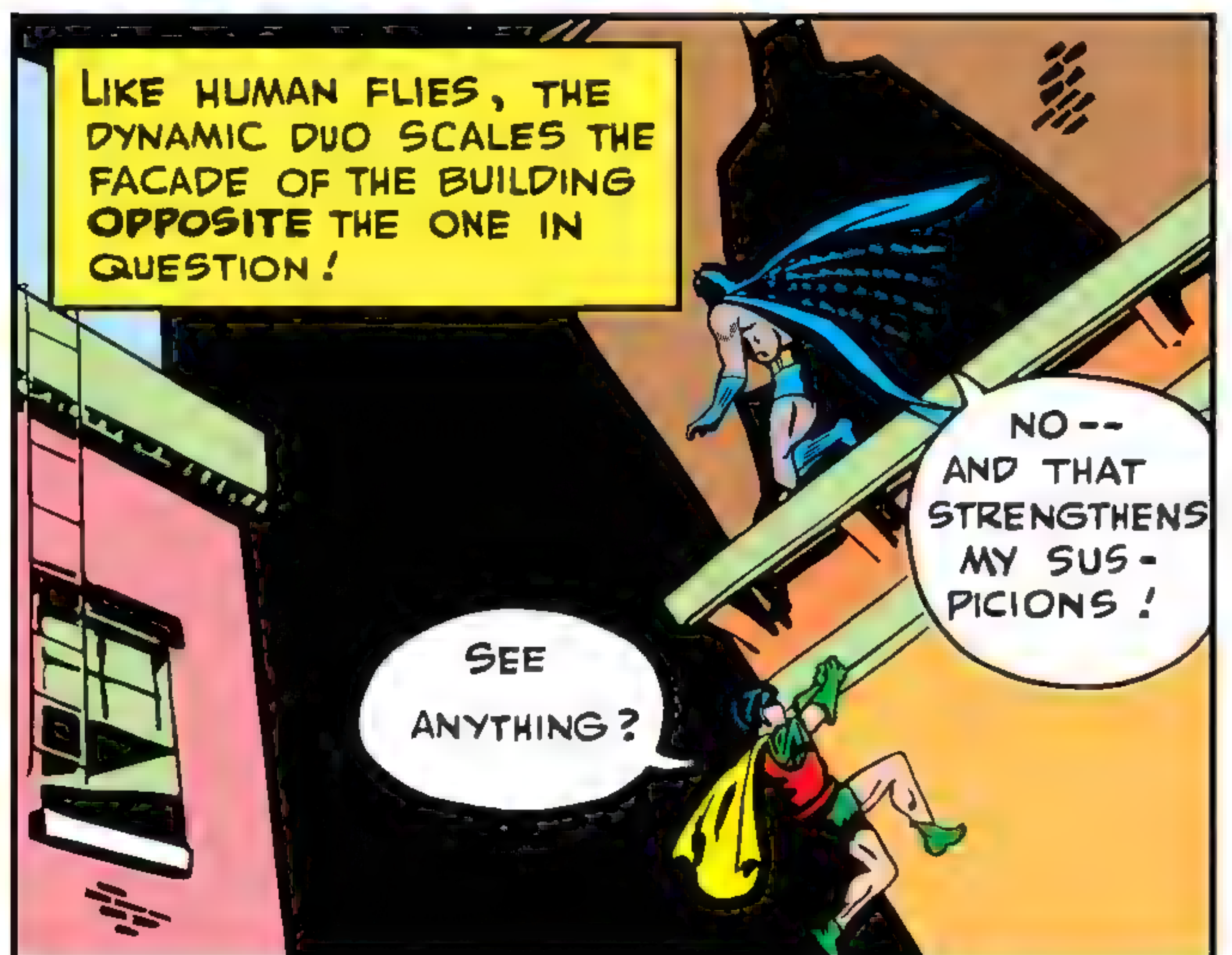
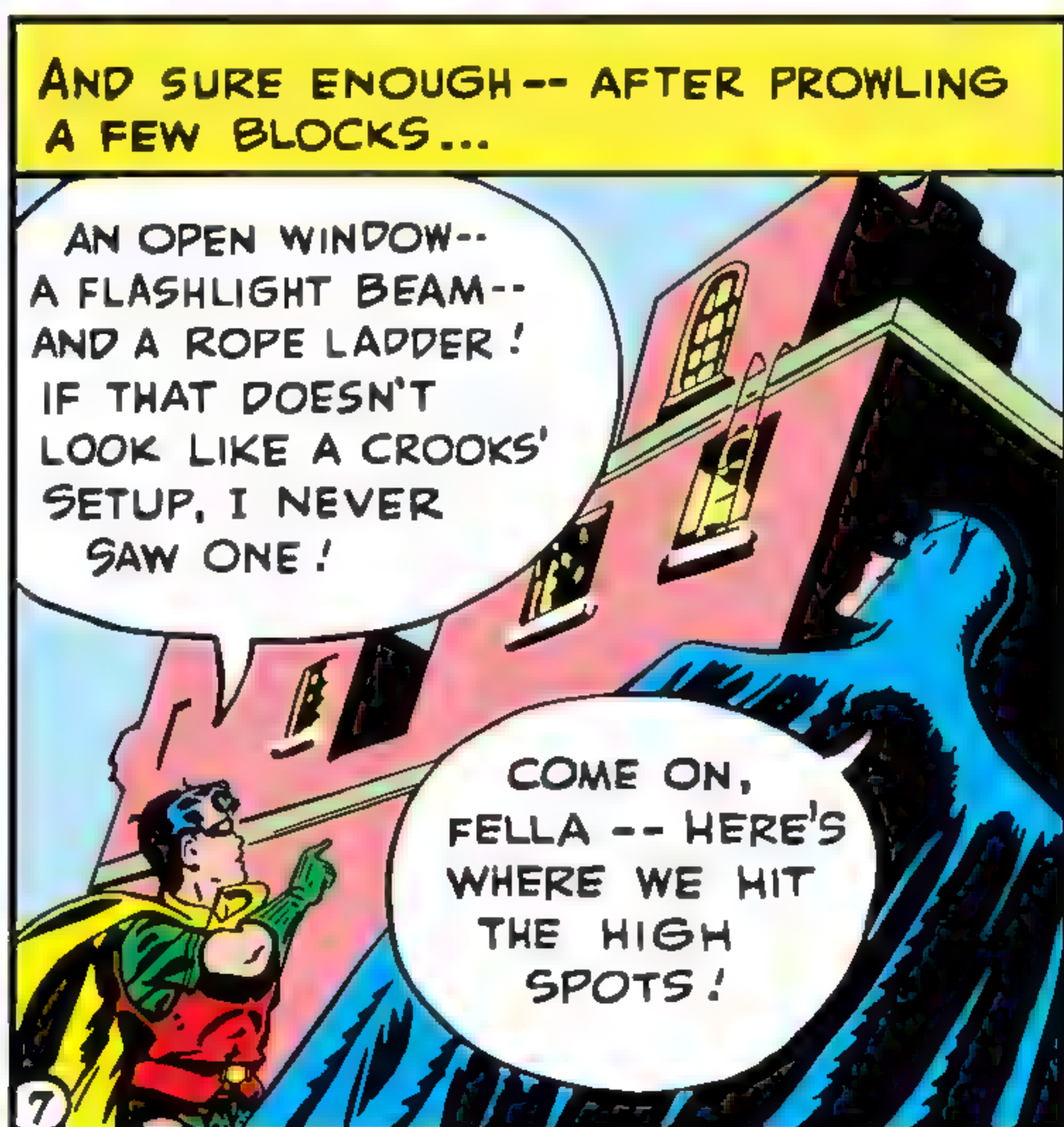
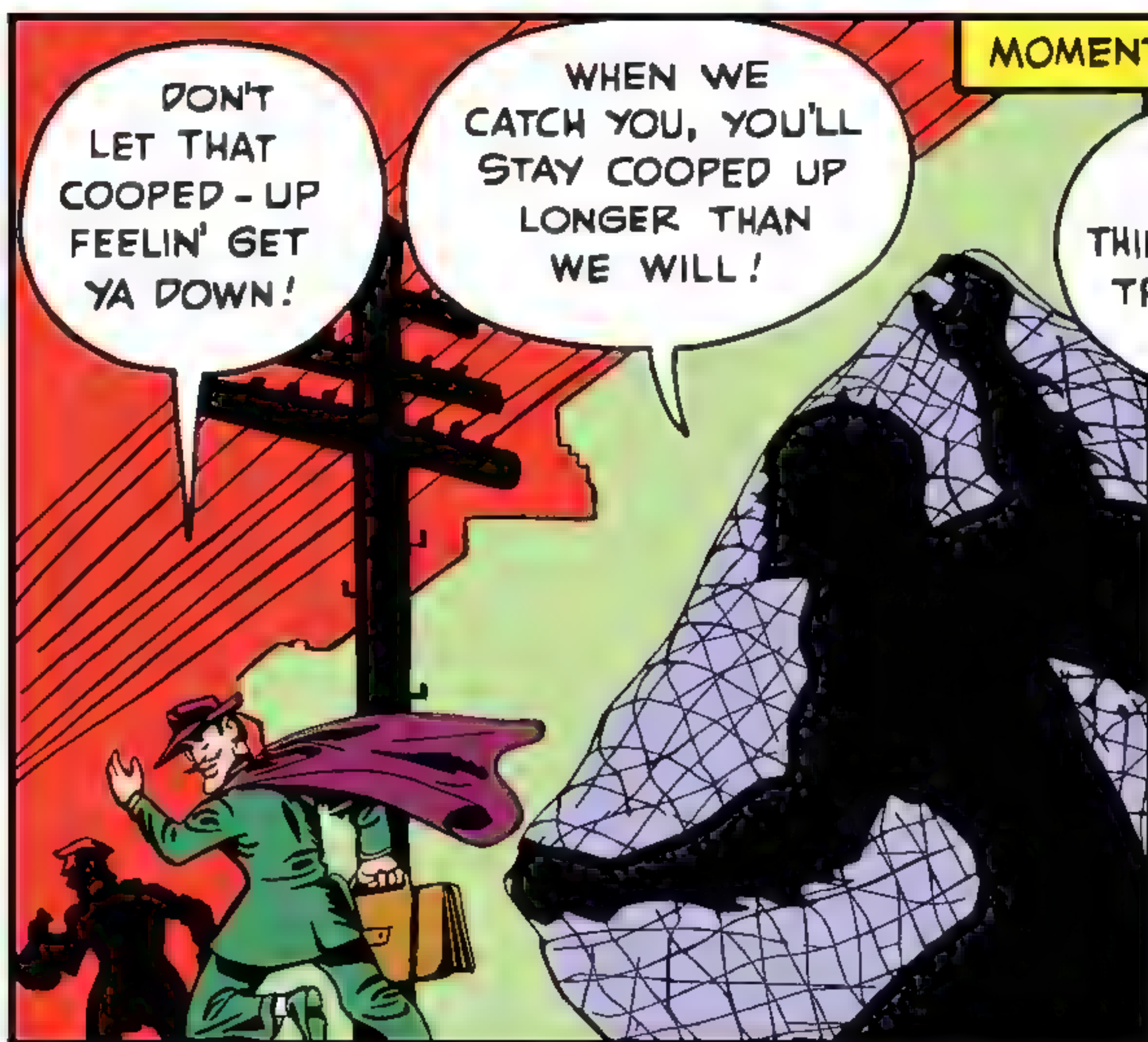


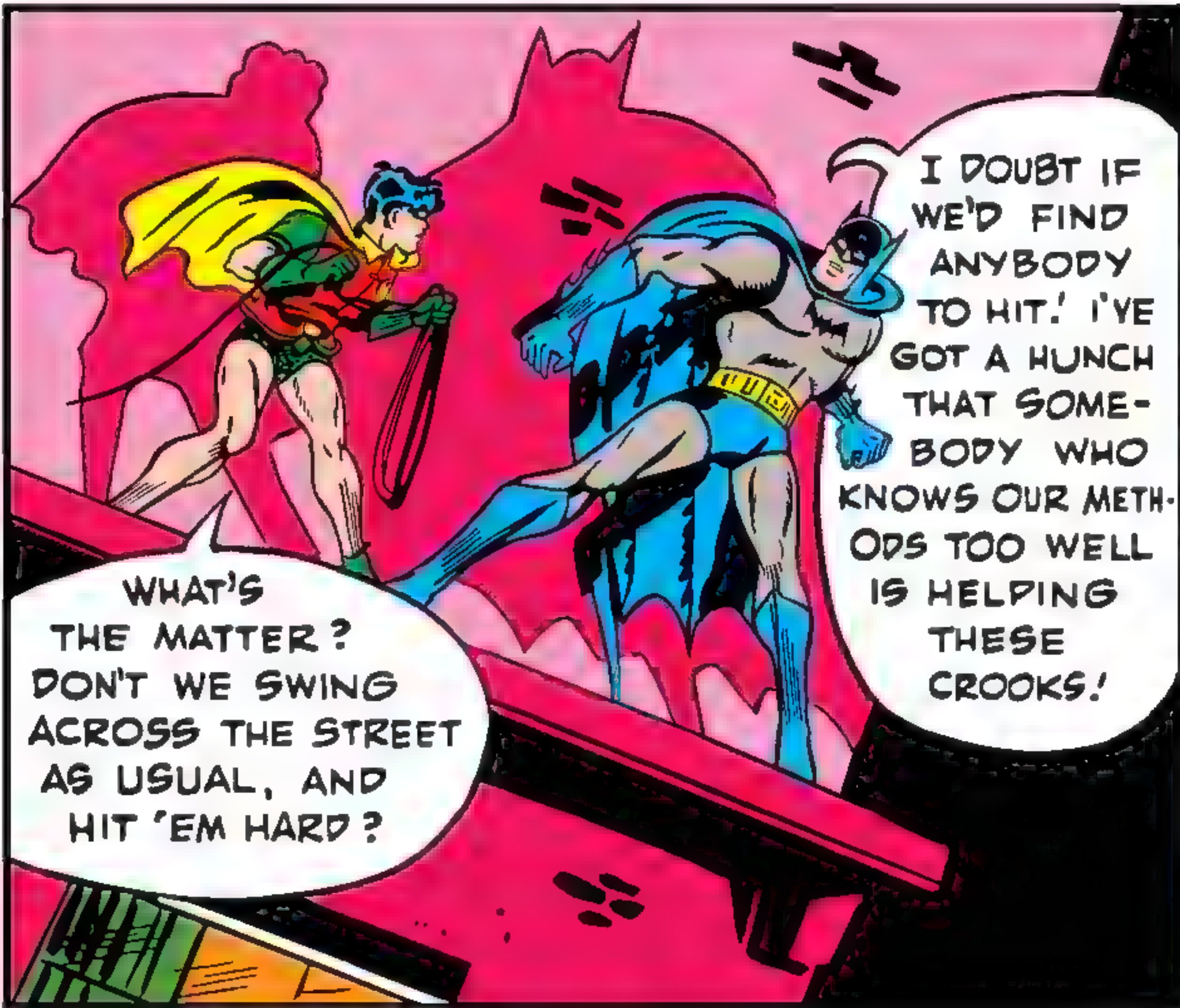
HAW, HAW! GREAT SENSE O' HUMOR YA GOT, BOSS!

NOT FAR FROM THIS UNHAPPY SCENE, A SLEEK, RAKISH VEHICLE GLIDES THROUGH SHADOWED STREETS--THE BATMOBILE!

YOU SEE, ROBIN, IT'S MY THEORY THAT THE CONJURER WILL BE SO MAD ABOUT LOSING THAT LOOT, HE'LL TRY TO PULL A BIG JOB TONIGHT!







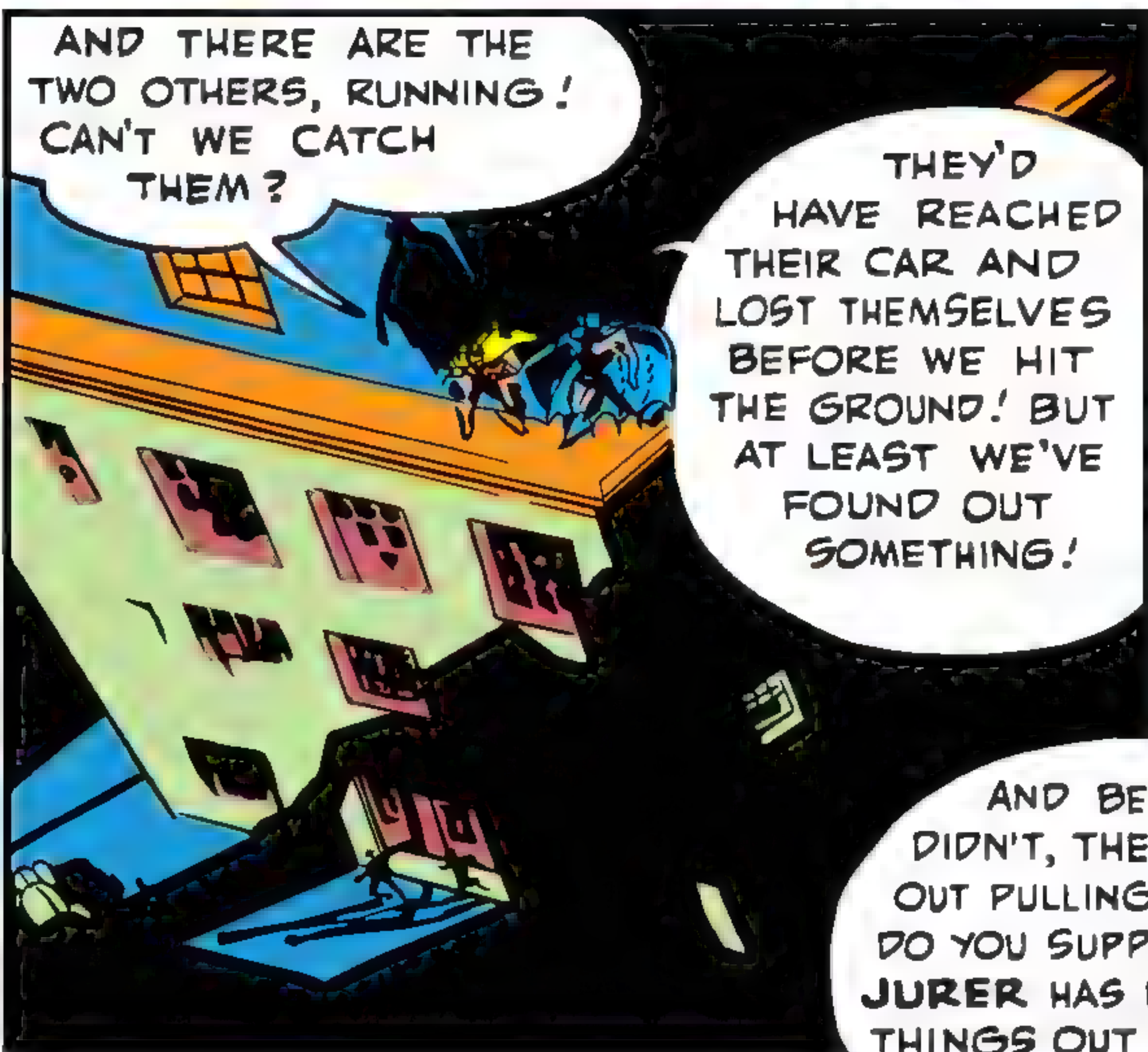
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T WE SWING ACROSS THE STREET AS USUAL, AND HIT 'EM HARD?

I DOUBT IF WE'D FIND ANYBODY TO HIT! I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT SOMEBODY WHO KNOWS OUR METHODS TOO WELL IS HELPING THESE CROOKS!



-- SO WE'RE GOING TO INVESTIGATE THIS BUILDING FIRST!... WHA--! A WHISTLE!

IT'S A SIGNAL! I CAN SEE A MAN STANDING IN THE SHADOW OF A DOORWAY, AND HE LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THE CONJURER'S PLAY-MATES!



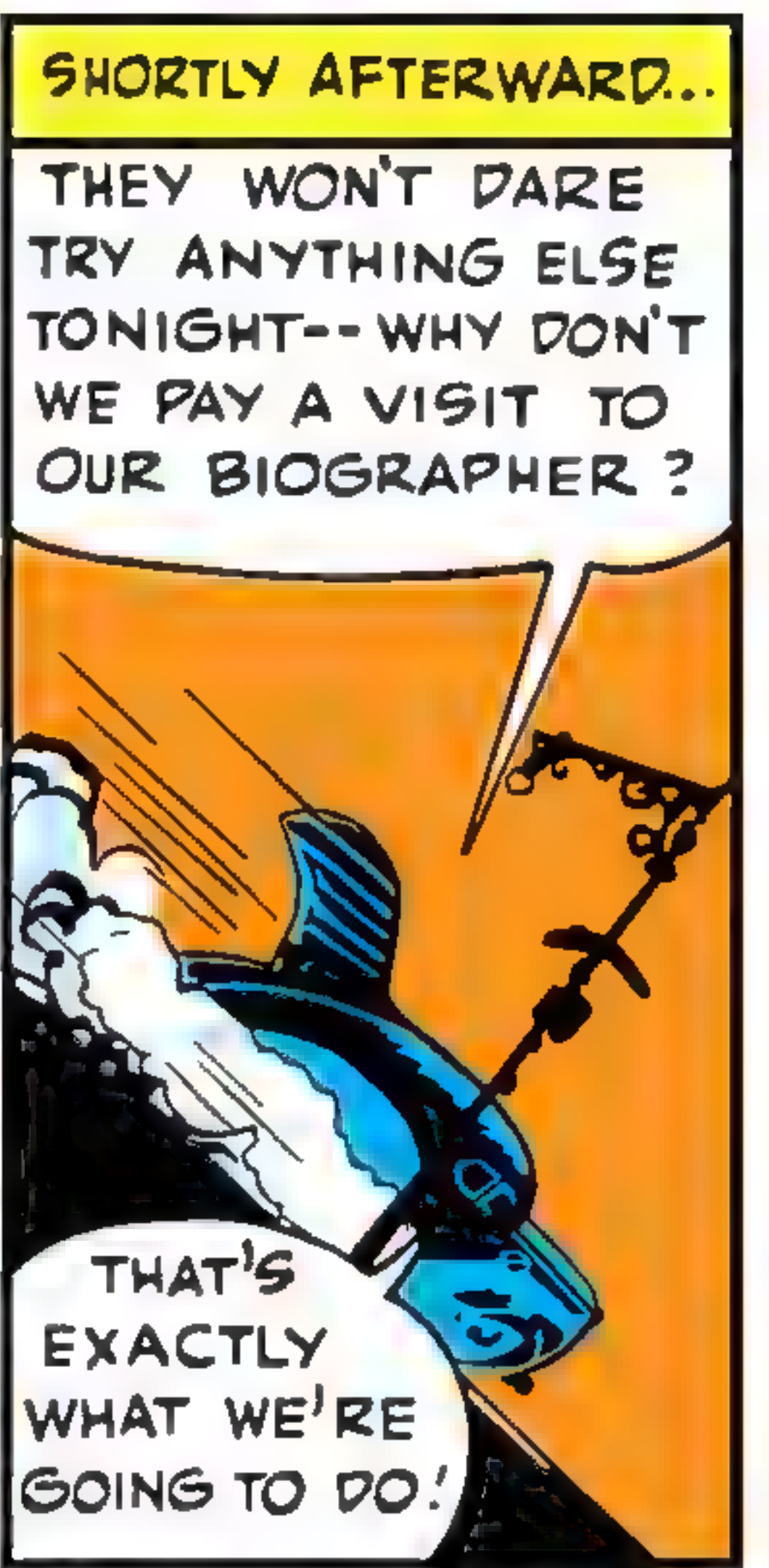
AND THERE ARE THE TWO OTHERS, RUNNING! CAN'T WE CATCH THEM?

THEY'D HAVE REACHED THEIR CAR AND LOST THEMSELVES BEFORE WE HIT THE GROUND! BUT AT LEAST WE'VE FOUND OUT SOMETHING!



IF WE'D SWUNG ACROSS THE STREET, WHERE THEY HAD THOSE PROPS RIGGED UP, THEY'D HAVE RAIDED SOME BROKERAGE OFFICE IN THIS BUILDING AND GOT AWAY BEFORE WE CAUGHT ON! BUT WE DIDN'T FALL FOR IT!

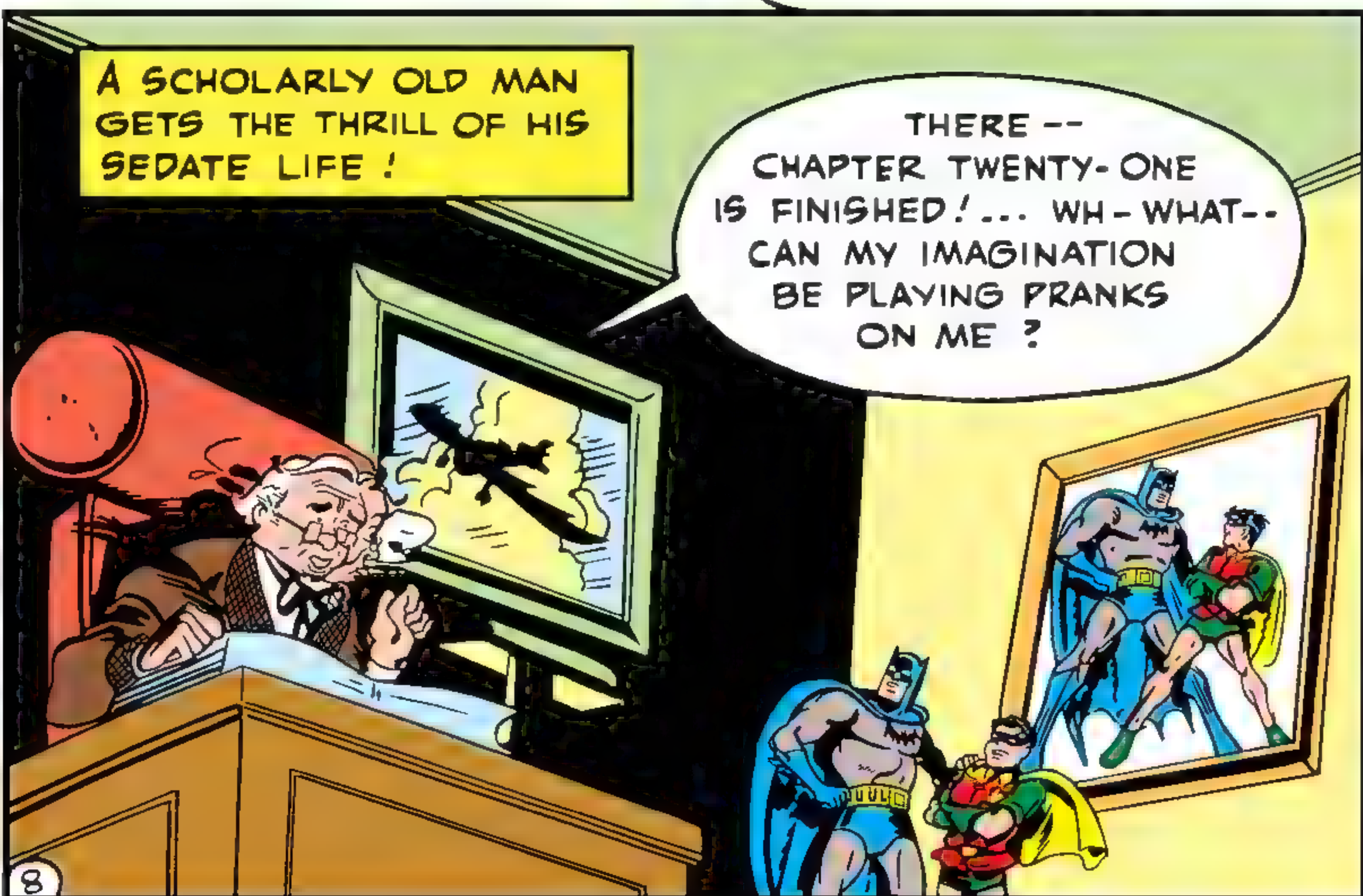
AND BECAUSE WE DIDN'T, THEY BEAT IT WITHOUT PULLING THE JOB! GEE-- DO YOU SUPPOSE THE CONJURER HAS BEEN FIGURING THESE THINGS OUT ALL BY HIMSELF?



SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

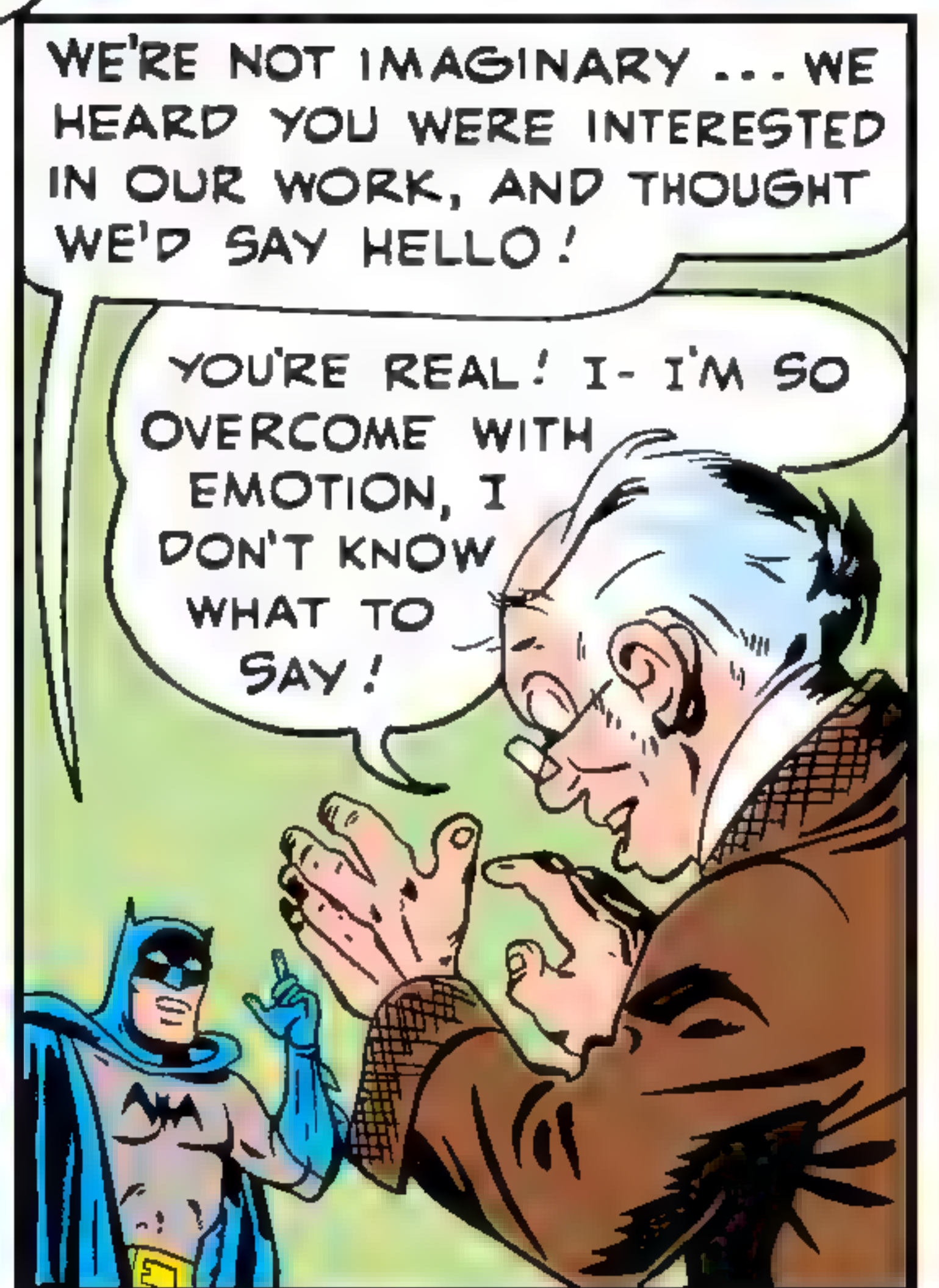
THEY WON'T DARE TRY ANYTHING ELSE TONIGHT-- WHY DON'T WE PAY A VISIT TO OUR BIOGRAPHER?

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO!



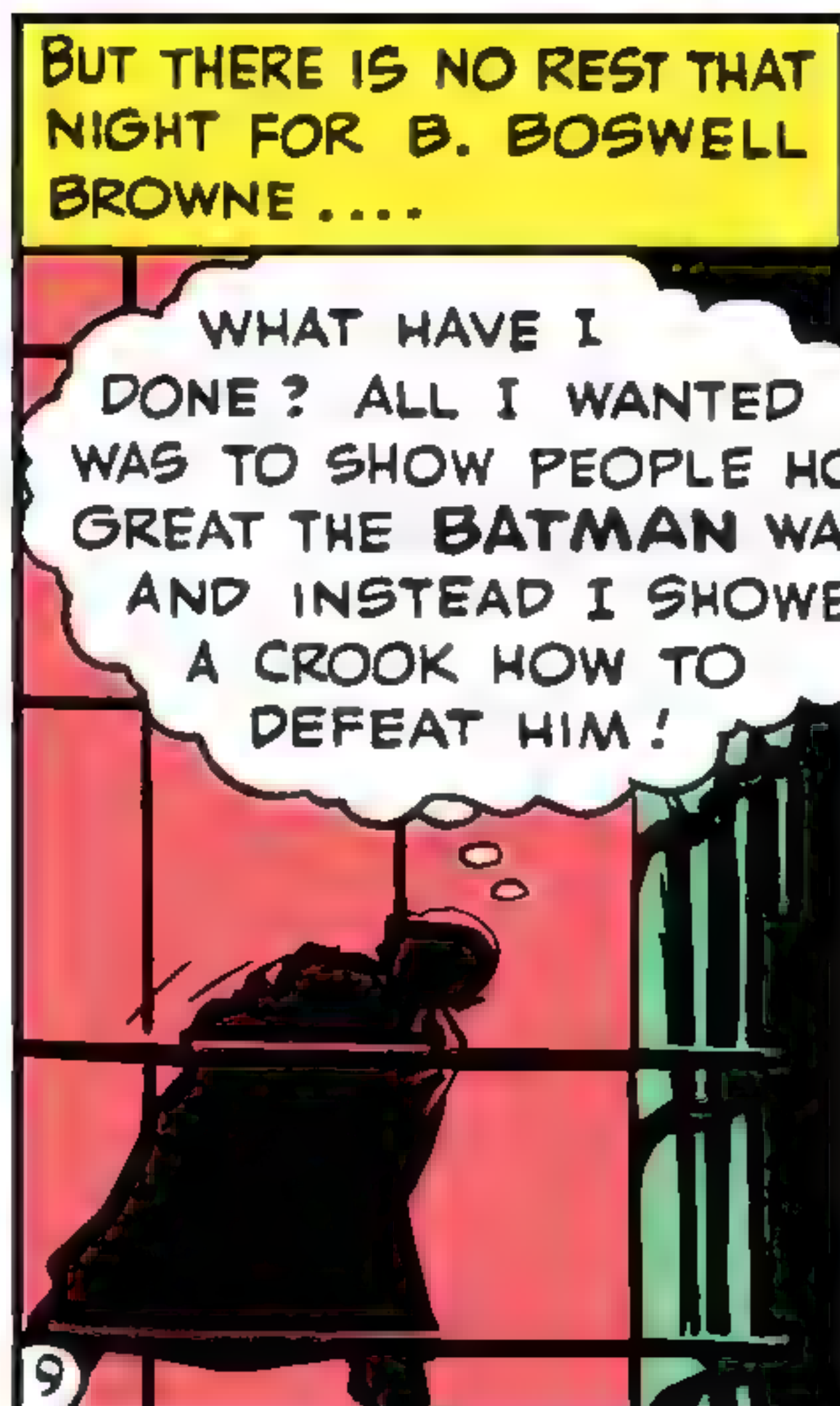
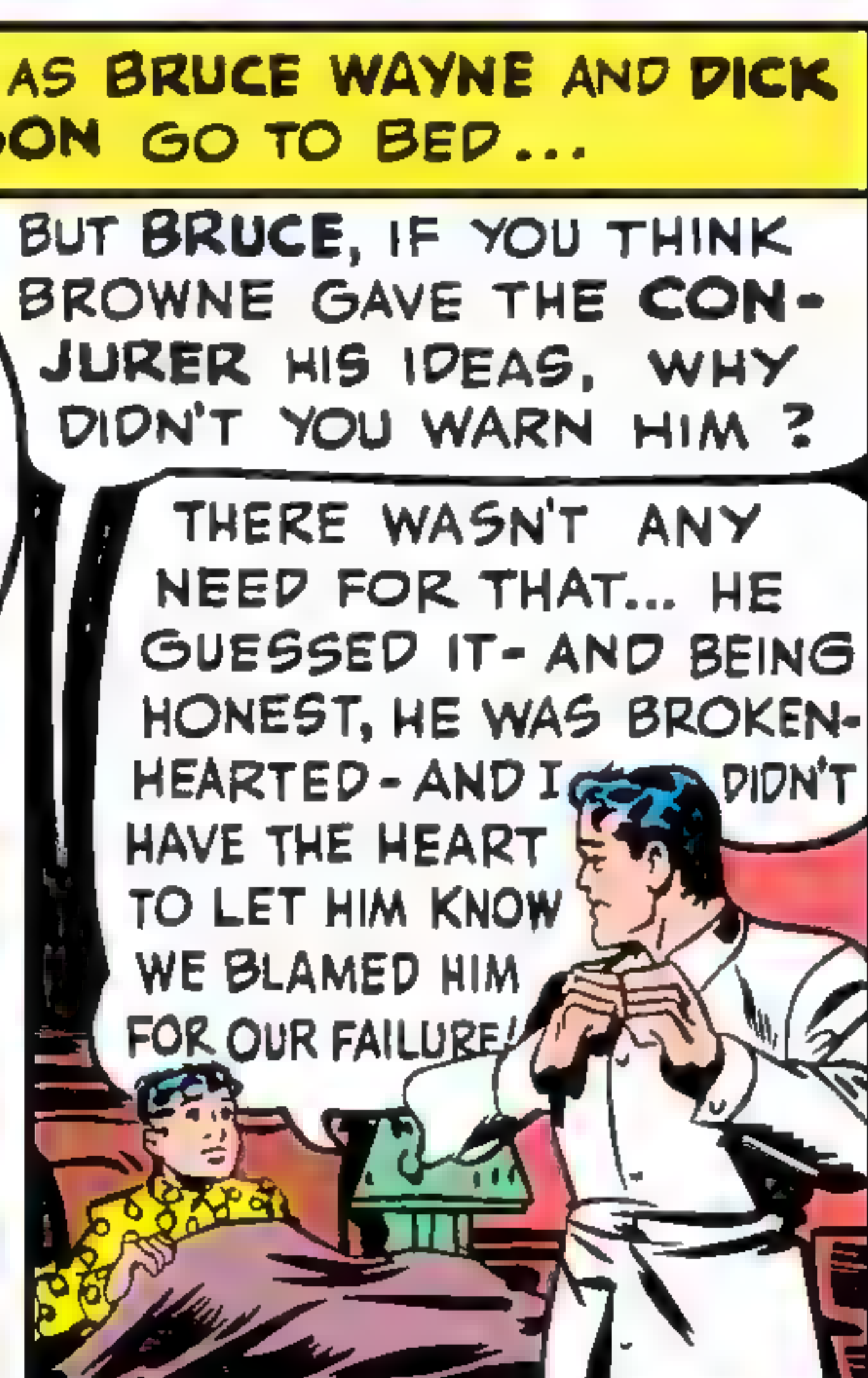
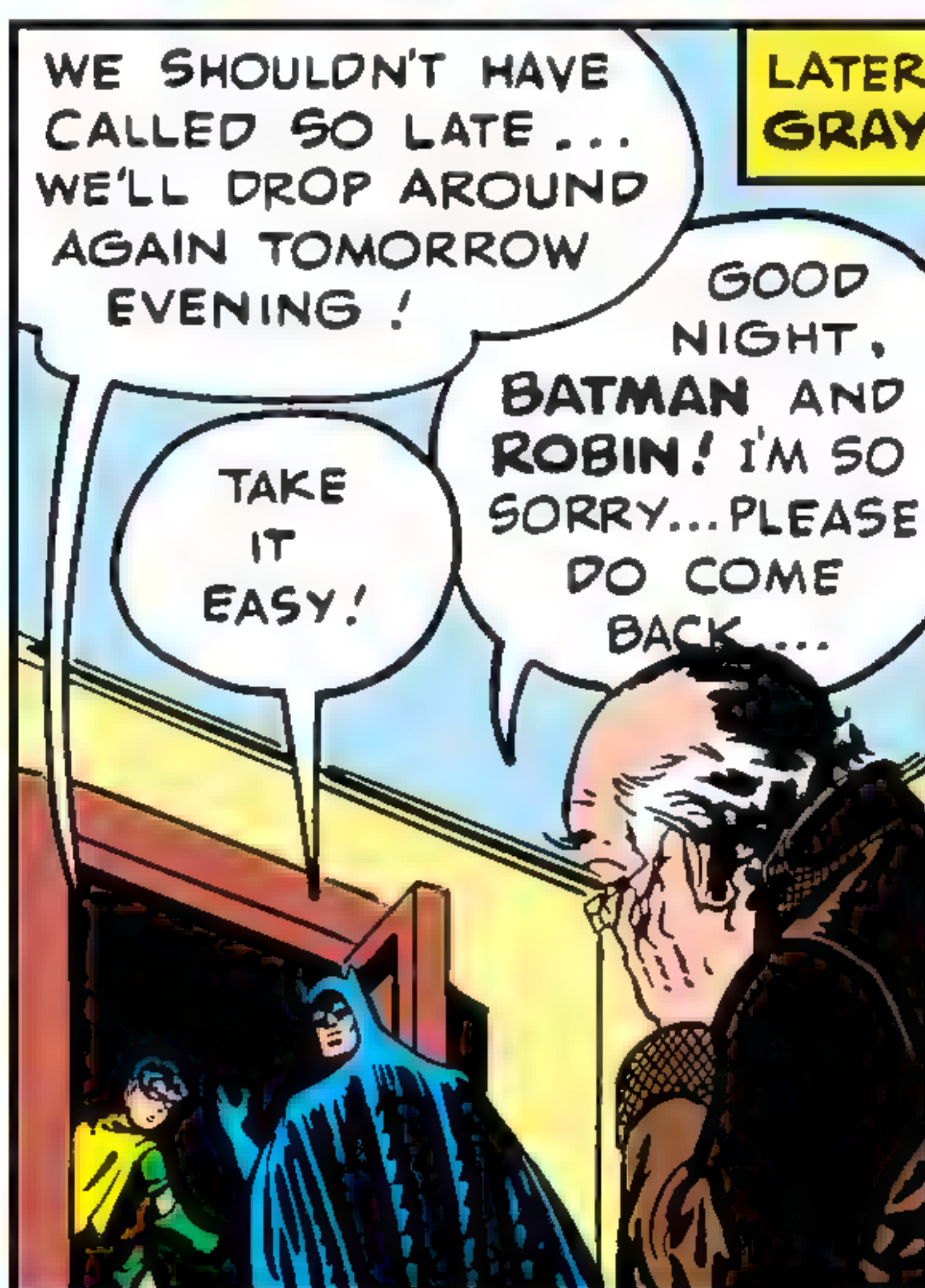
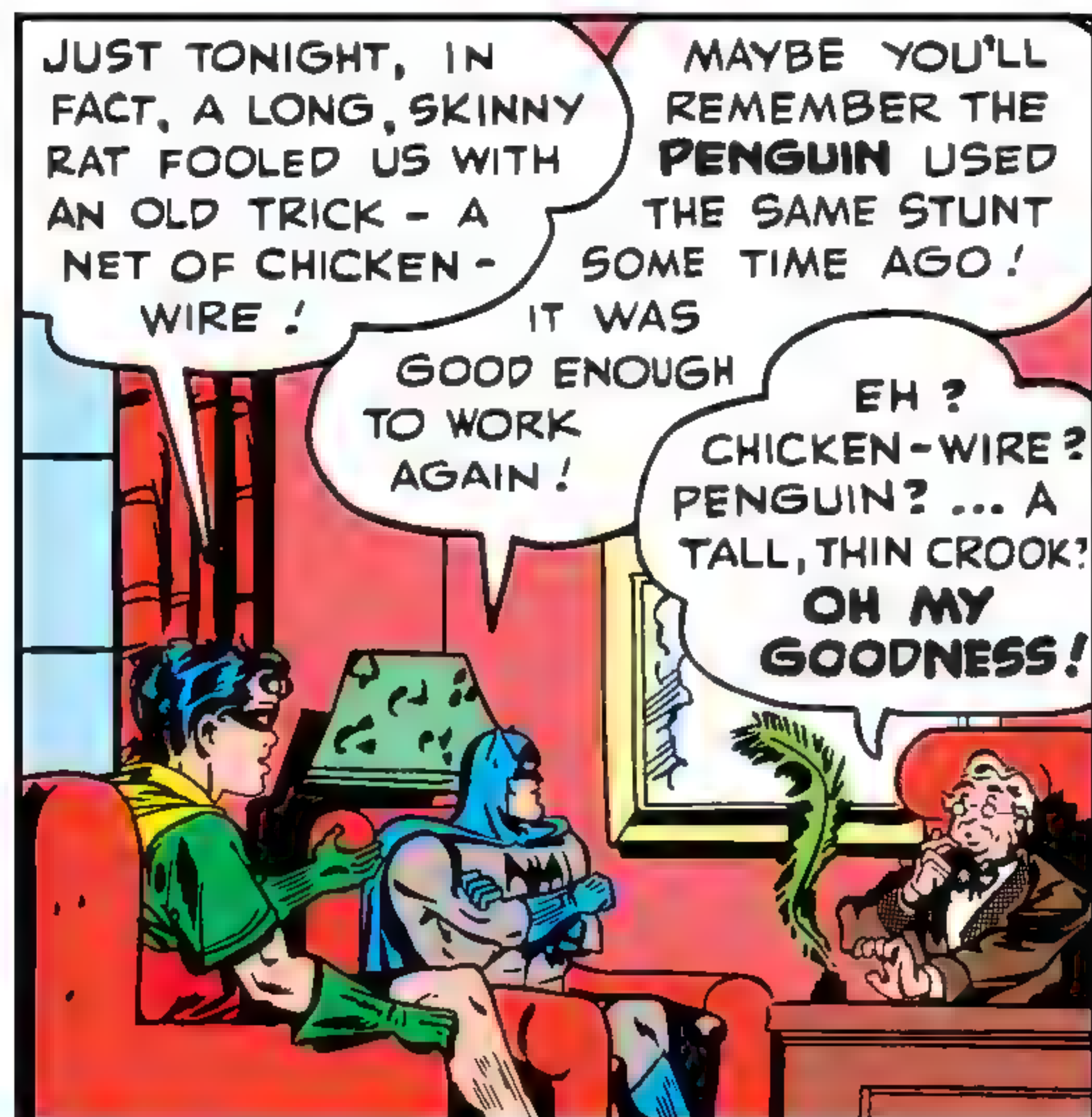
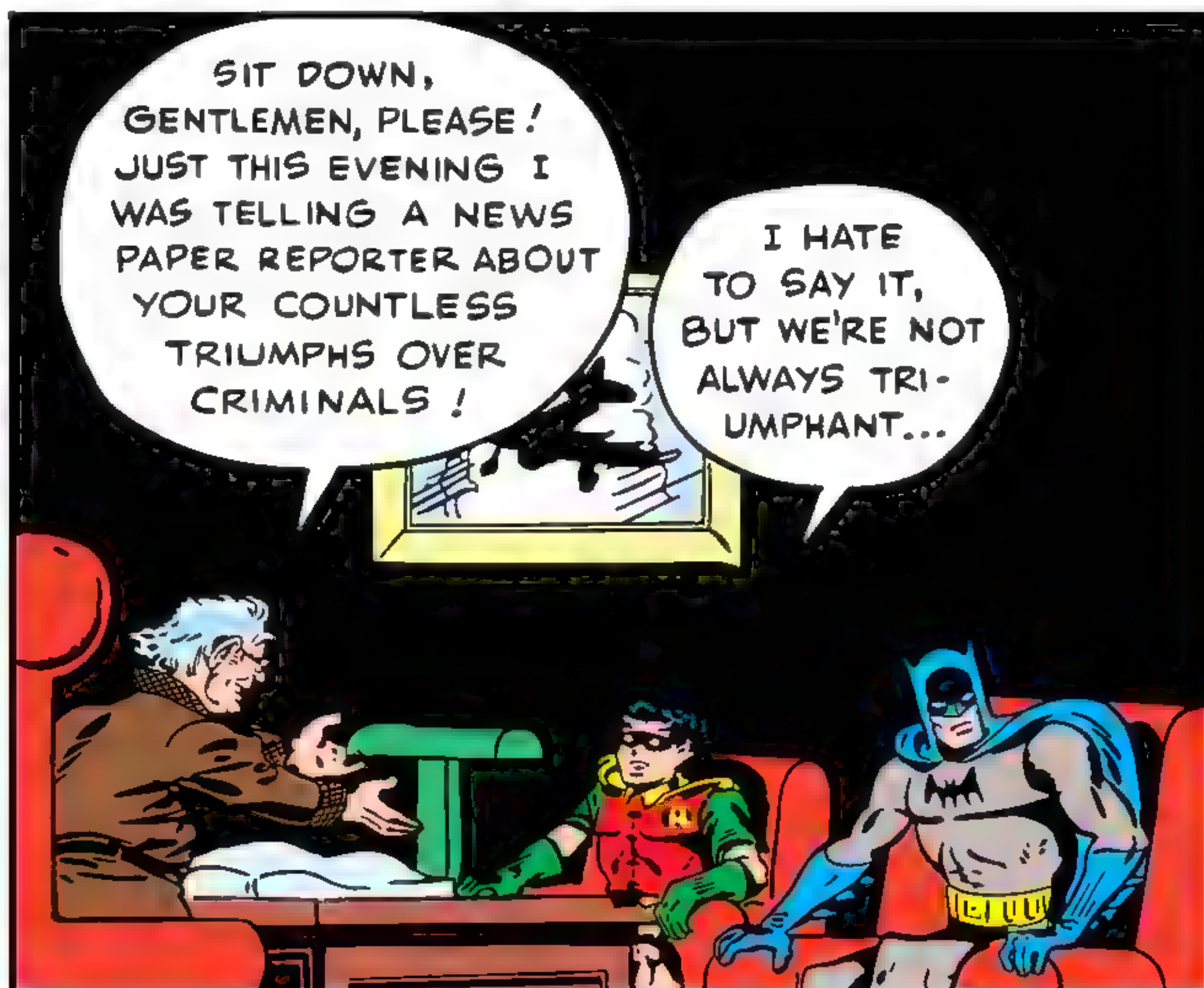
A SCHOLARLY OLD MAN GETS THE THRILL OF HIS SEDATE LIFE!

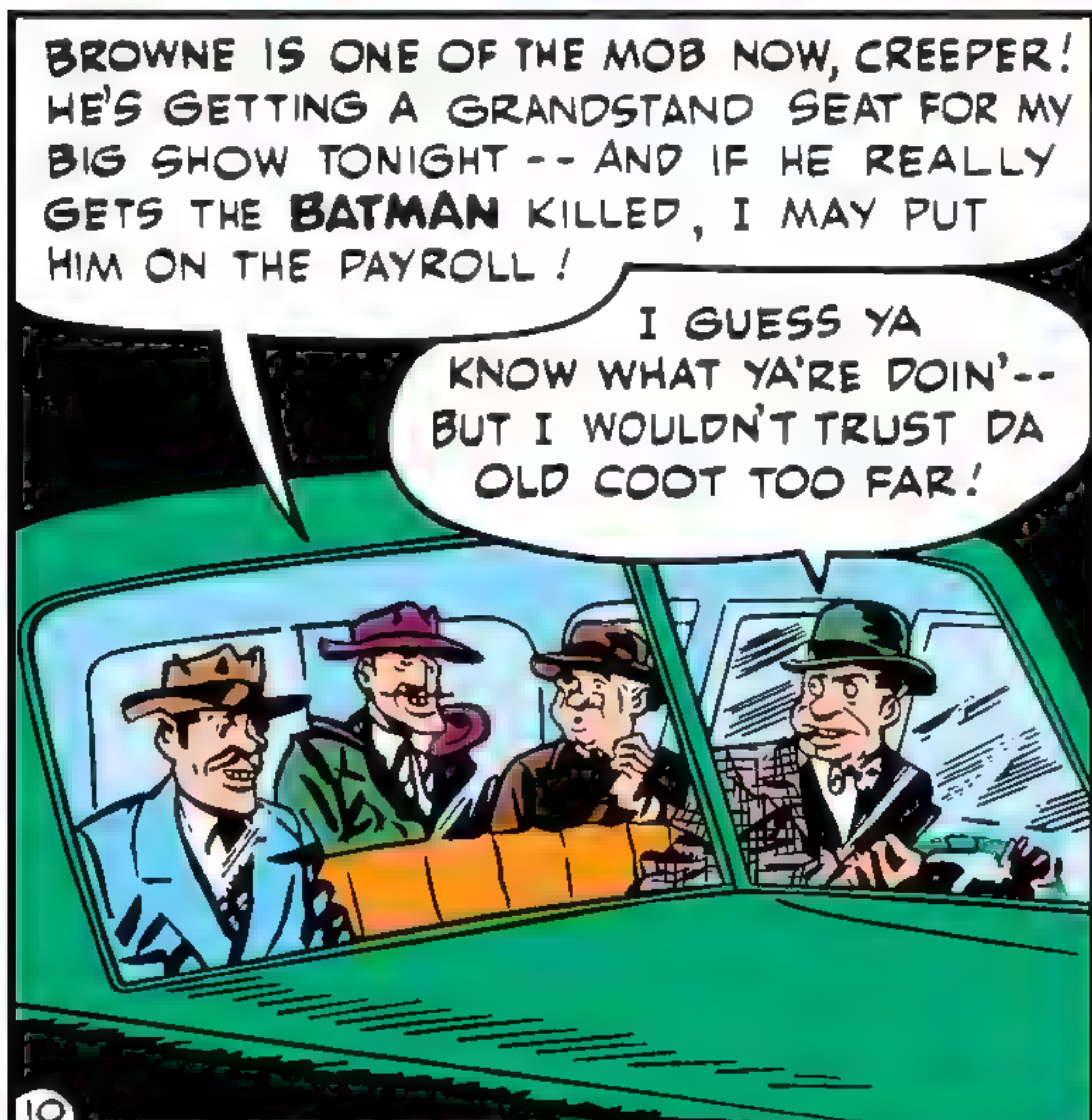
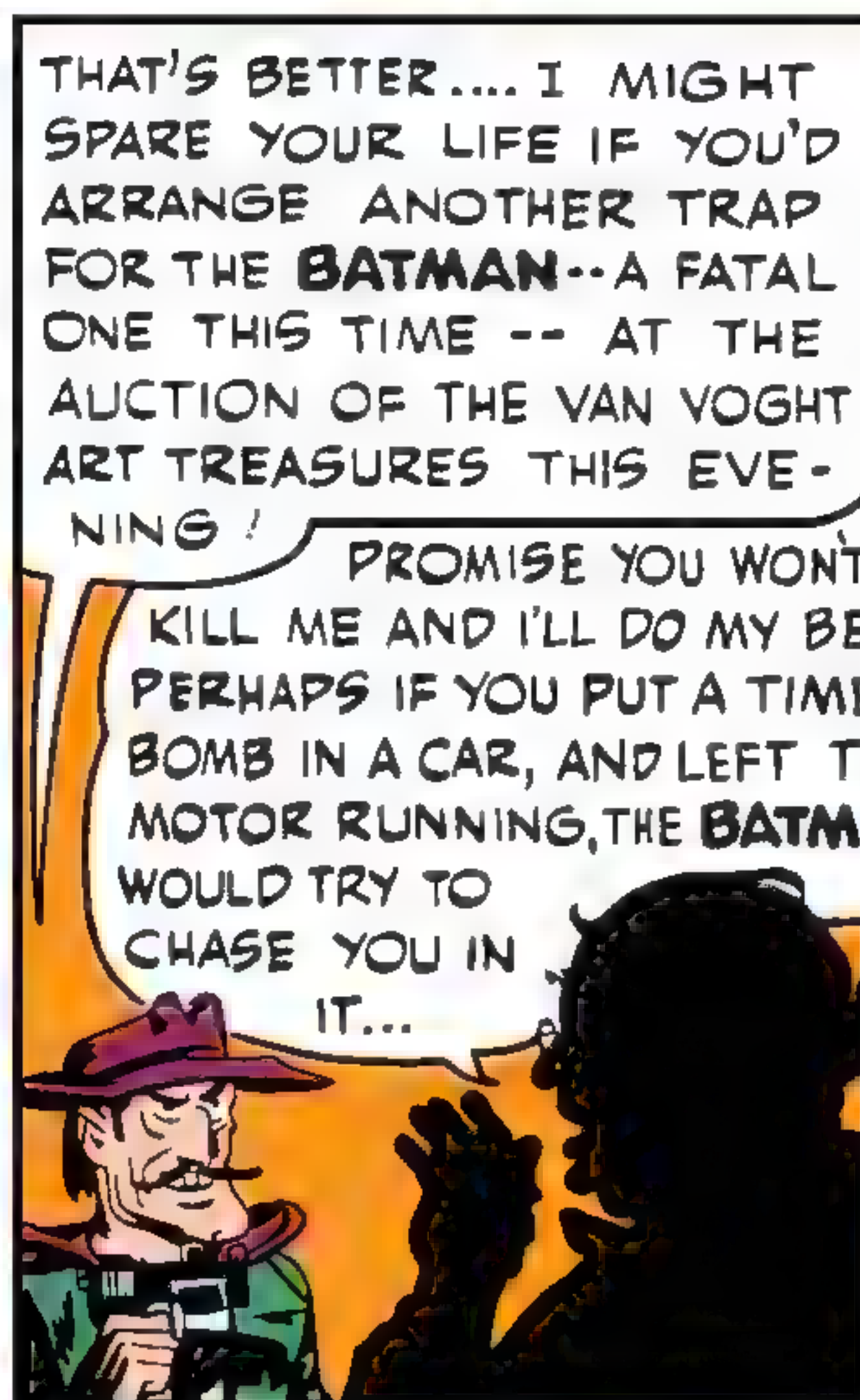
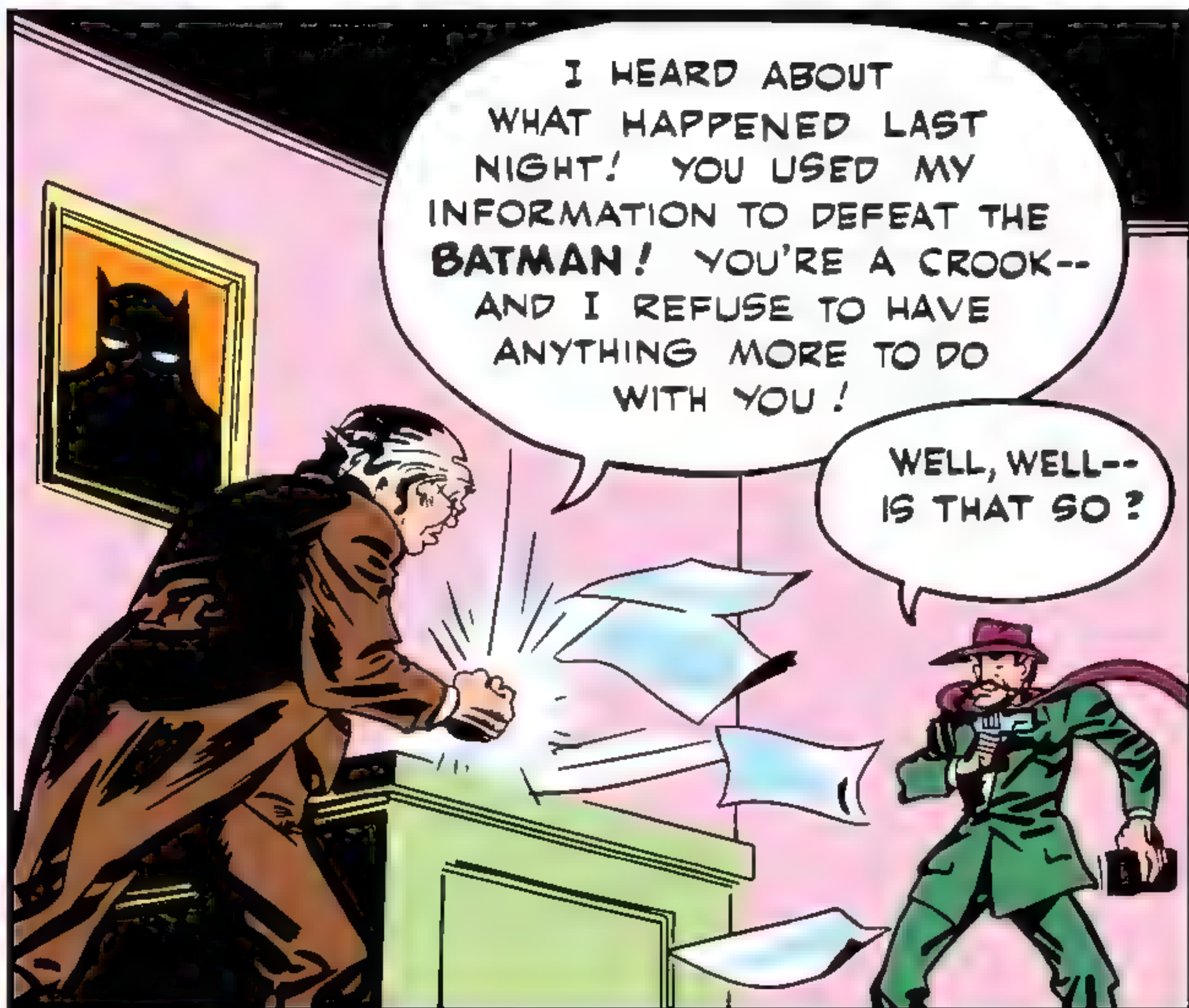
THERE -- CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE IS FINISHED!... WH-WHAT-- CAN MY IMAGINATION BE PLAYING PRANKS ON ME?



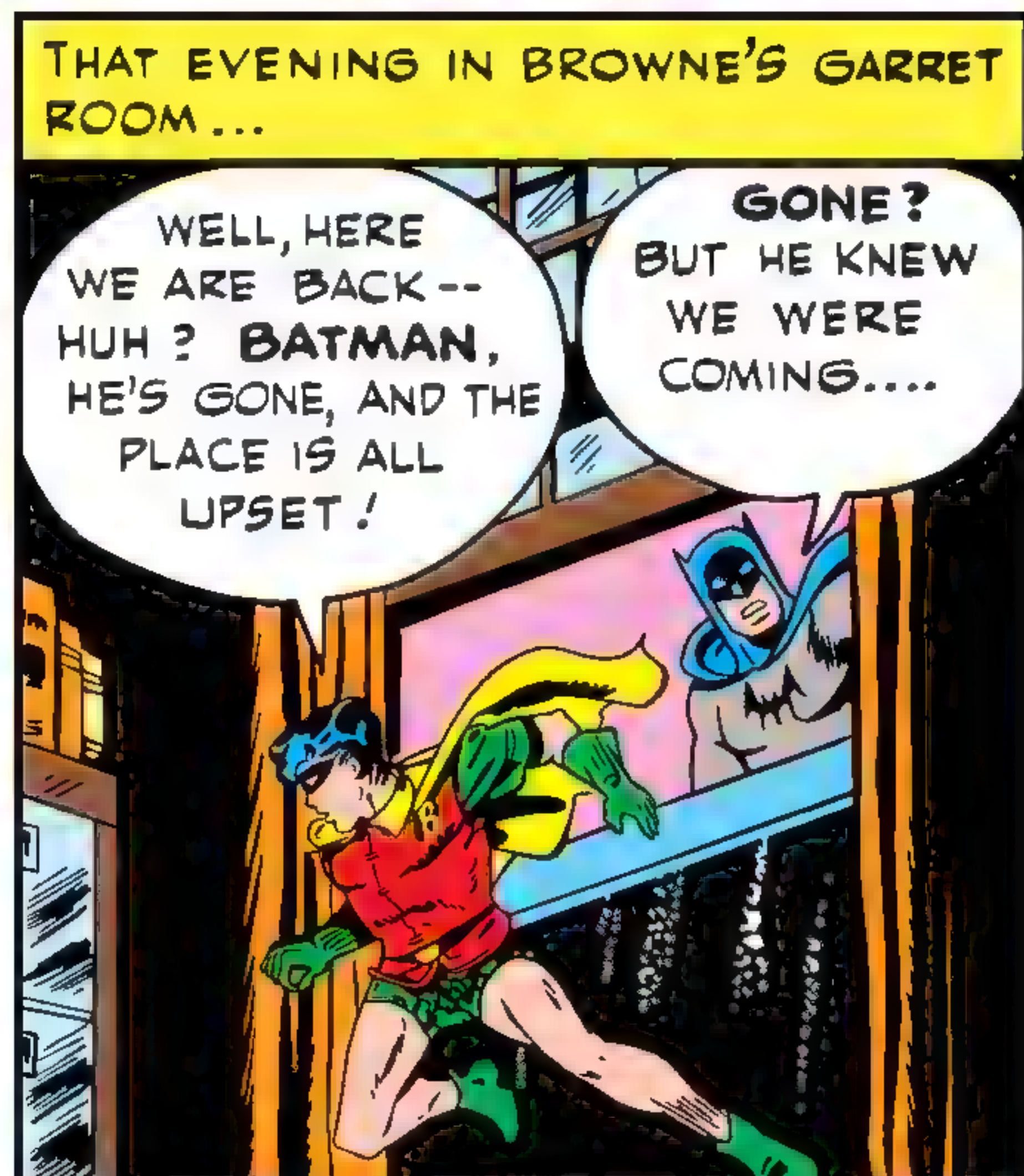
WE'RE NOT IMAGINARY... WE HEARD YOU WERE INTERESTED IN OUR WORK, AND THOUGHT WE'D SAY HELLO!

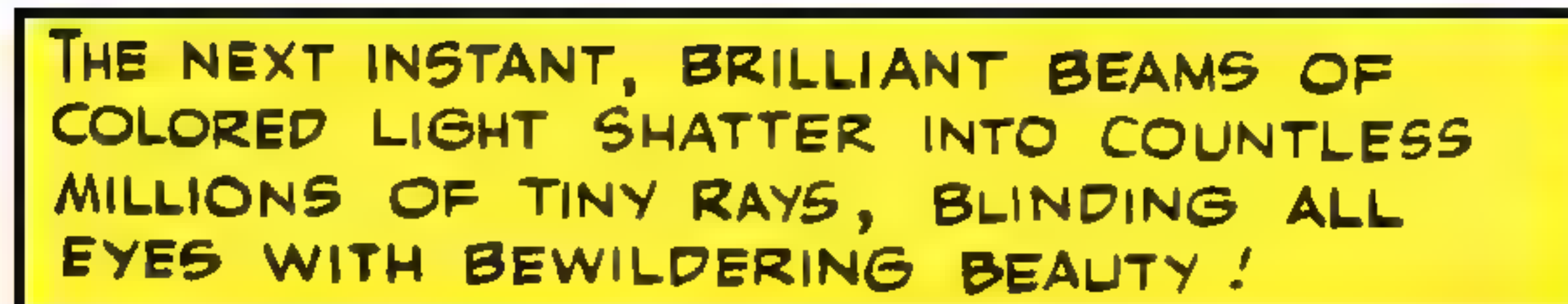
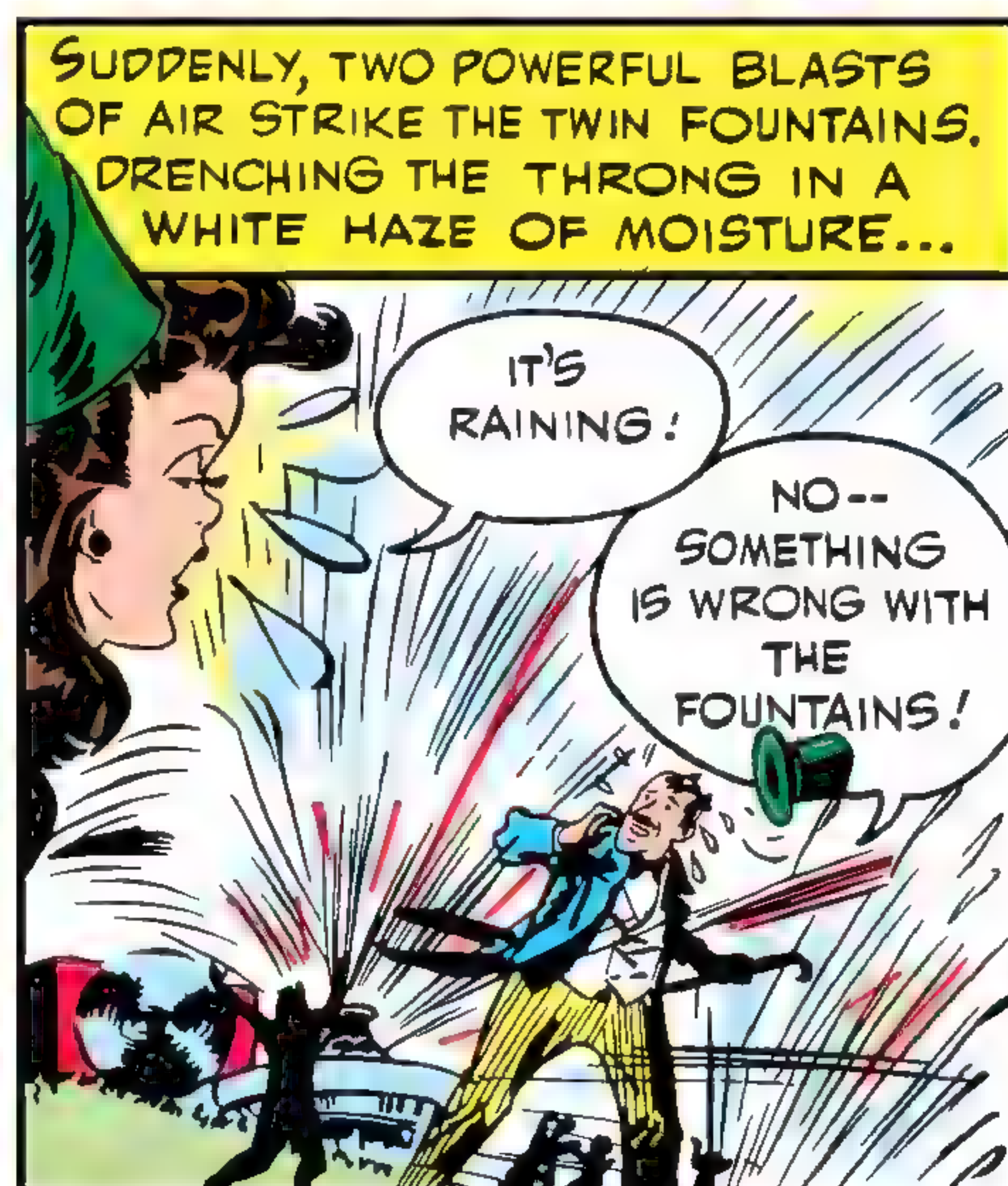
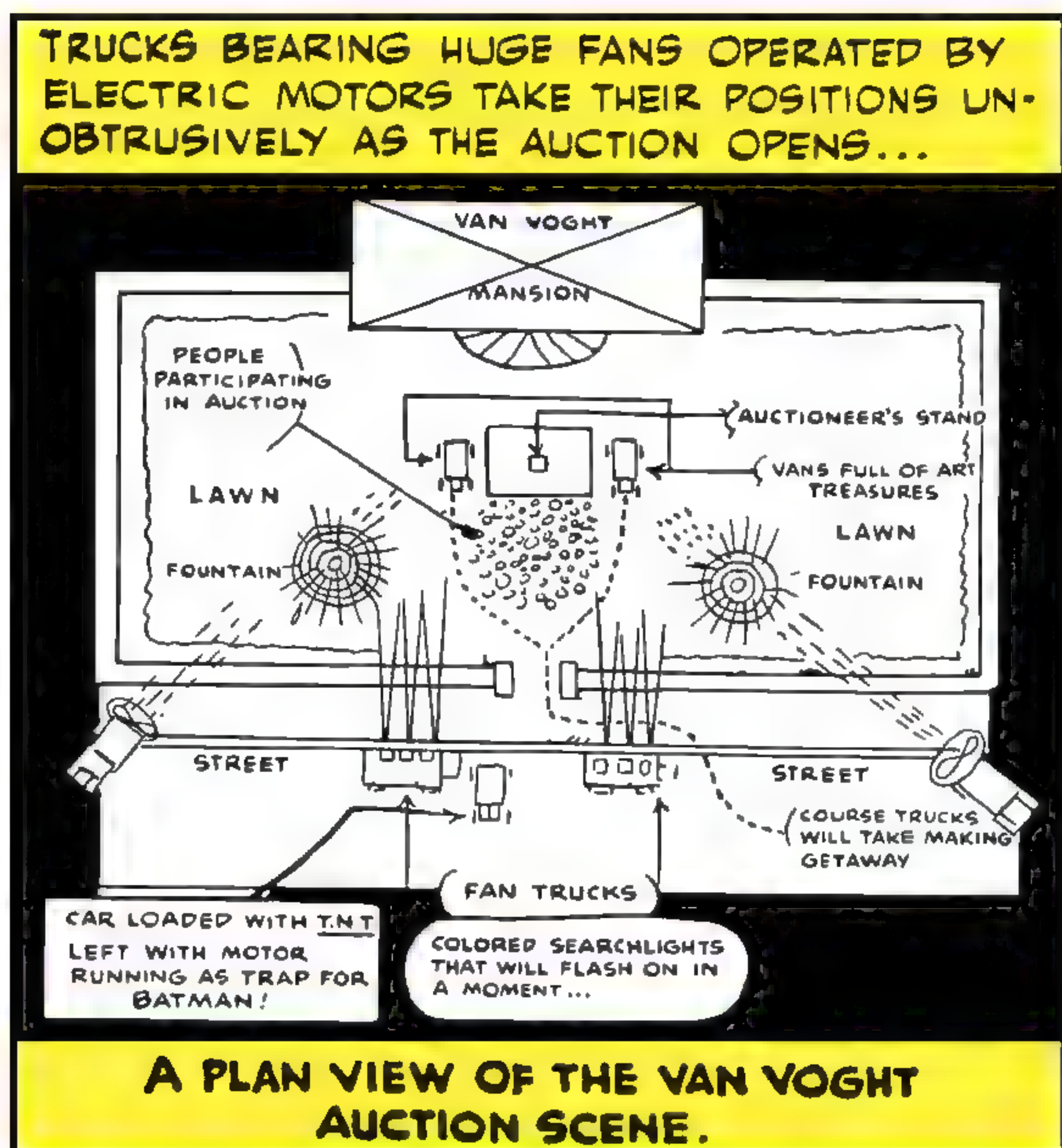
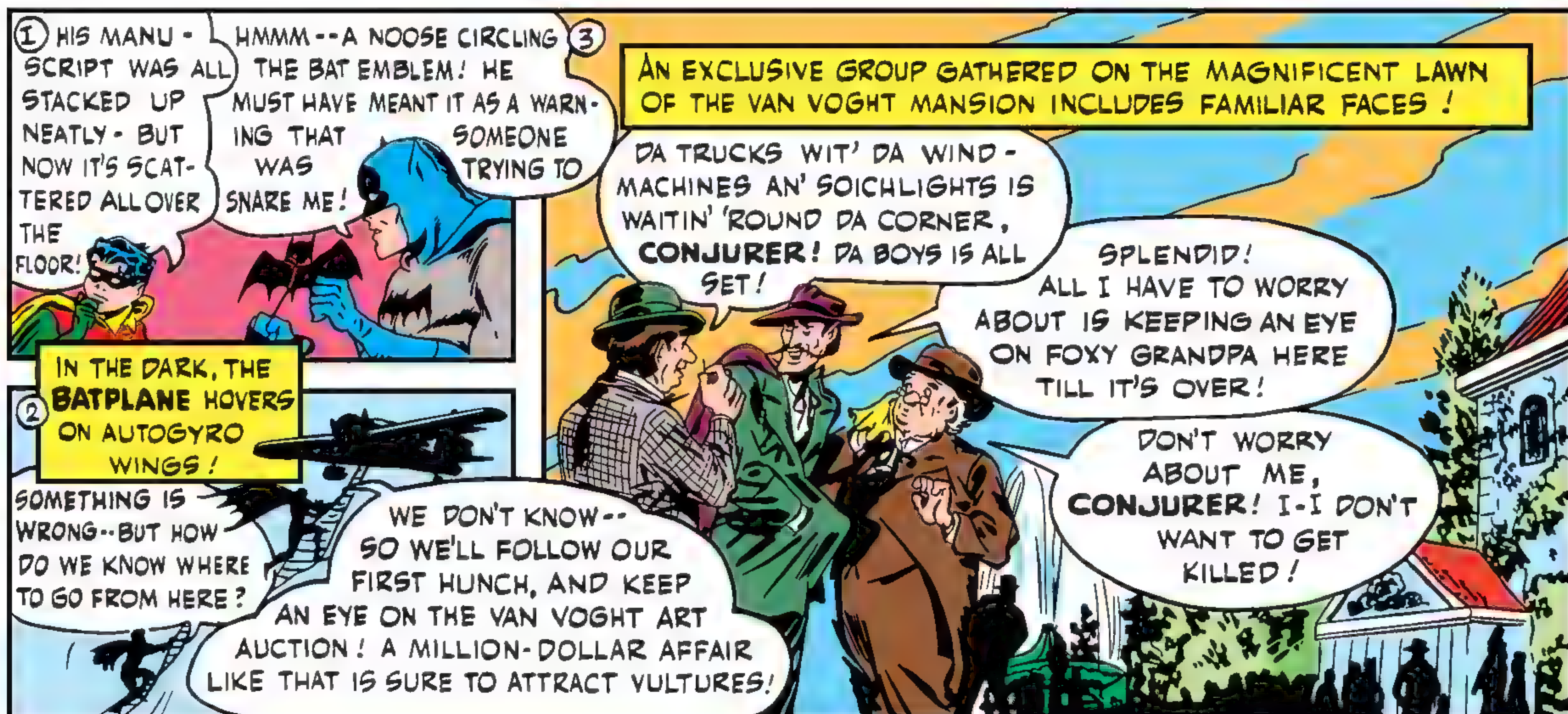
YOU'RE REAL! I- I'M SO OVERCOME WITH EMOTION, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!



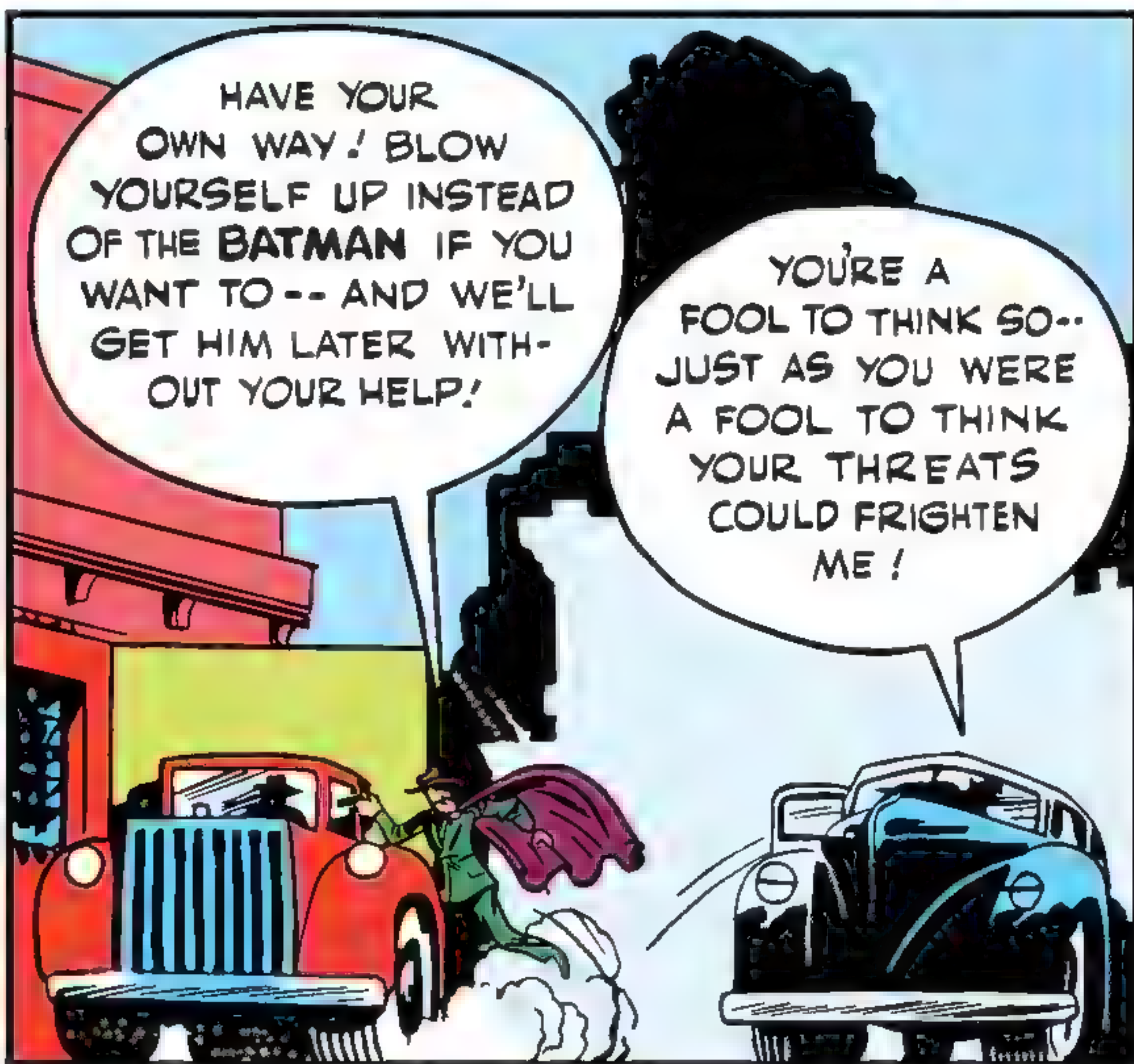


WHAT NOW ? WILL THE TIMID OLD MAN ACTUALLY TURN ON THE HEROIC PAIR WHOSE DAZZLING DEEDS HAVE BEEN THE INSPIRATION OF HIS DECLINING YEARS? WILL HE USE HIS KNOWLEDGE, SO PAINSTAKINGLY GATHERED AS A LABOR OF LOVE, TO BETRAY THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ?

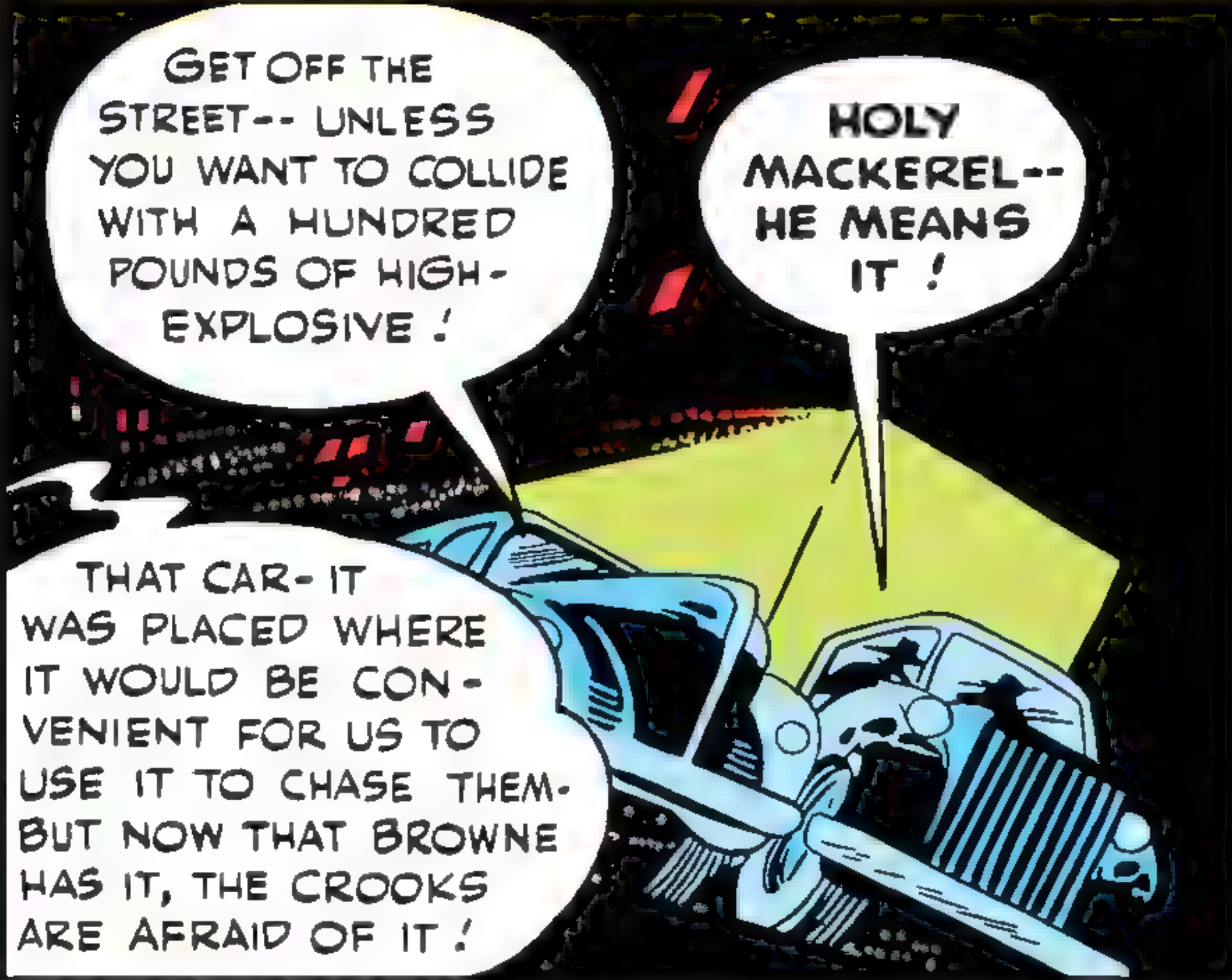




INVISIBLE ABOVE THE EXTRAVAGANZA OF TREACHEROUS BRILLIANCE, THE DYNAMIC DUO GOES INTO ACTION...



BUT THE SCHOLARLY BROWNE HAS MORE IN MIND THAN MERELY BLOWING HIMSELF UP....



THE DYNAMITE-LADEN CAR FORCES THE TWO VANS FILLED WITH ART TREASURES OFF THE ROAD

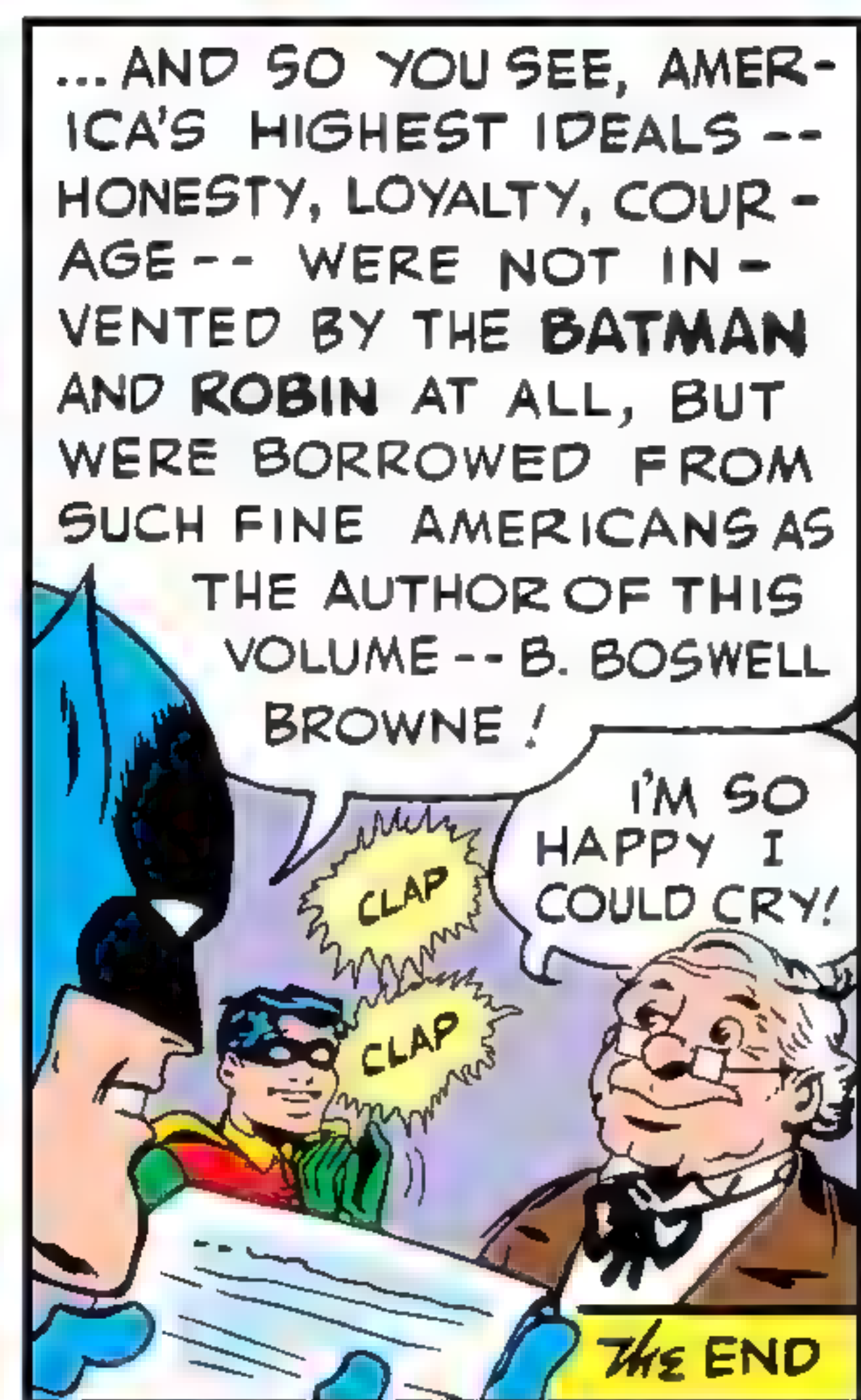
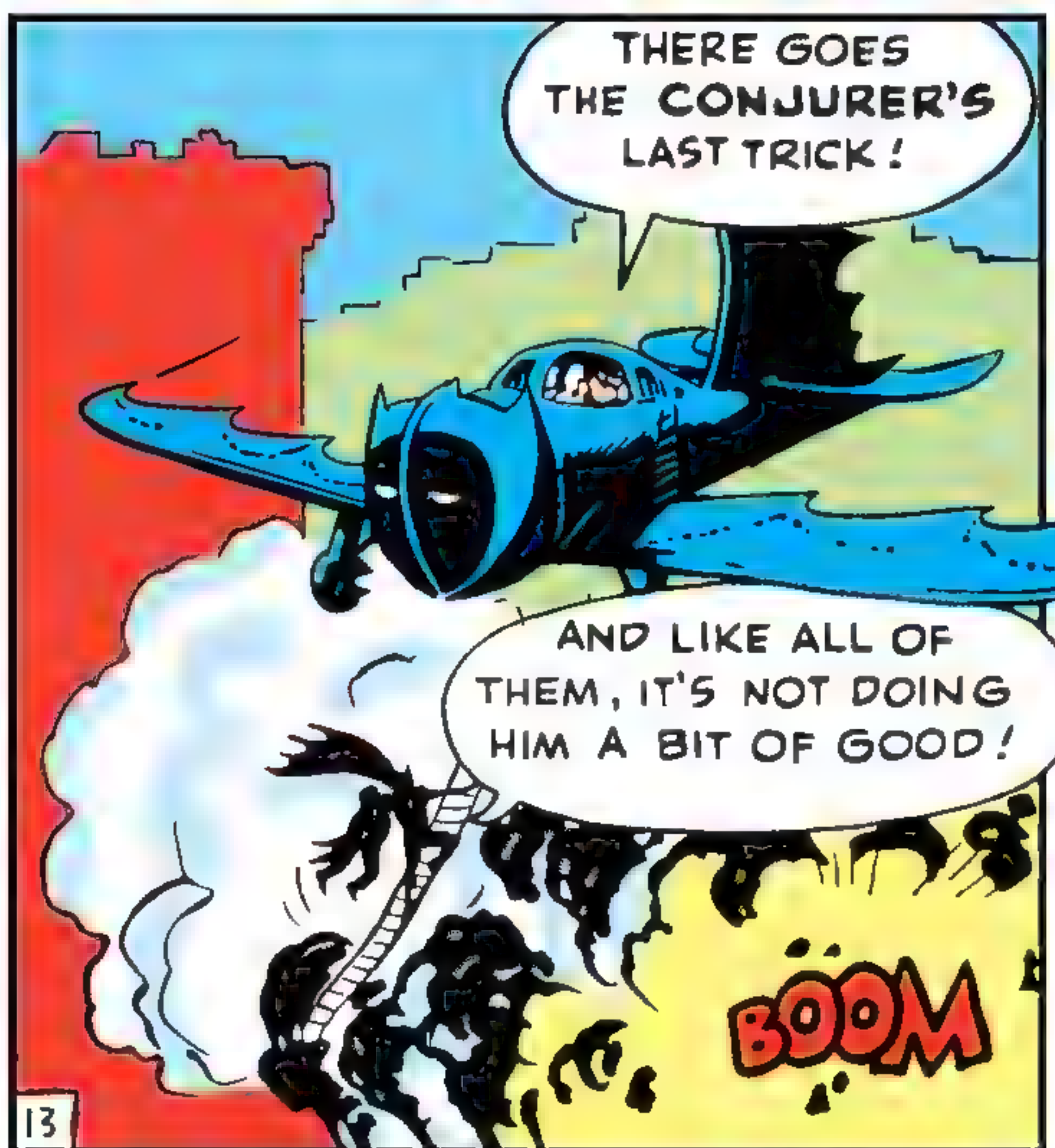
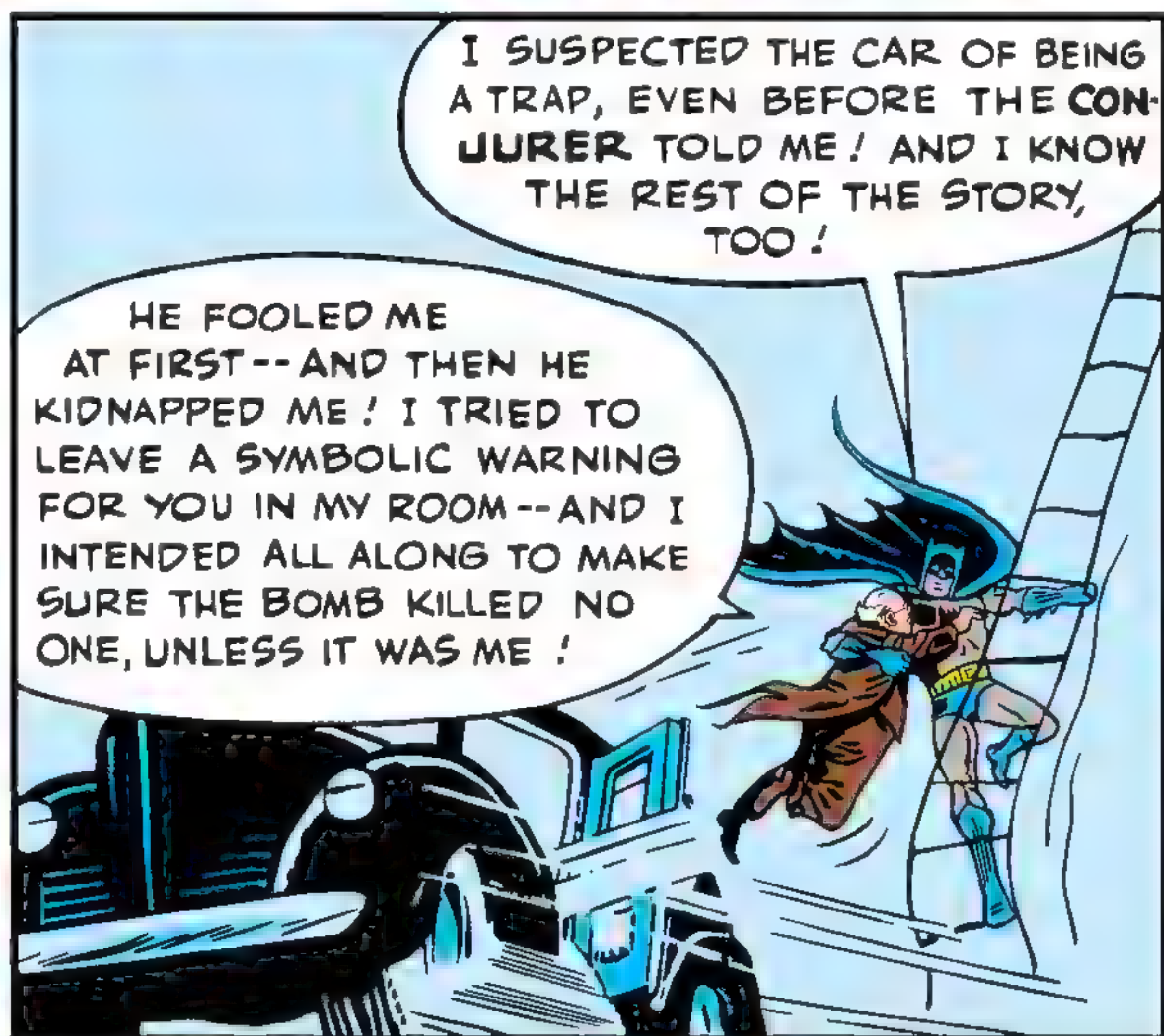
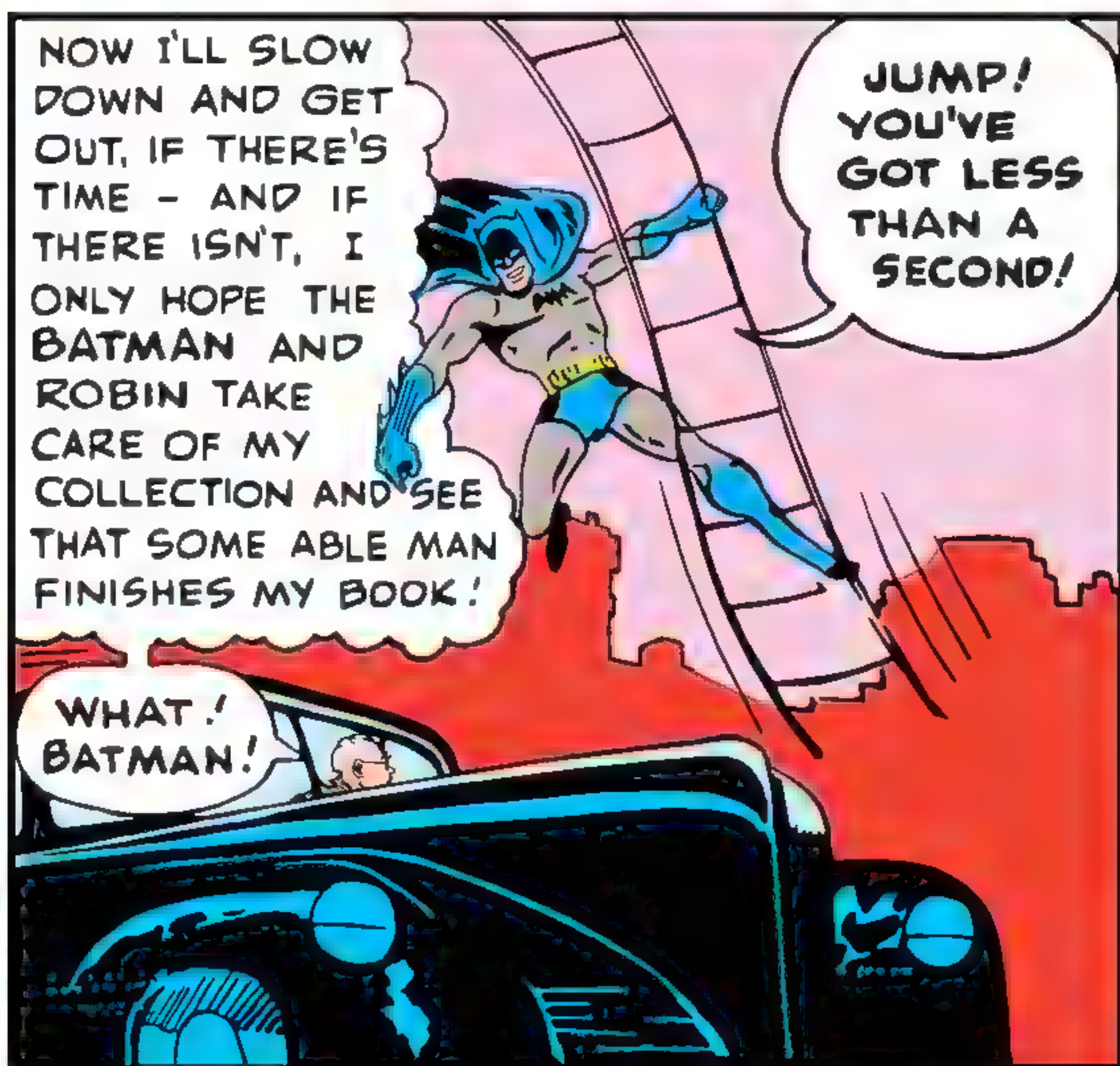
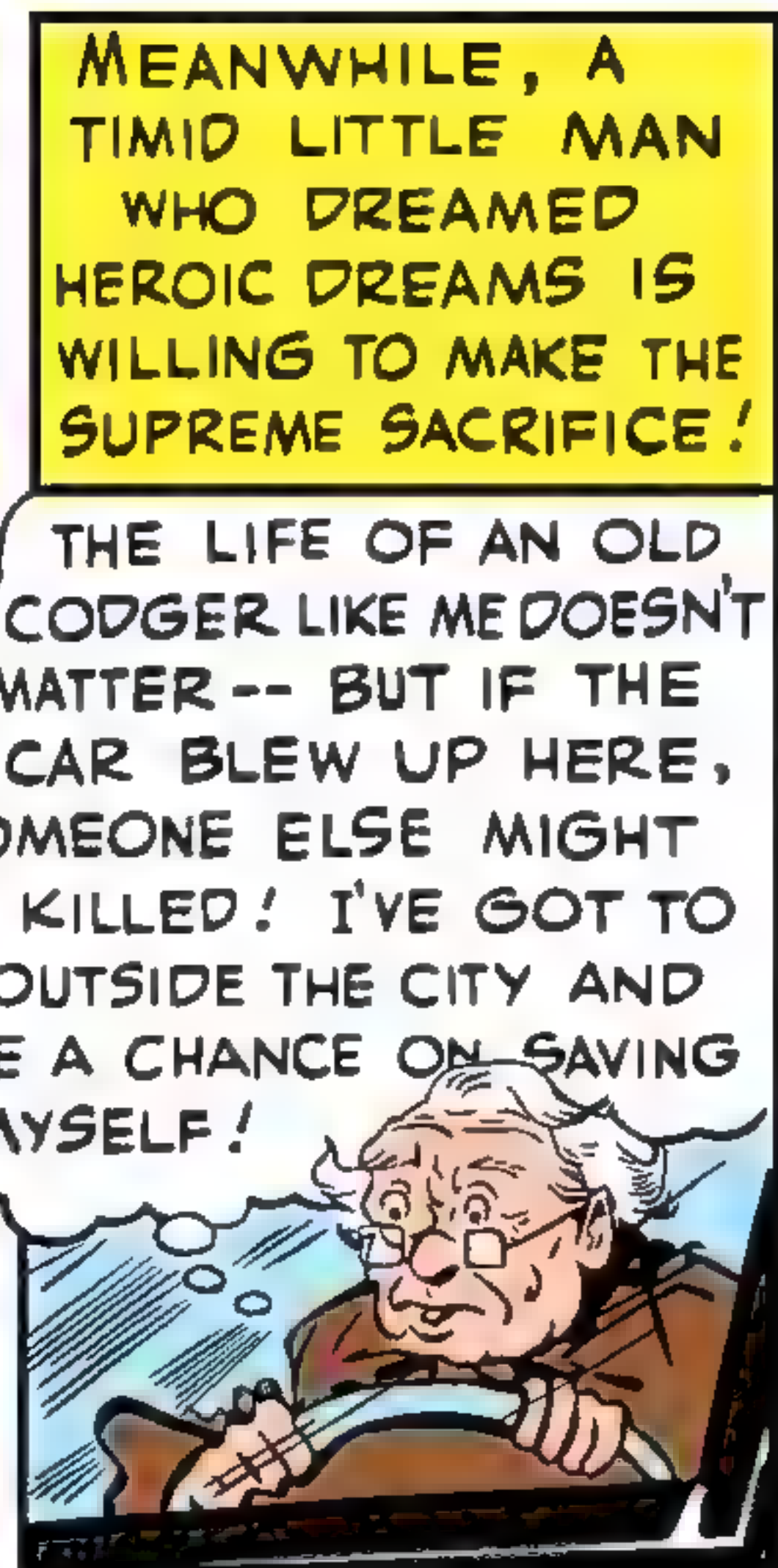


AFTER THIS THEY OUGHT TO CHANGE YOUR NAME FROM CREEPER TO FLIER!



RELAX, TRIGGER... YOU'VE HAD A BUSY DAY!





BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

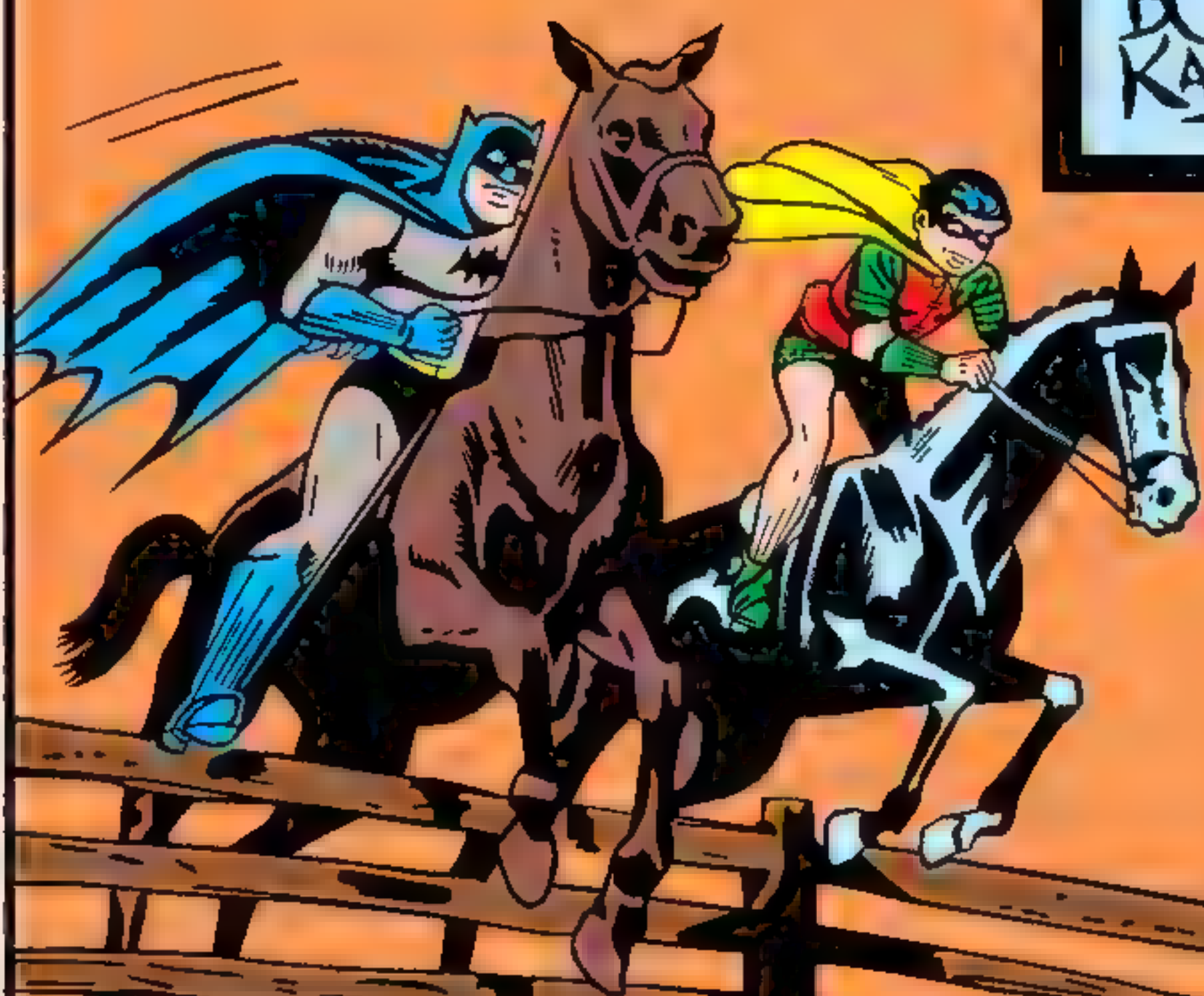
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

BOB
KANE

THE HISS-S-S-S OF A SINISTER FISHERMAN'S REEL, THE CRASH OF A BIG GAME RIFLE, AND THE BAYING OF HUNTING HOUNDS ECHO OVER THE ROAR OF TRAFFIC IN GOTHAM CITY'S CROWDED CANYONS AS THE UNPREDICTABLE PENGUIN SPRINGS THE MOST FANTASTIC SURPRISE OF HIS COLORFUL CAREER OF CRIME!

BUT WHEN IT COMES TO SKILL IN THE CHASE, NONE CAN SURPASS THE BATTLING **BATMAN** AND THE RECKLESS **ROBIN**-- AND HERE, IN ONE OF THE MADDEST TALES EVER TO FIND ITS WAY INTO THESE PAGES, THEY COME TO GRIPS WITH A POWERFUL AND DEADLY FOE AS ---

"THE PENGUIN GOES A-HUNTING"



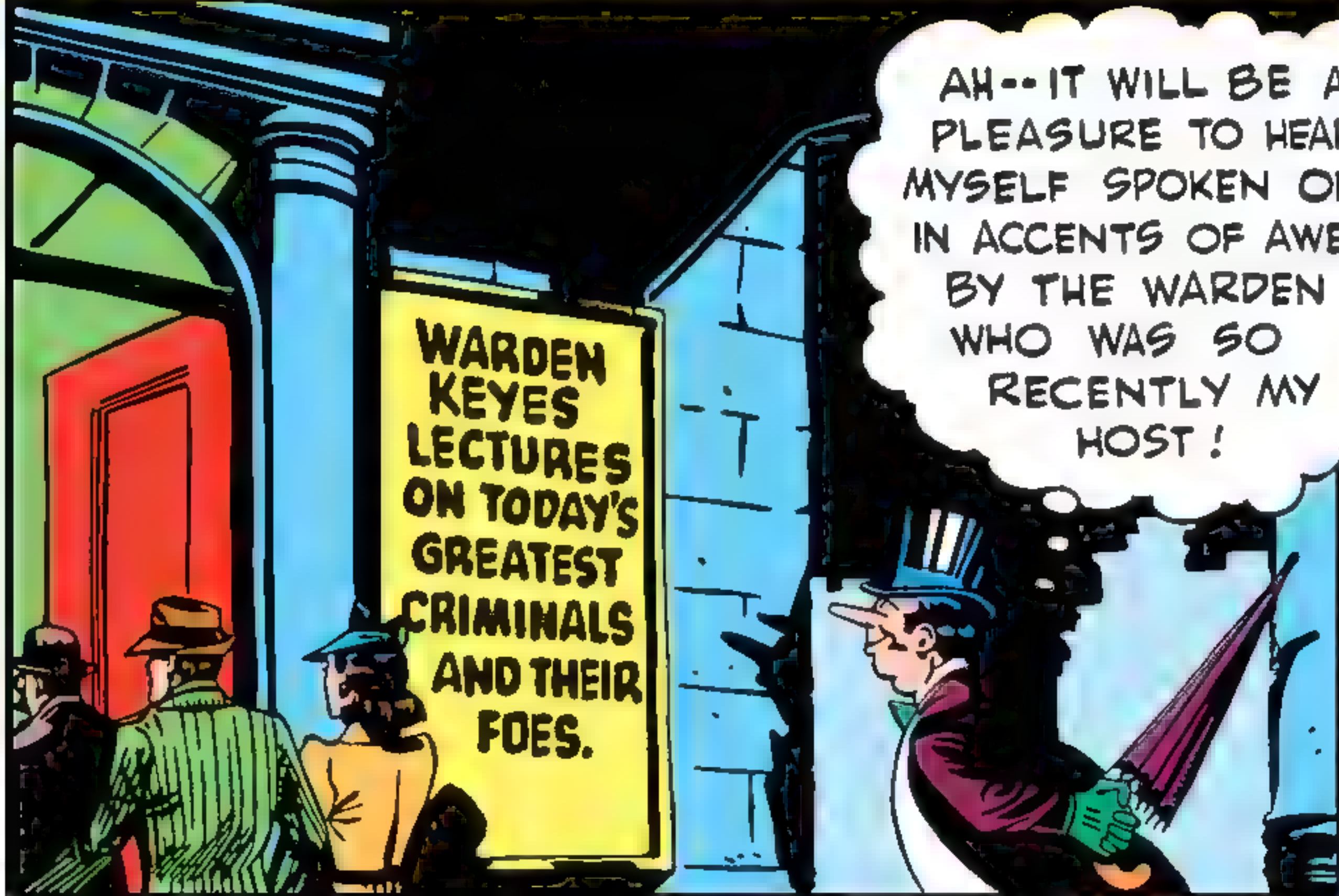
FOR VICTORY



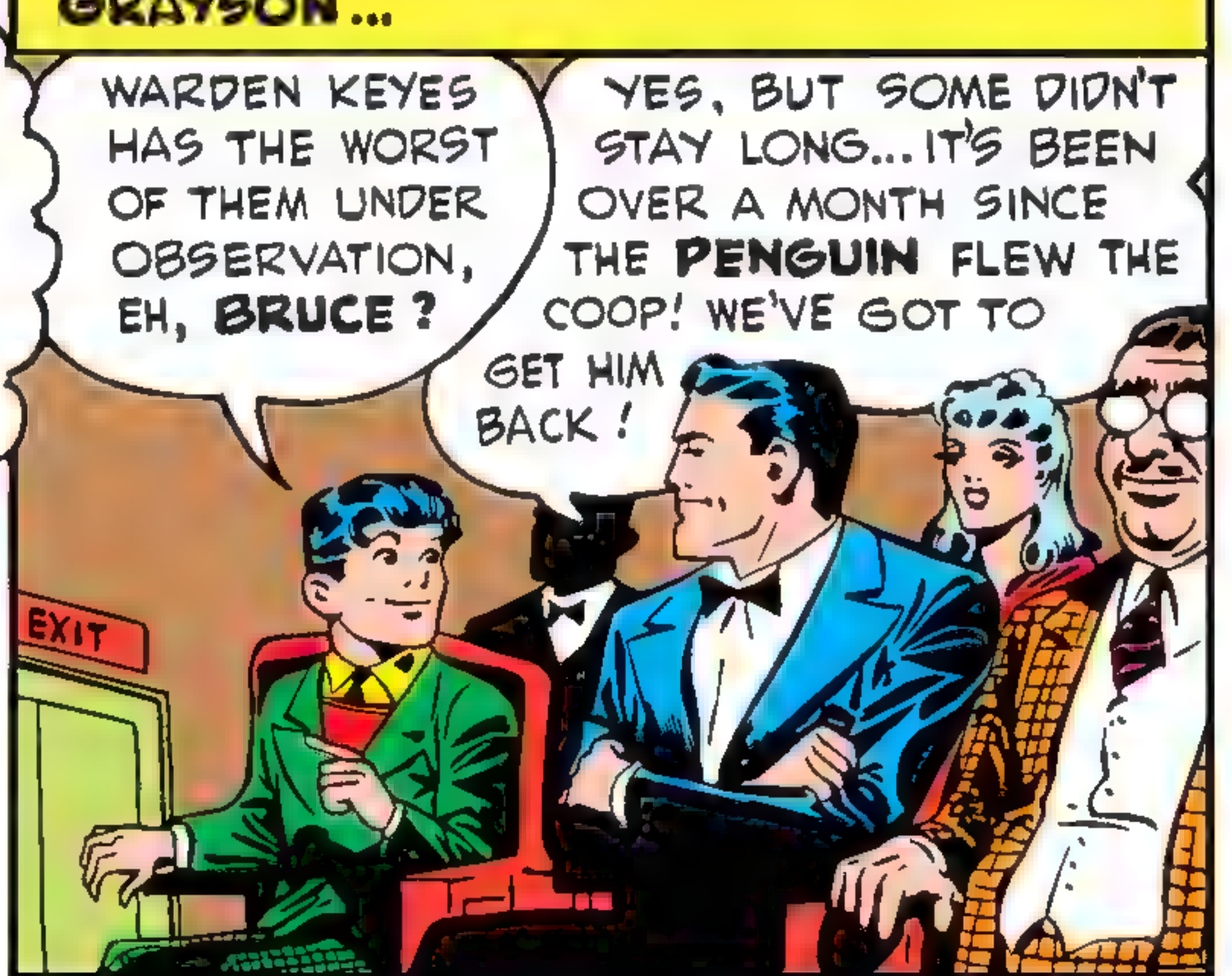
BUY
UNITED
STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

THE PENGUIN, GROTESQUE BIRD OF ILL OMEN, ATTENDS A LECTURE ON A SUBJECT DEAR TO HIS VAINGLORIOUS HEART...

A SUBJECT, IT HAPPENS, THAT IS ALSO OF INTEREST TO **BRUCE WAYNE** WEALTHY MAN-ABOUT-TOWN, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, **DICK GRAYSON**...



AH--IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO HEAR MYSELF SPOKEN OF IN ACCENTS OF AWE BY THE WARDEN WHO WAS SO RECENTLY MY HOST!



WARDEN KEYES HAS THE WORST OF THEM UNDER OBSERVATION, EH, **BRUCE**?

YES, BUT SOME DIDN'T STAY LONG...IT'S BEEN OVER A MONTH SINCE THE **PENGUIN** FLEW THE COOP! WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM BACK!



AMONG THE CRIME-SMASHERS, OF COURSE, THE **BATMAN** STANDS SUPREME, WITH **ROBIN** SHARING HIS GLORY...

I WAS WONDERING IF HE'D DRAG ME INTO THIS!



AMONG THE MOST DANGEROUS CROOKS, THE **JOKER**, THE **CAT-WOMAN** AND THE **SCARECROW** TOP THE INFAMOUS LIST!...

WHAT? NO MENTION OF ME?

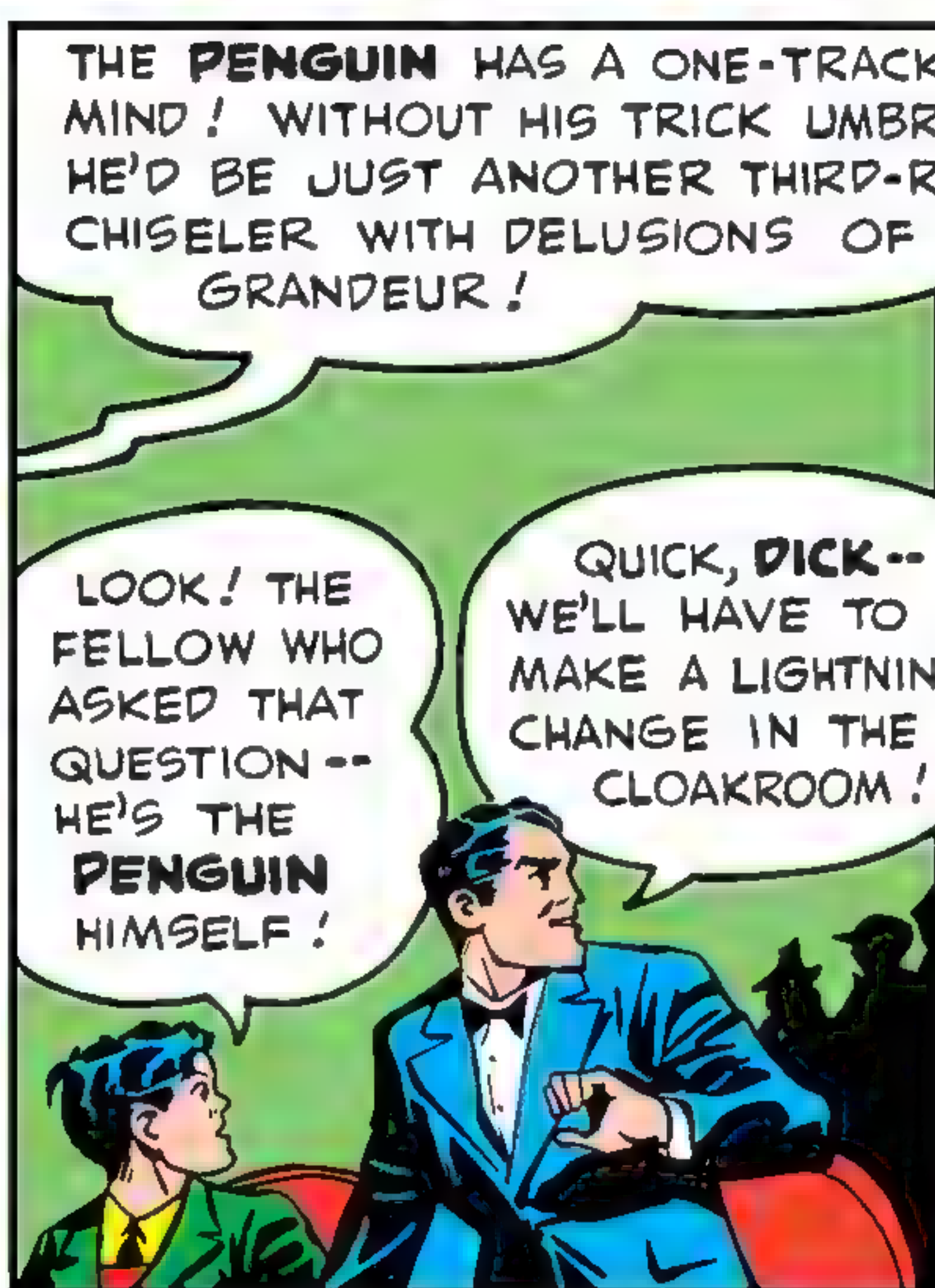


UNABLE TO ENDURE SUCH NEGLECT, THE PLUMP LITTLE ROGUE SHOUTS A QUESTION...

WHAT ABOUT THE **PENGUIN**?



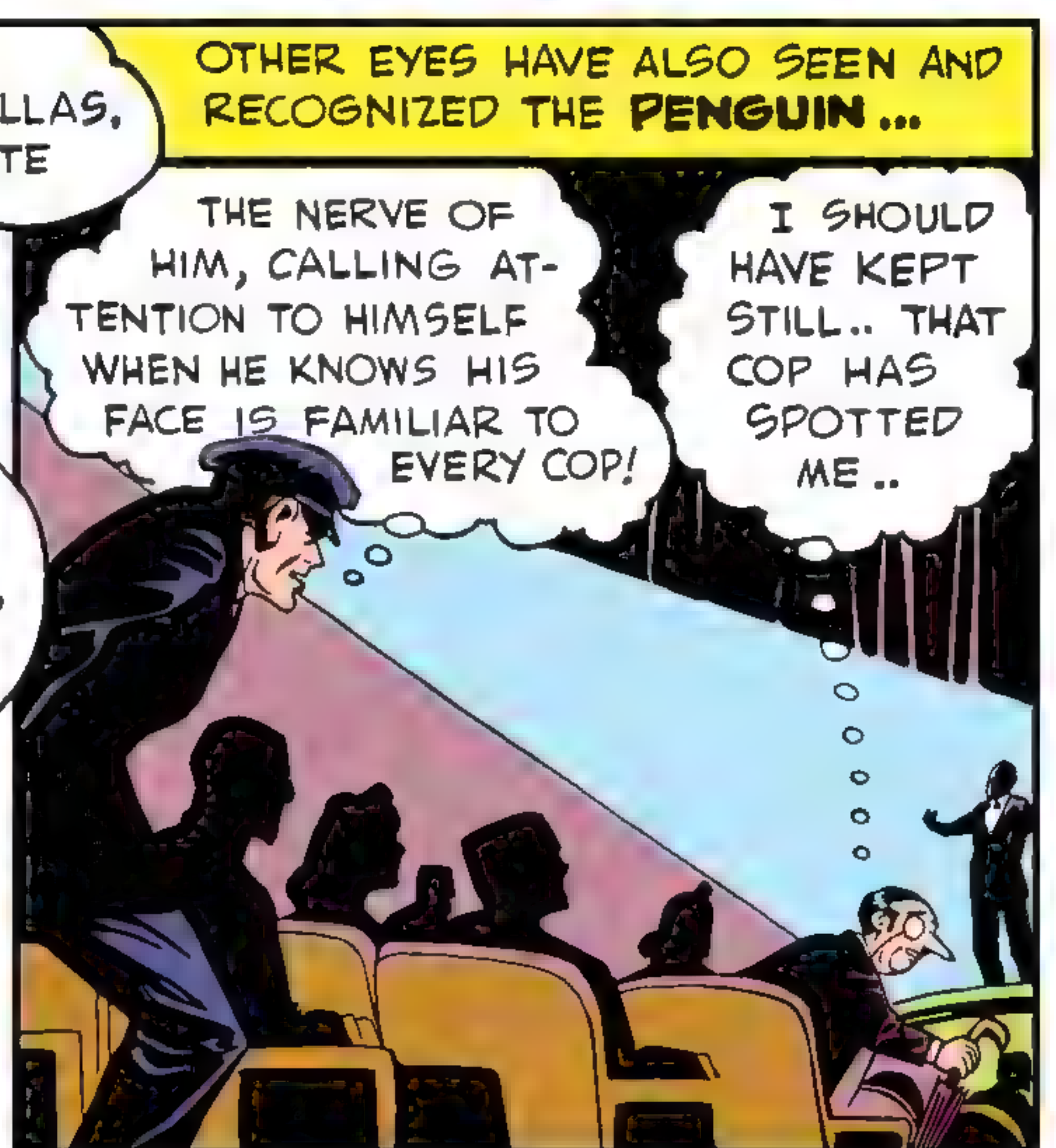
I'M GLAD YOU ASKED, WHOEVER YOU ARE... THE **PENGUIN** IS AS MEAN AND LOWDOWN AS ANY OF THEM, BUT NOT AS IN-GENIUS AND INVENTIVE!



THE **PENGUIN** HAS A ONE-TRACK MIND! WITHOUT HIS TRICK UMBRELLAS, HE'D BE JUST ANOTHER THIRD-RATE CHISELER WITH DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR!

LOOK! THE FELLOW WHO ASKED THAT QUESTION-- HE'S THE **PENGUIN** HIMSELF!

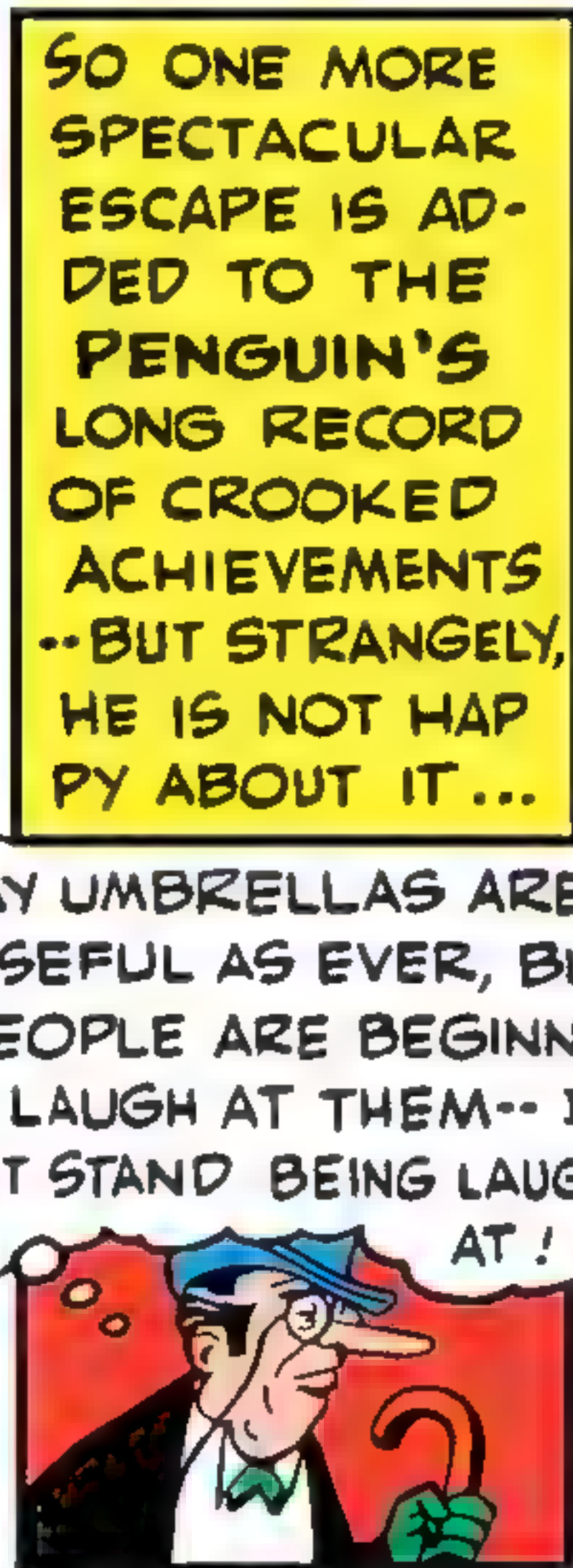
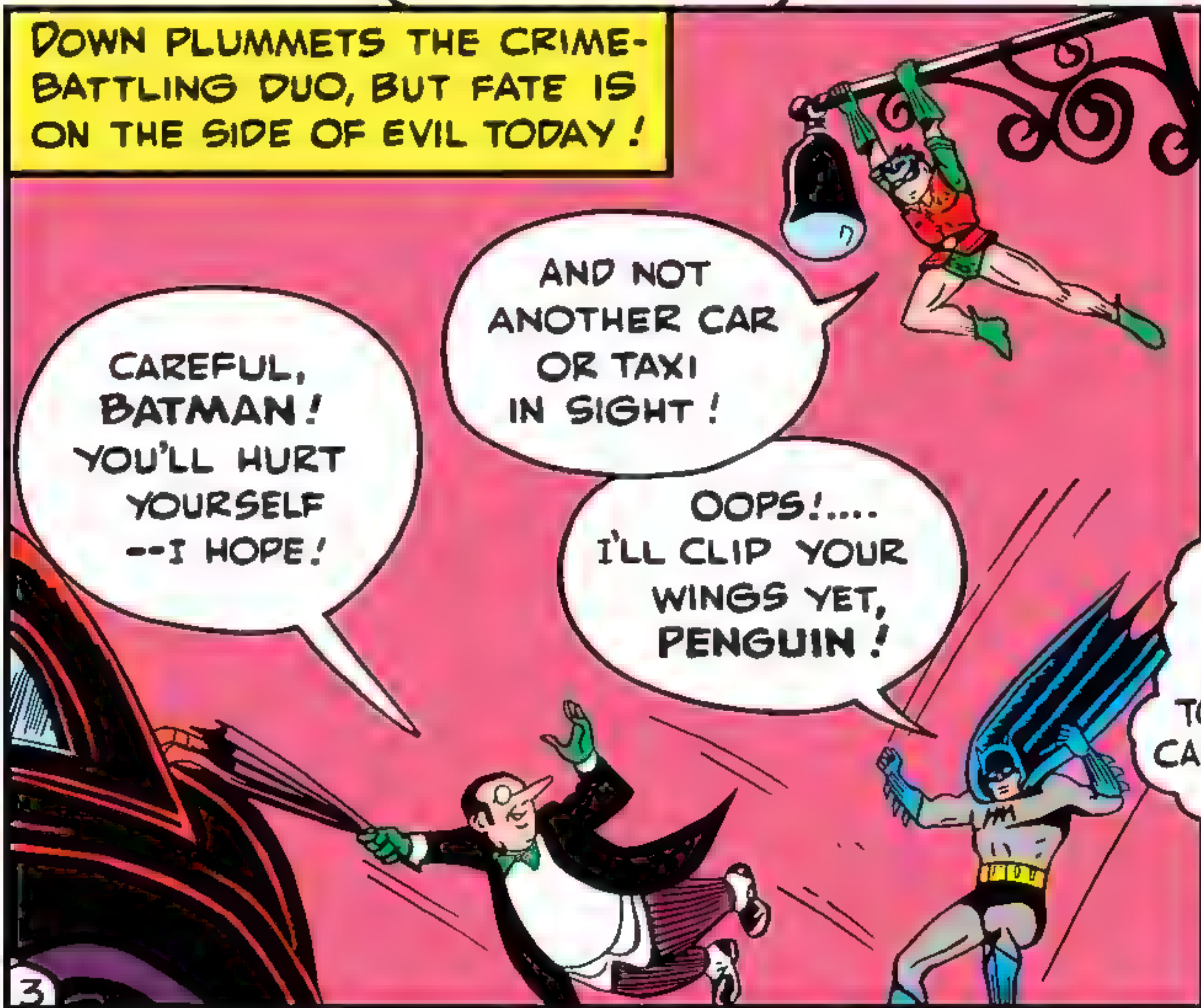
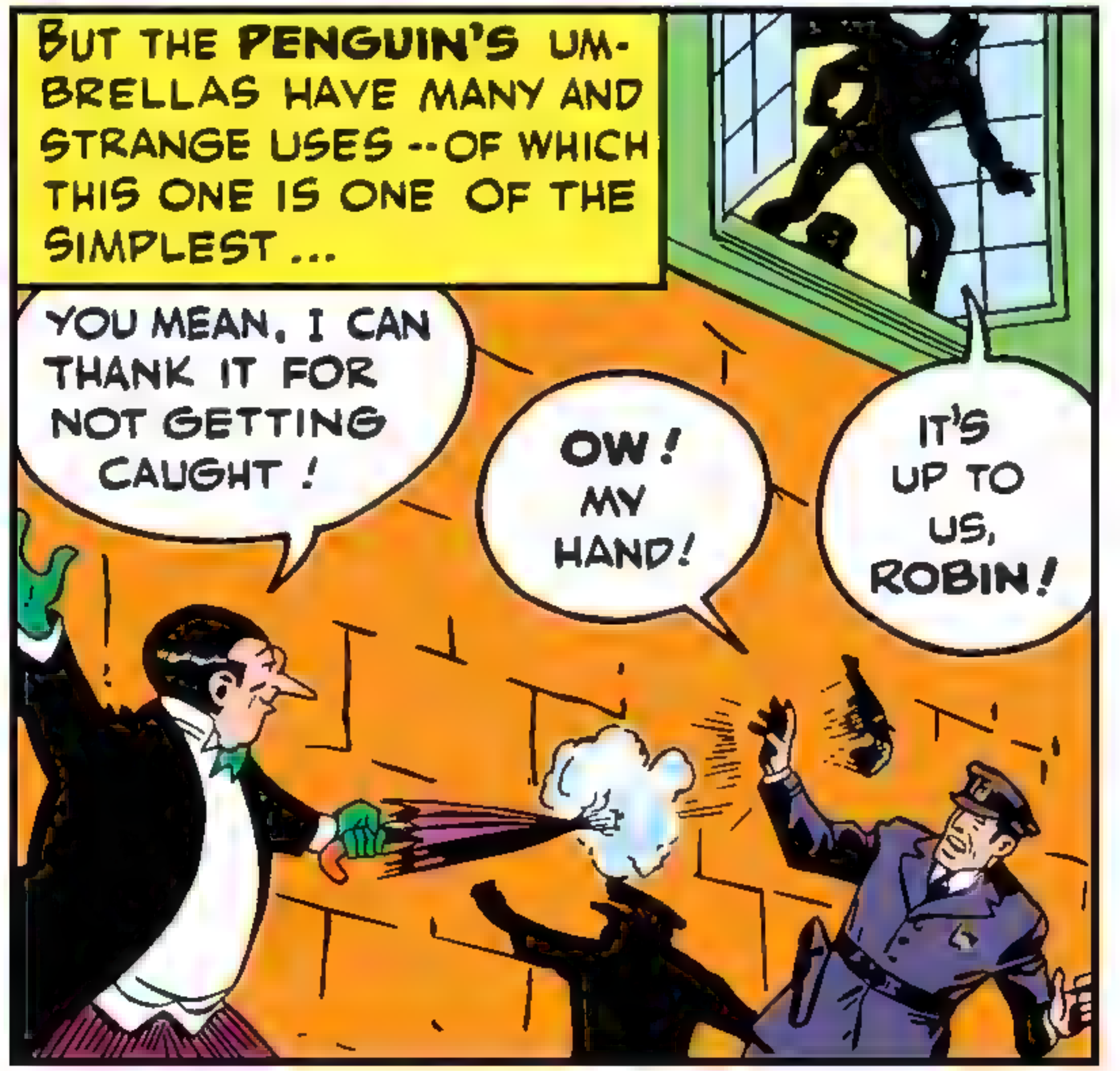
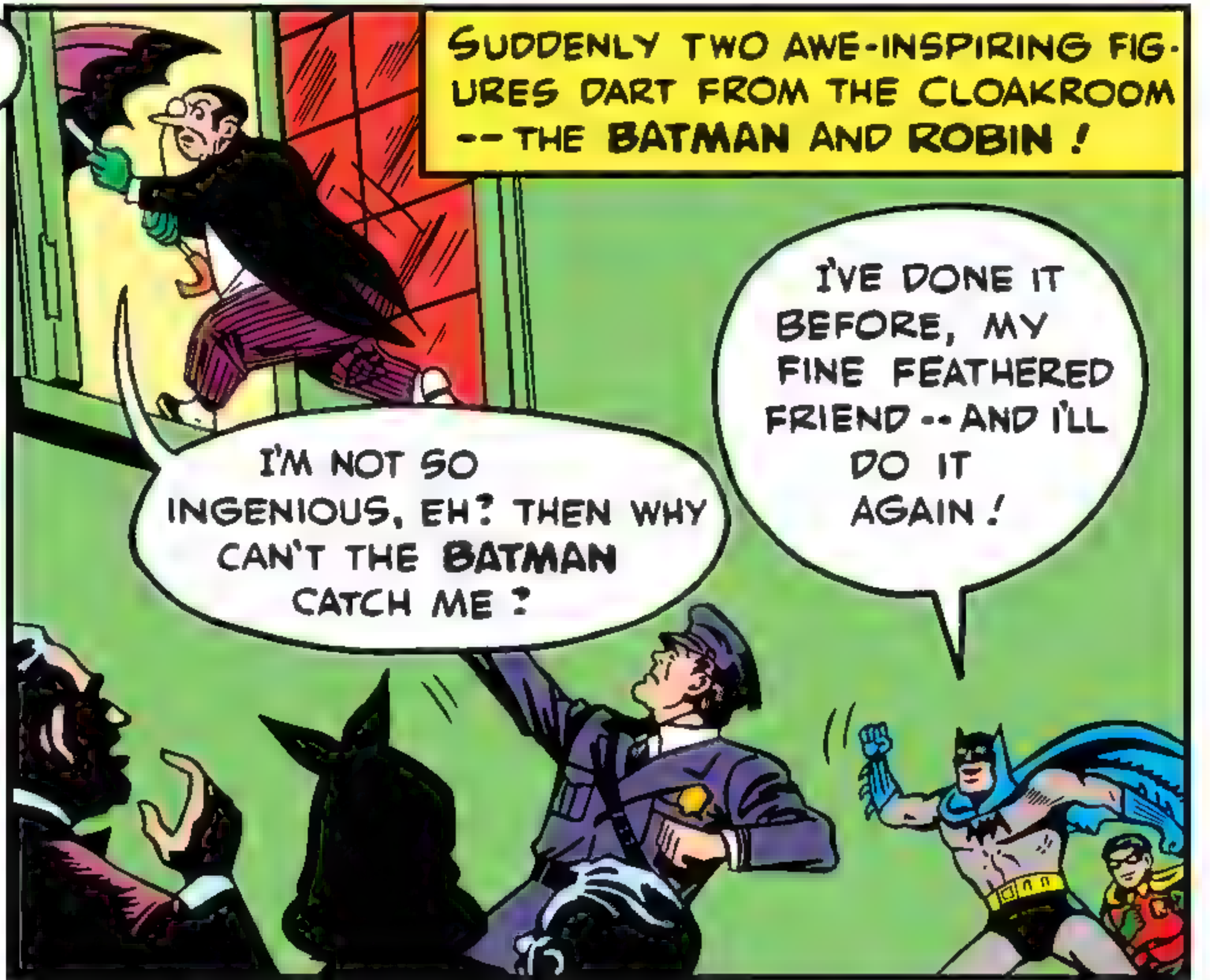
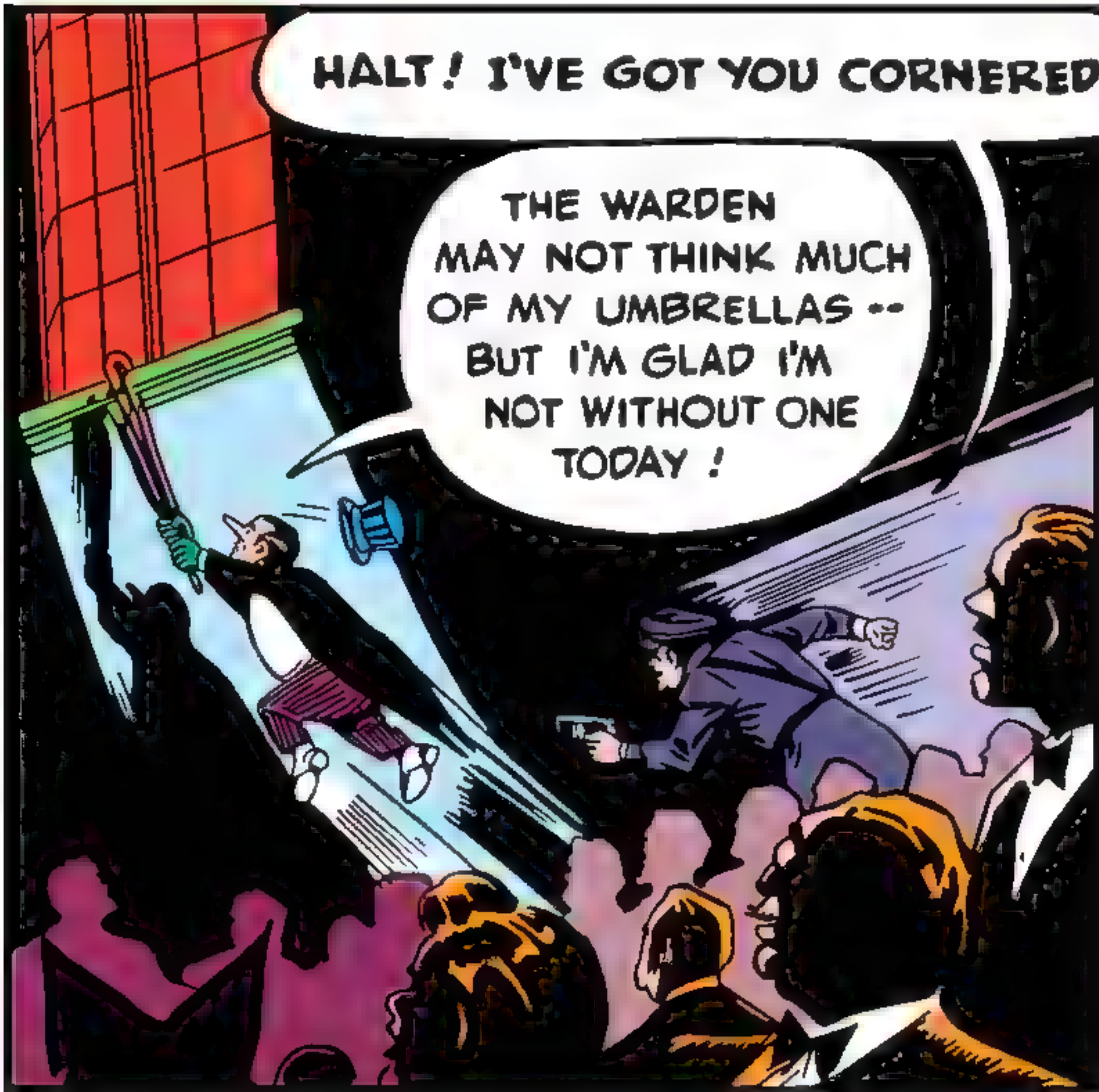
QUICK, **DICK**-- WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE A LIGHTNING CHANGE IN THE CLOAKROOM!



OTHER EYES HAVE ALSO SEEN AND RECOGNIZED THE **PENGUIN**...

THE NERVE OF HIM, CALLING ATTENTION TO HIMSELF WHEN HE KNOWS HIS FACE IS FAMILIAR TO EVERY COP!

I SHOULD HAVE KEPT STILL.. THAT COP HAS SPOTTED ME..



LATER, IN THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME ...

NOW I WONDER WHAT THAT MEANS ?

MAYBE, AFTER HIS RECENT EXPERIENCE WITH THE BATMAN, HE'S RUNNING FOR THE TALL TIMBER !

BUT AT "PENGUIN MANOR", A PALATIAL PENTHOUSE HIDEOUT...

IZAAK WALTON COULDN'T DO BETTER! BUT INSTEAD OF GOLDFISH, I SHALL ANGLE FOR RICHES !

AND THE GAME THE WILY PENGUIN SEEKS IS NEITHER FURRED NOR FEATHERED-- BUT, AS HE PROVES NEXT DAY, GILT-EDGED !

THIS IS A LIKELY SPOT TO MAKE A GOOD CATCH !

THE SWISH OF A SILKEN LINE AND THE WHIRR OF A WELL-OILED REEL ARE LOST IN THE TRAFFIC NOISES THAT FILL THE DEEP CANYONS OF THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT...

HOW THOUGHTFUL OF PEOPLE TO LEAVE SO MANY WINDOWS OPEN !

IN A BROKERAGE OFFICE ...

MISS MEECHAM, YOU'D BETTER PUT THESE BONDS BACK IN THE SAFE NOW !

WHERE ARE THEY, MR. THROCKMORTON ?

WHY, THEY'RE RIGHT -- HUH?... THEY'VE DISAPPEARED-- HALF A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH !

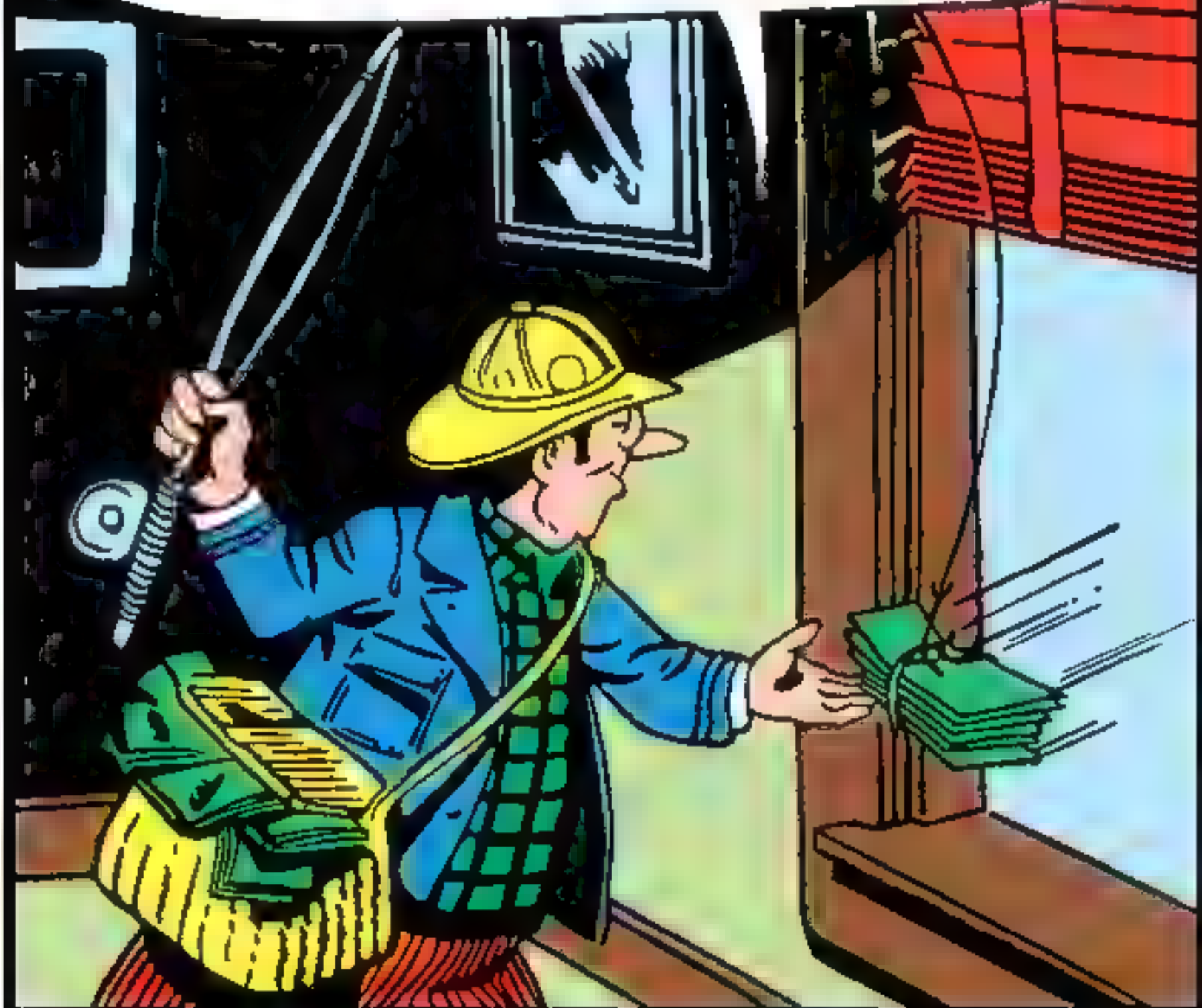
IN THE NEARBY OFFICES OF A LOAN COMPANY...

NOW BEFORE I GIVE YOU THE EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, MR. GULLET, THERE ARE CERTAIN PAPERS TO BE SIGNED...

LET'S GET IT OVER WITH! I WANT TO RUSH THAT MONEY TO THE BANK BEFORE IT CLOSSES !

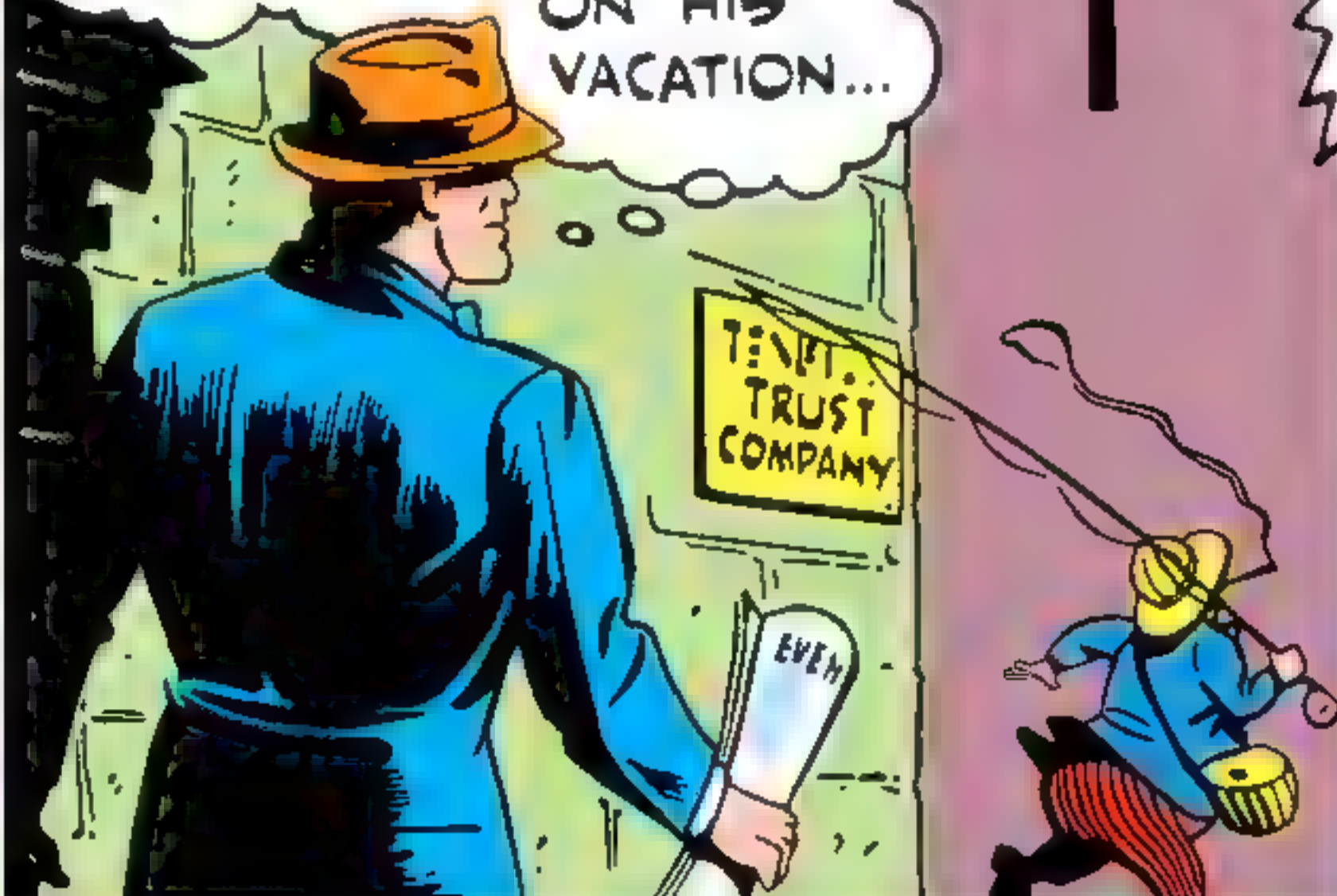
AND AT THE END OF AN HOUR'S EXCELLENT FISHING...

GOOD FISHING, BUT TAME! I'LL HAVE TO SEE IF I CAN'T FIGURE OUT A MORE EXCITING SPORT USING MY NEW GUNS!



PRESENTLY, AS BRUCE WAYNE LEAVES A DIRECTORS' MEETING AT ONE OF THE DOWNTOWN BANKS...

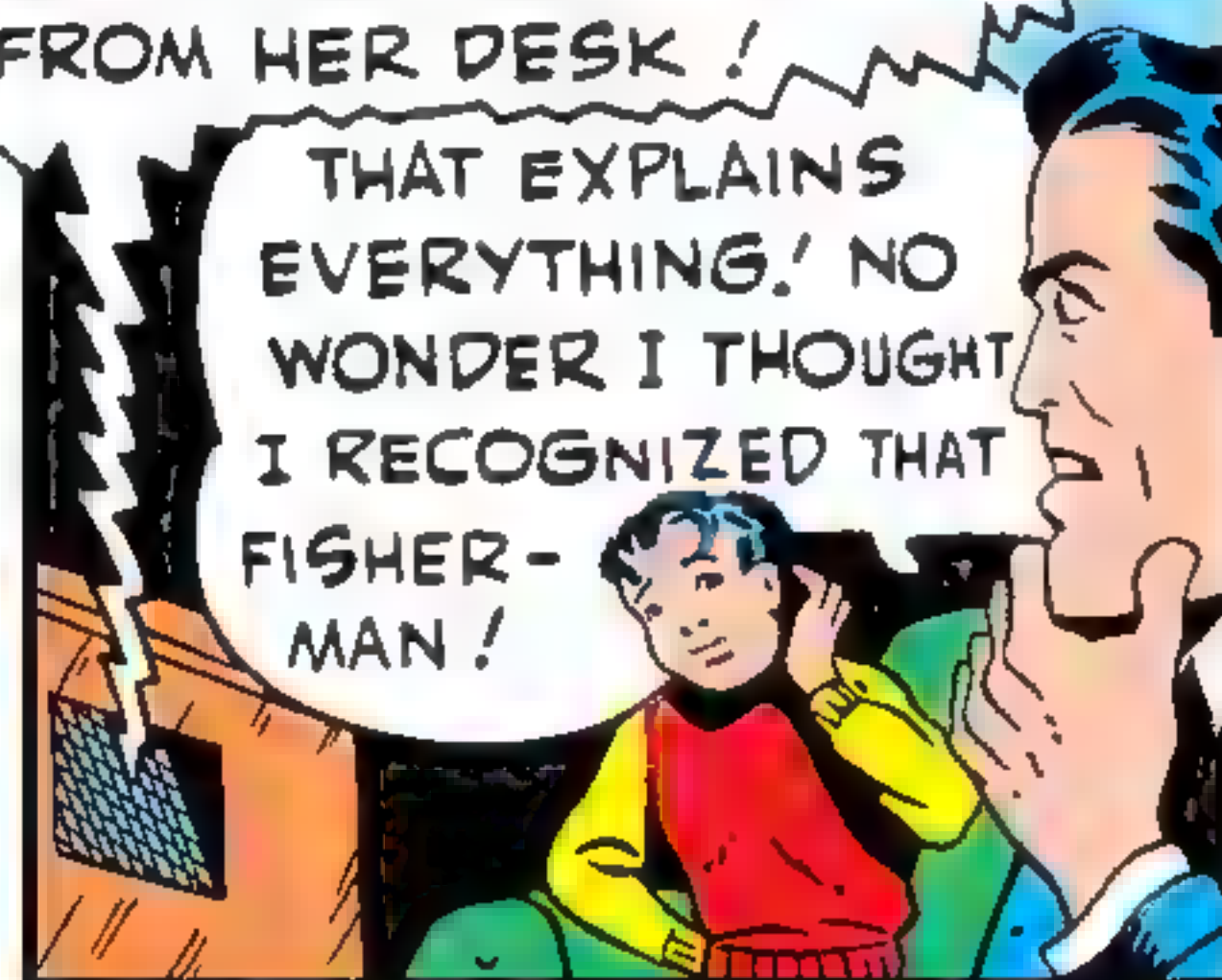
THAT FISHERMAN'S WALK SEEMS FAMILIAR... OH, WELL-- HE'S PROBABLY SOME BROKER I'VE MET SOMEWHERE, JUST GETTING STARTED ON HIS VACATION...



BUT THAT EVENING...

... A CLUE TO TODAY'S MYSTERIOUS CASH AND BOND THEFTS WAS PROVIDED BY A STENOGRAPHER WHO THOUGHT SHE SAW A FISHERMAN'S FLY AND HOOK FLASH PAST HER FACE JUST BEFORE A PACKAGE OF VALUABLE CERTIFICATES VANISHED FROM HER DESK!

THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING! NO WONDER I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED THAT FISHERMAN!



MIDNIGHT AND A RAKISH CAR BEGINS A GRIM PATROL OF SHADOWED STREETS -- THE BATMOBILE!

SO YOU THINK THE PENGUIN HAS TURNED SPORTSMAN-- EXCEPT THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW THE REAL MEANING OF "SPORTSMANSHIP"?



YES, ROBIN...

AFTER THE WAY WARDEN KEYES RIDICULED HIS UMBRELLAS, A PERSON AS VAIN AS THE PENGUIN WOULD LOOK FOR SOMETHING NEW-- AND HE'S JUST LAID IN A LARGE STOCK OF RODS AND GUNS!

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, MEN DELIVER A BULKY PARCEL TO THE PRETENTIOUS MANSION OF TYRUS WOLFF, WHO IS HOLDING A GLITTERING BALL IN HONOR OF HIS YOUNG SON'S BIRTHDAY...

A BOITHDAY PRESENT FOR WOLFF'S KID!



BRING IT INTO THE BALLROOM THE YOUNG MAWSTER IS OPENING THE PRESENTS NOW!

A BADLY SPOILED YOUNGSTER VIEWS THE GIFTS OF FRIENDS-- AND OTHERS...

SEE, JUNIOR-- IT'S MADE OF RUBBER! YOU CAN TAKE IT WITH YOU WHEN WE GO TO OUR BEACH HOUSE!



I DON'T WANT IT! I WANT AN AIRPLANE AND A REAL LOCOMOTIVE AND A STEAM YACHT-- NOT ALL THIS JUNK!

OUTSIDE, THE FOLIAGE OF A TREE RUSTLES AS A STEALTHY HUNTS-MAN TAKES AIM....

IT APPEARS THE YOUNG MAN DOES NOT CARE FOR MY GIFT! .. I'M SURE I'LL LIKE THE ONES I AM ABOUT TO RECEIVE!



THE ROAR OF A HIGH-POWERED RIFLE ECHOES, AND...

WHAT WAS THAT?

WHATEVER IT WAS, IT'S RUINED THAT HORRID TOY-- AND I'M GLAD!

BANG!

JUNIOR'S NEWEST BIRTHDAY PRESENT IS NOT THE ONLY THING TO COLLAPSE AS A GREY MIST SPREADS THROUGH THE BALLROOM...

HEY! I'M CHOKING, AND I DON'T LIKE IT! I-- OO-O-O...

GAS!... UH-H-H...

MAKE IT SNAPPY WITH THAT MASK, LEFTY, OR YOU'LL TAKE A NAP WITH THE REST OF 'EM!

LOOKA DA POILS, GUS! DEY'LL BRING SOME REAL CASH!

SPEAKIN' OF CASH-- HERE'S DA BIGGEST BANKROLL I'VE SEEN DIS SEASON!

NOT FAR AWAY, THE ECHOES OF THE RIFLE SHOT HAVE REACHED EARS LISTENING FOR JUST SUCH A DISTINCTIVE SOUND...

LISTEN! THAT WAS A SHOT FROM A BIG GAME RIFLE!

GOOD HUNTING FOR US, EH, BATMAN?

THAT SHOT WAS FIRED RIGHT AROUND HERE, ROBIN!

AND THOSE FELLOWS ARE MAKING A HIGH-SPEED GETAWAY!

THE NEXT INSTANT...

SLOW DOWN SO WE CAN LOOK YOU OVER!

DA BATMAN!

AN' ROBIN!

THIS IS FOR YOU-- AND IF YOU'LL TELL ME WHERE THE PENGUIN'S ROOSTING THESE DAYS, I HAVE SOMETHING FOR HIM, TOO!

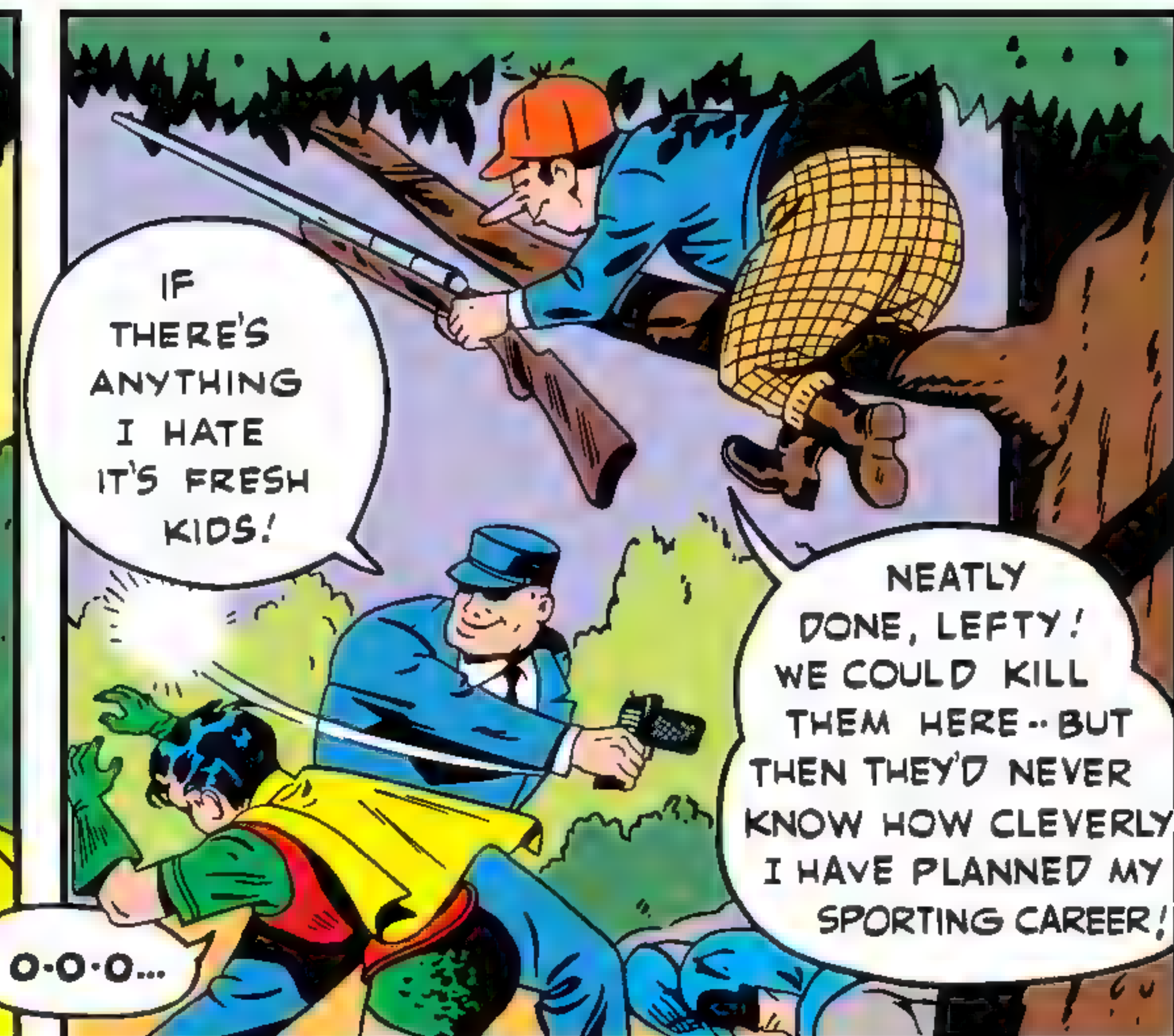
AHH-H-H..



I'M ROOSTING RIGHT UP HERE, BATMAN!

PENGUIN-- YOU FAT JAILBIRD!

A-A-A...

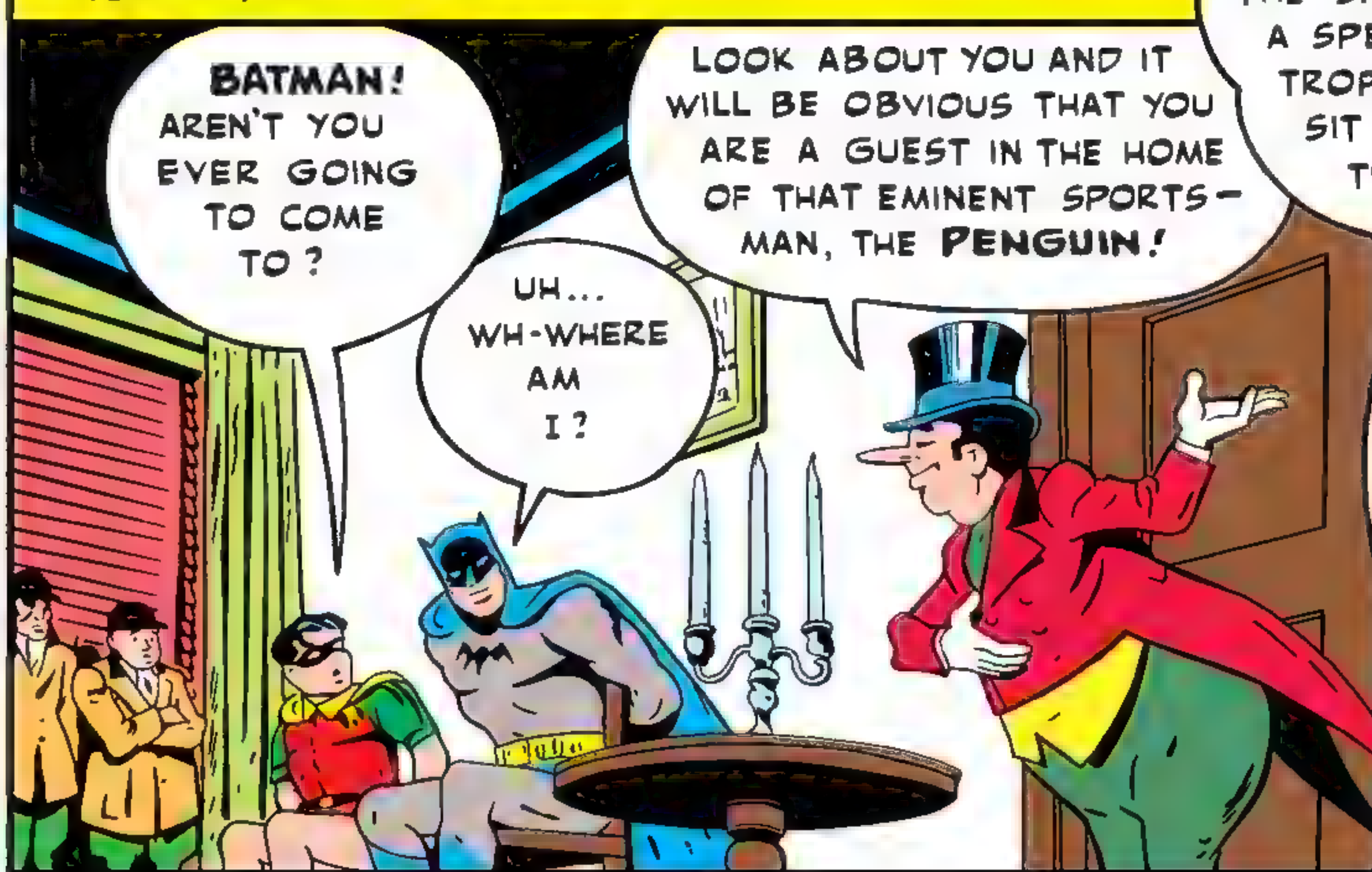


IF THERE'S ANYTHING I HATE IT'S FRESH KIDS!

NEATLY DONE, LEFTY! WE COULD KILL THEM HERE-- BUT THEN THEY'D NEVER KNOW HOW CLEVERLY I HAVE PLANNED MY SPORTING CAREER!

O-O-O...

SO IT IS THAT THE BATMAN AND ROBIN AWAKE HOURS LATER TO FIND --

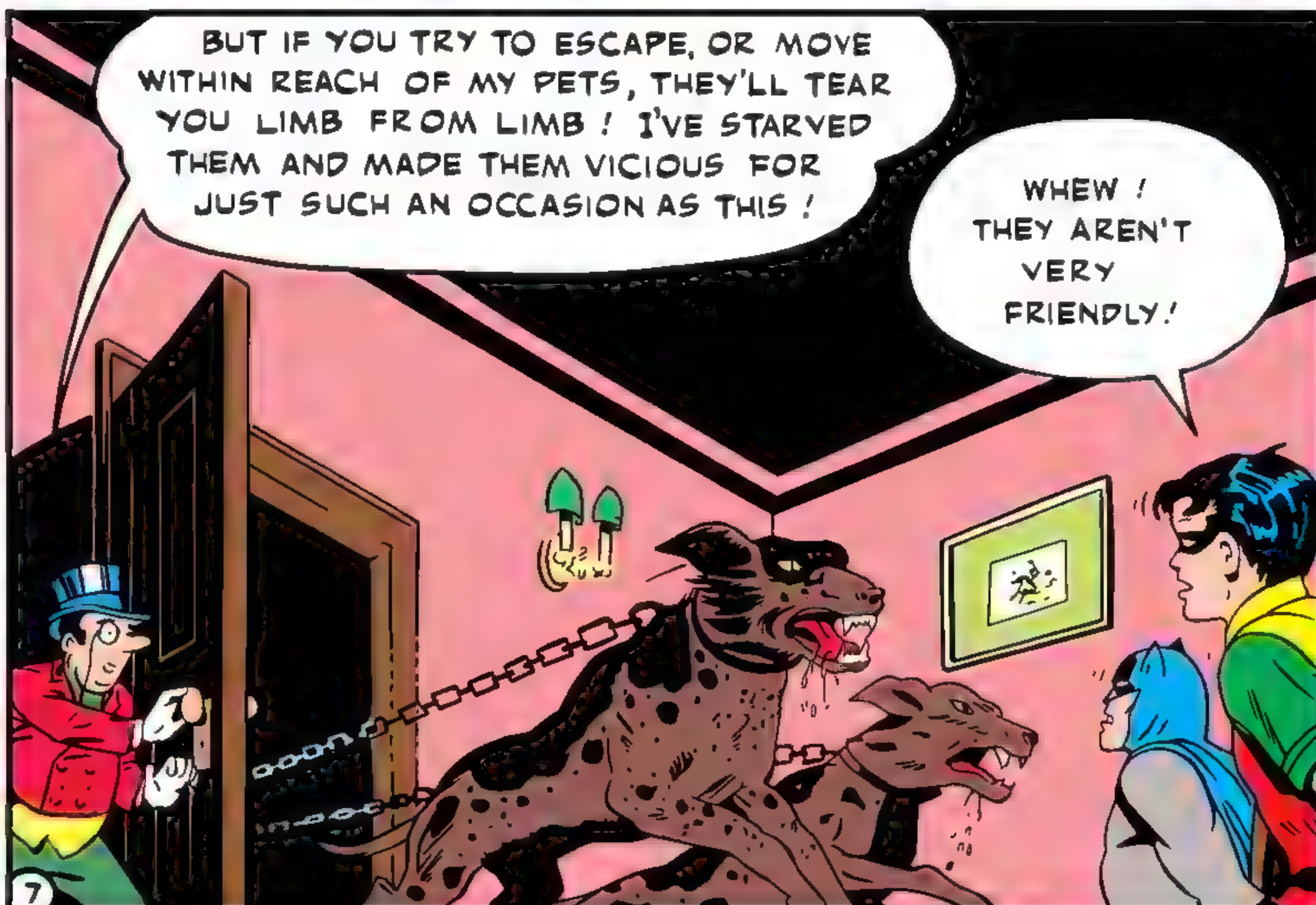


BATMAN! AREN'T YOU EVER GOING TO COME TO?

LOOK ABOUT YOU AND IT WILL BE OBVIOUS THAT YOU ARE A GUEST IN THE HOME OF THAT EMINENT SPORTSMAN, THE PENGUIN!

UH... WH-WHERE AM I?

I AM JUST LEAVING FOR THE OPENING OF THE SPORTSMAN'S SHOW, WHERE THERE IS A SPECIAL EXHIBITION OF FAMOUS SPORTING TROPHIES, ALL HIGHLY VALUABLE! IF YOU SIT STILL, YOU MAY LIVE TO SEE ME BRING THEM BACK...



BUT IF YOU TRY TO ESCAPE, OR MOVE WITHIN REACH OF MY PETS, THEY'LL TEAR YOU LIMB FROM LIMB! I'VE STARVED THEM AND MADE THEM VICIOUS FOR JUST SUCH AN OCCASION AS THIS!

WHEW! THEY AREN'T VERY FRIENDLY!

ALONE WITH THE FEROCIOUS DOGS, OUR IMPRISONED HEROES TAKE STOCK OF THE SITUATION...

THEY'D GOBBLE US ALIVE IF WE WERE SIX INCHES NEARER! AND TO THINK THEY CALL THE DOG MAN'S BEST FRIEND!

GIVEN HALF A CHANCE ANY DOG IS A GENTLEMAN-- BUT THESE POOR FELLOWS HAVE BEEN DELIBERATELY BEATEN AND STARVED!



AS A MATTER OF FACT, THEY MAY STILL RECOGNIZE US AS FRIENDS IF WE MAKE OURSELVES CLEAR TO THEM... AT LEAST, I CAN TRY... NICE DOGGY!



IT IS TRUE THAT DOGS OFTEN DISPLAY SOMETHING VERY LIKE HUMAN UNDERSTANDING -- AND AS THE BATMAN'S PERSUASIVE VOICE GOES ON GENTLY...



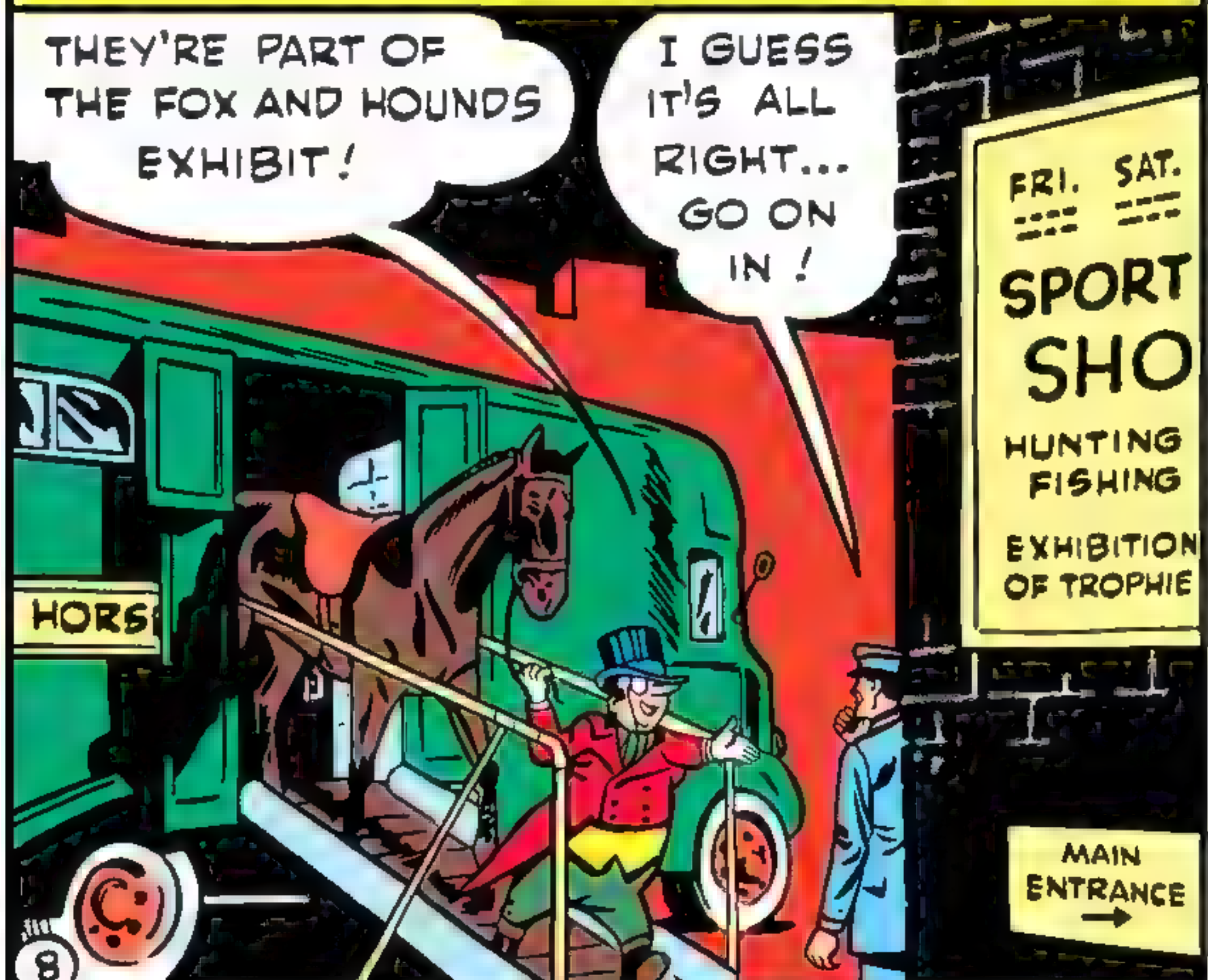
ABRUPTLY, THE CRIME-SMASHER THROWS HIS WEIGHT BACK AGAINST HIS CHAIR, AND --

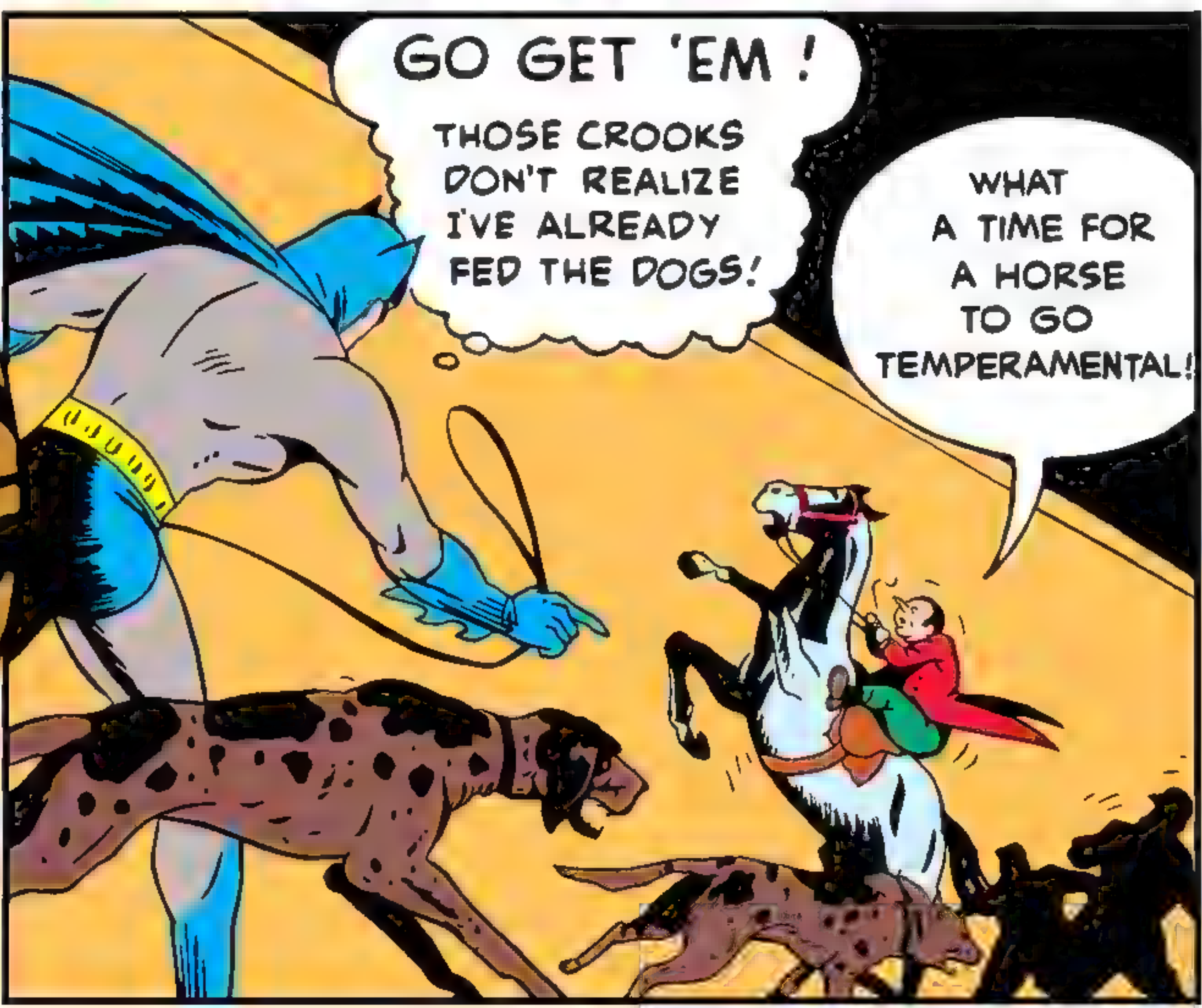
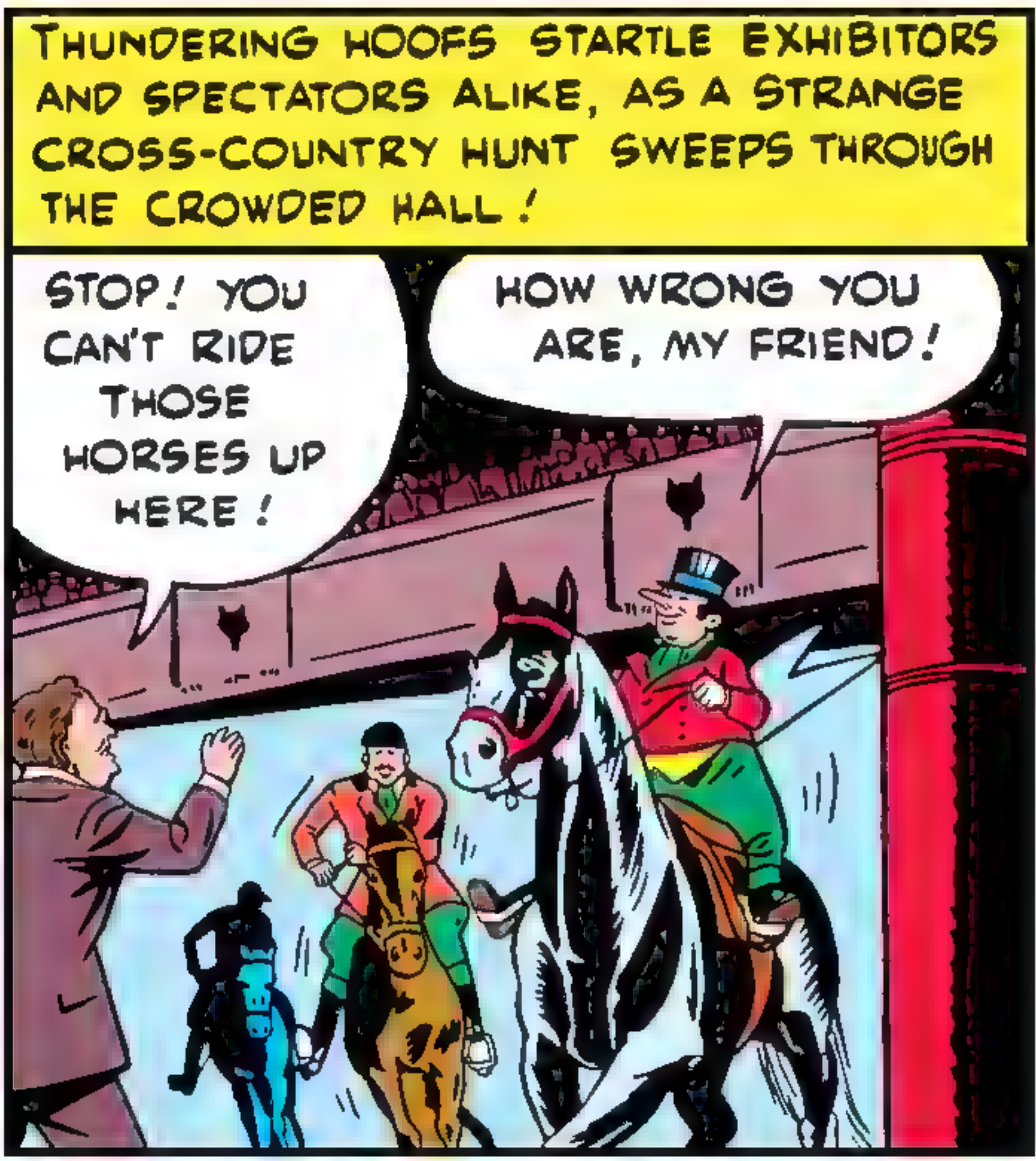
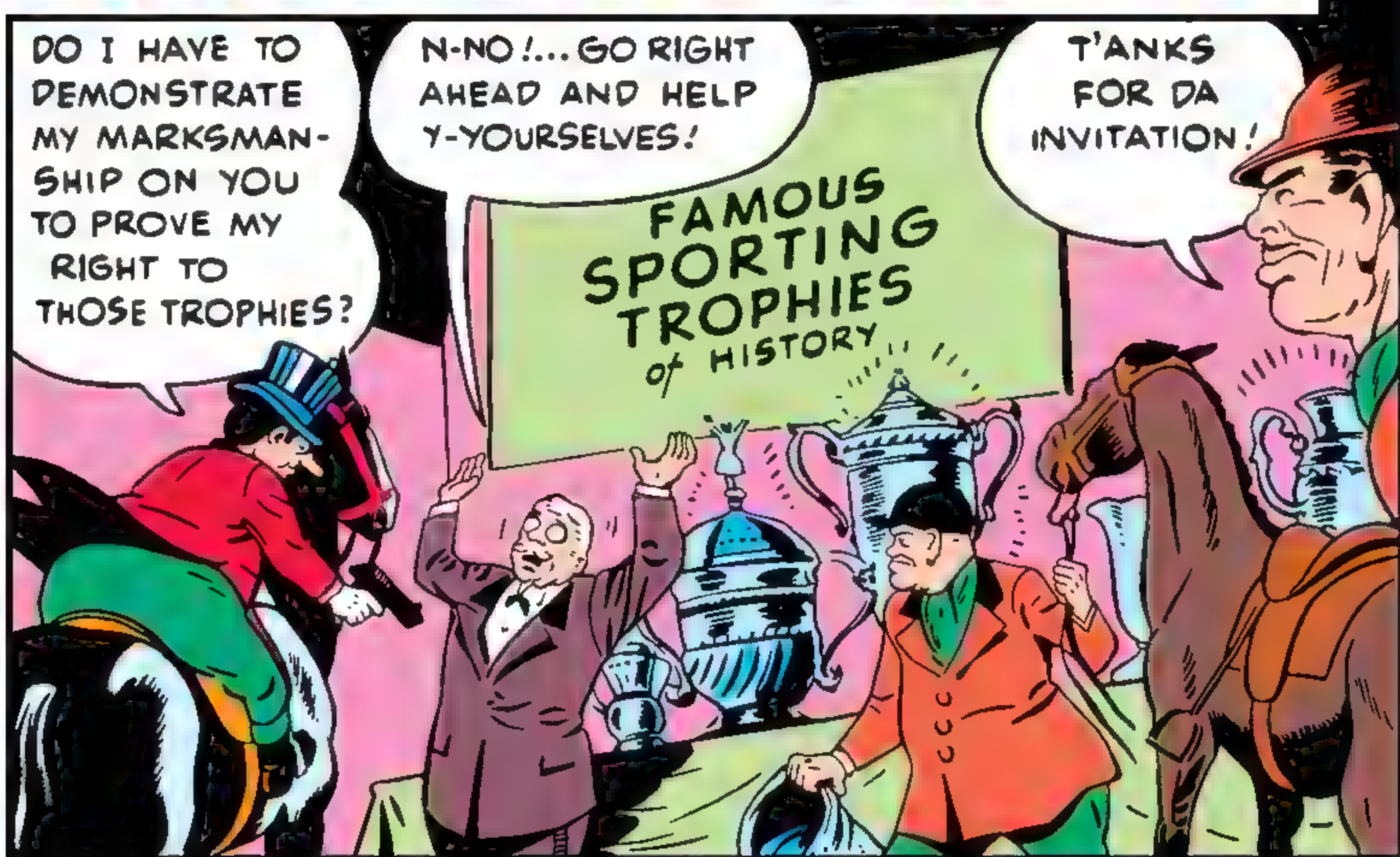
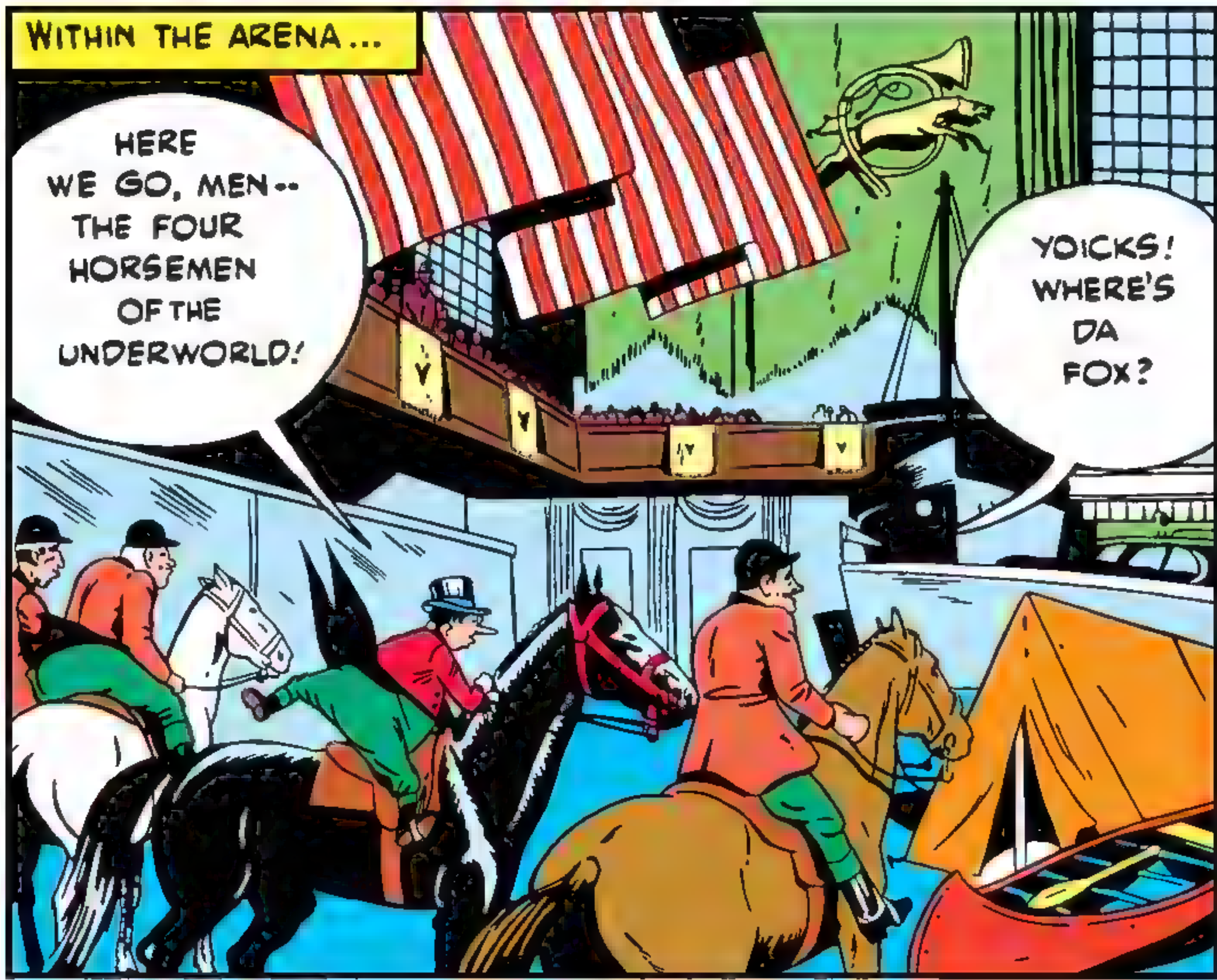


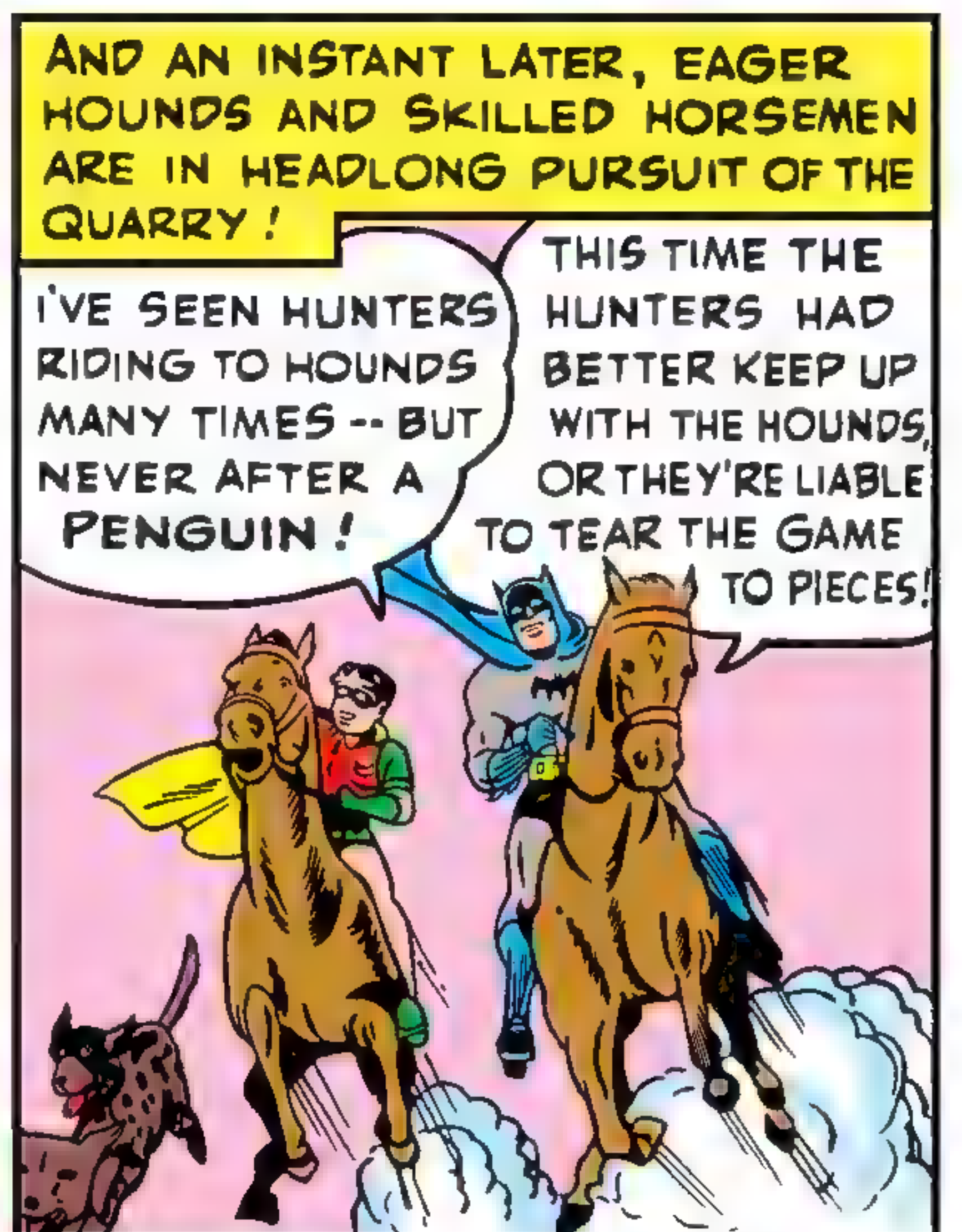
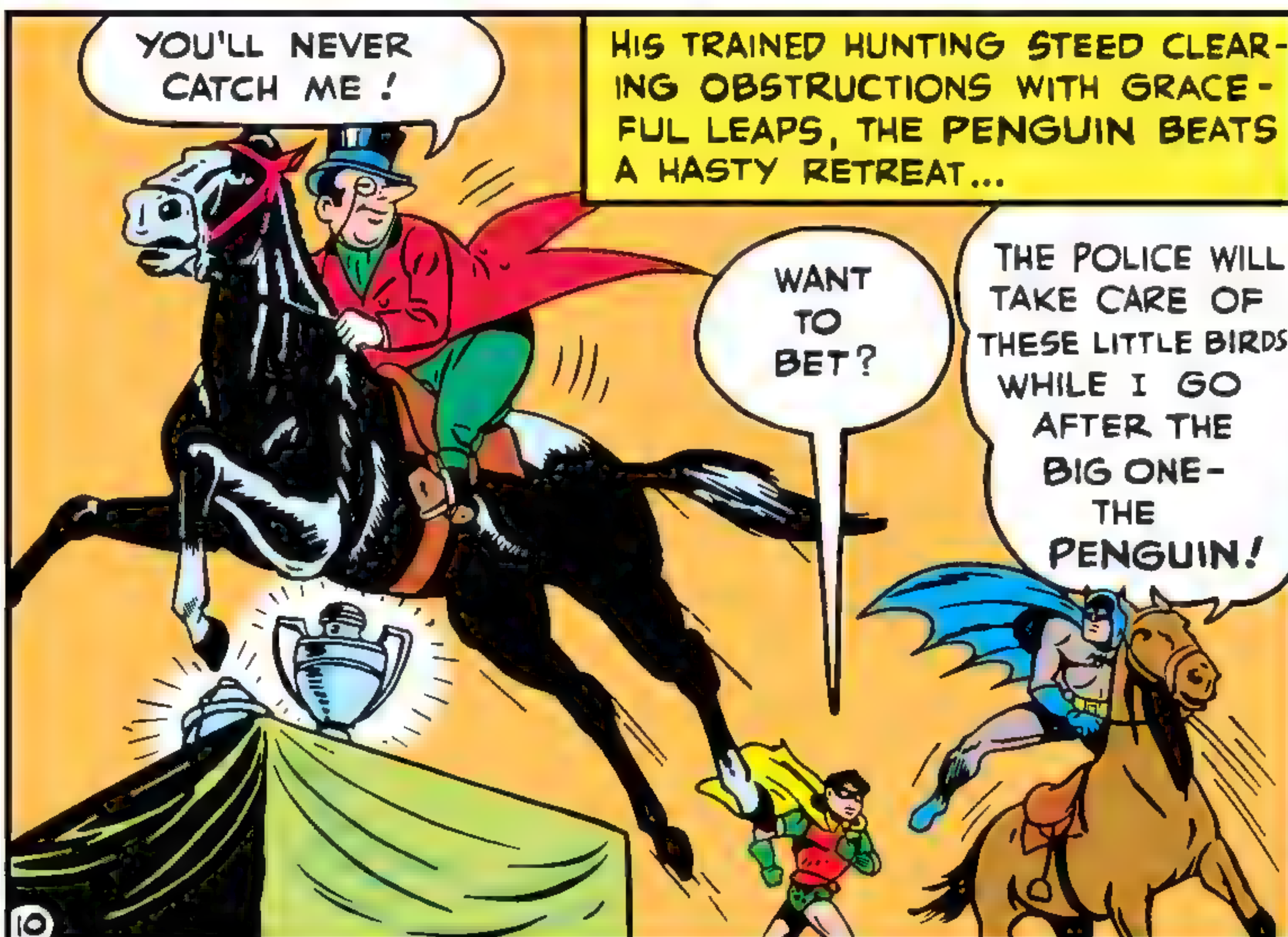
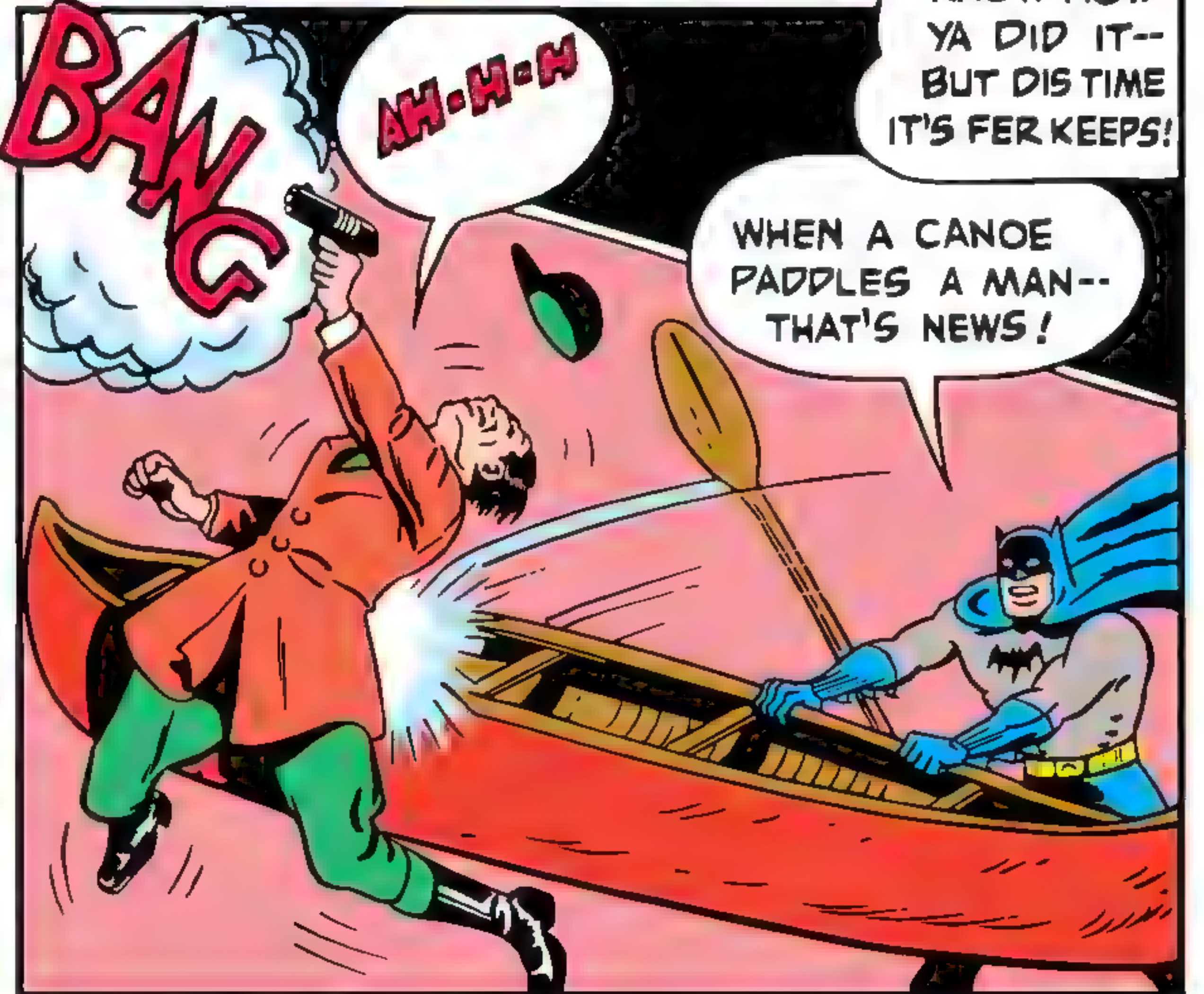
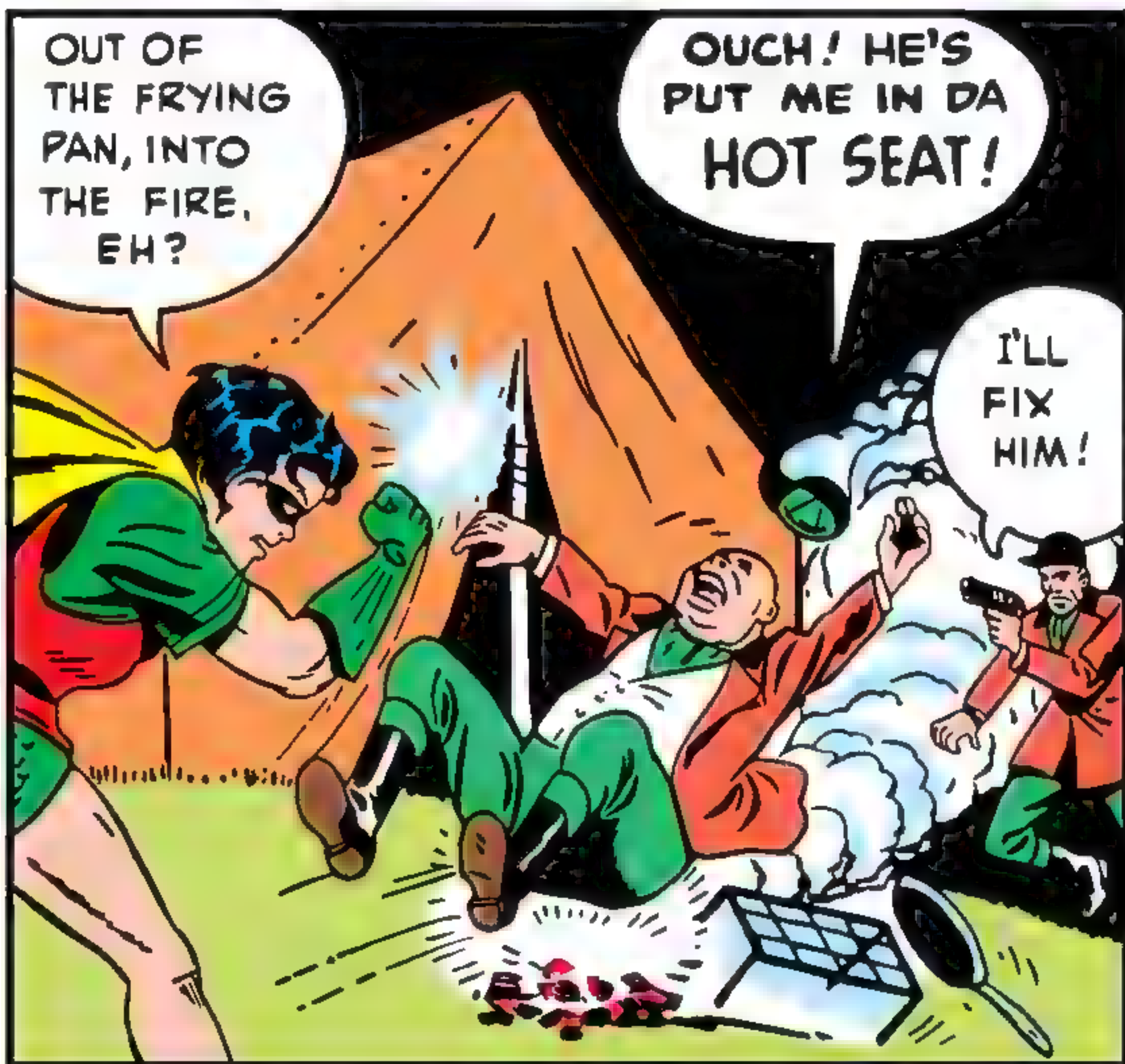
STRAINING AGAINST THE ROPES, HIS HANDS GRASP ONE OF THE FALLEN CANDLES...



MEANWHILE, A HUGE VAN STOPS AT THE DELIVERY ENTRANCE OF THE GREAT ARENA WHERE THE SPORTSMAN'S SHOW IS IN PROGRESS...



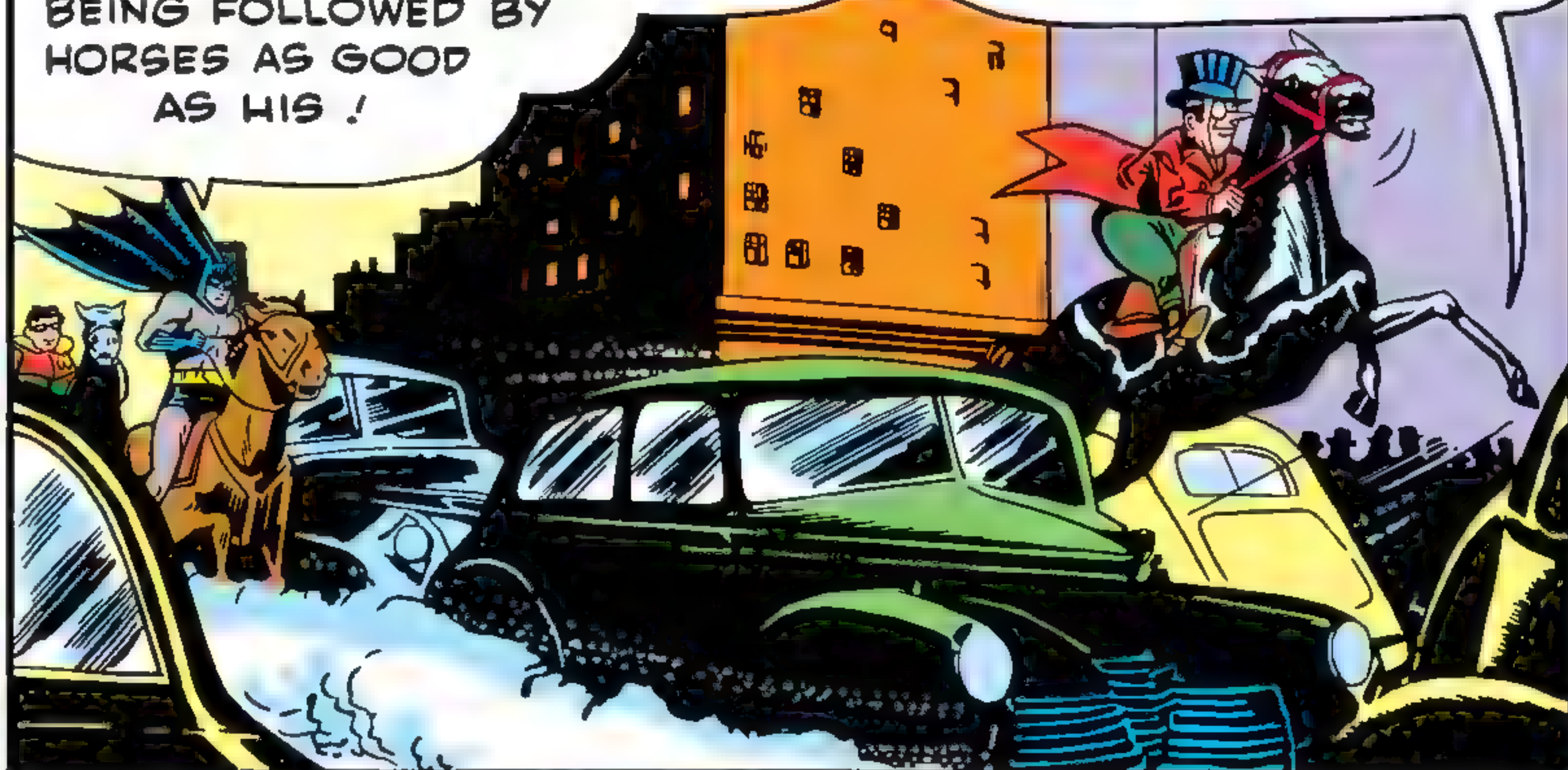




TRAFFIC IS SNARLED AS THRONGS THRILL TO THE SPECTACULAR CHASE...

HE COUNTED ON JAMMING THE STREETS
SO POLICE CARS COULDN'T GO AFTER
HIM -- BUT HE DIDN'T COUNT ON
BEING FOLLOWED BY
HORSES AS GOOD
AS HIS !

IT'S THE BATMAN AND
ROBIN! THEY'RE AFTER
THE PENGUIN!



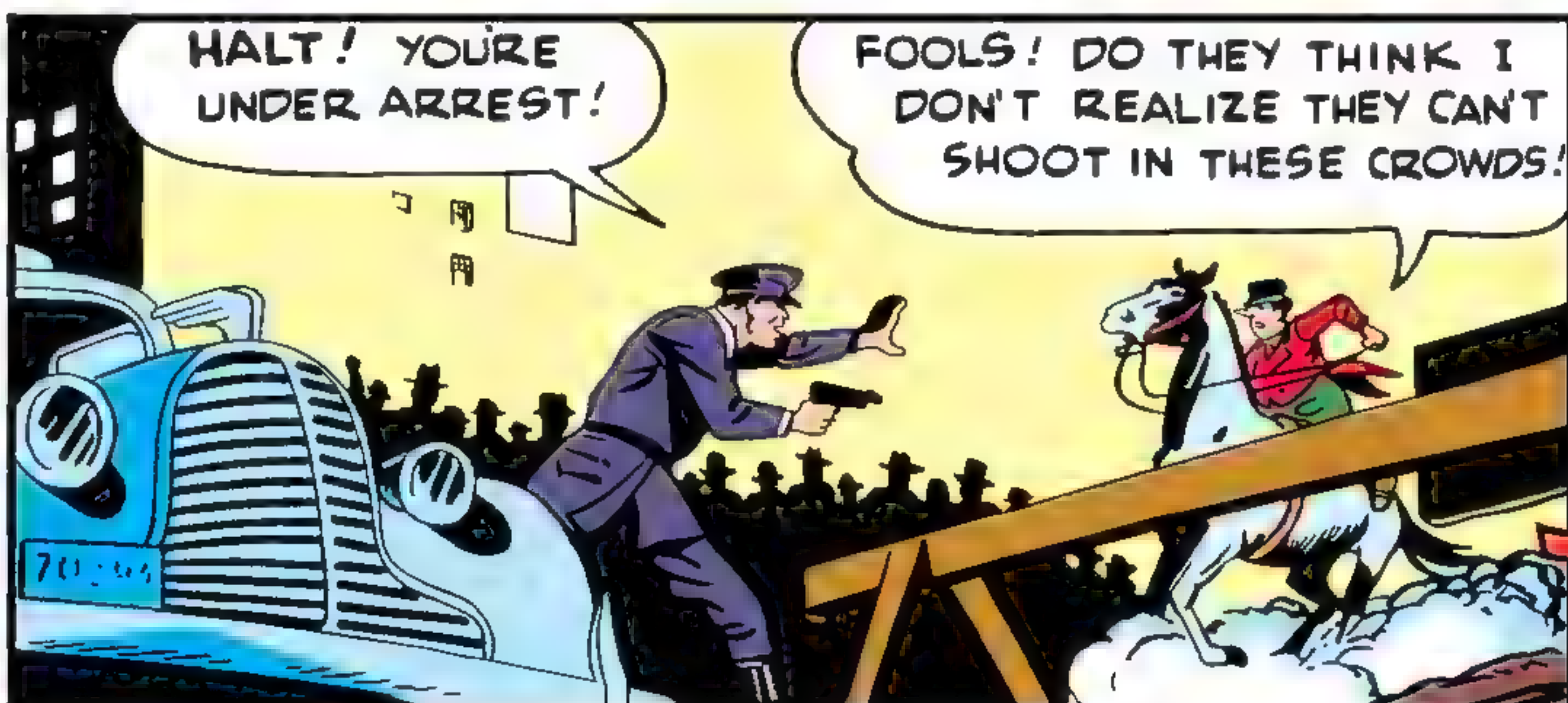
HALF A BLOCK AHEAD, A
POLICE PROWLER SWERVES
TO CLOSE THE STREET...

IT'S THE PENGUIN!
CATCHING HIM WILL
BE A FEATHER IN
OUR CAPS!



HALT! YOU'RE
UNDER ARREST!

FOOLS! DO THEY THINK I
DON'T REALIZE THEY CAN'T
SHOOT IN THESE CROWDS!

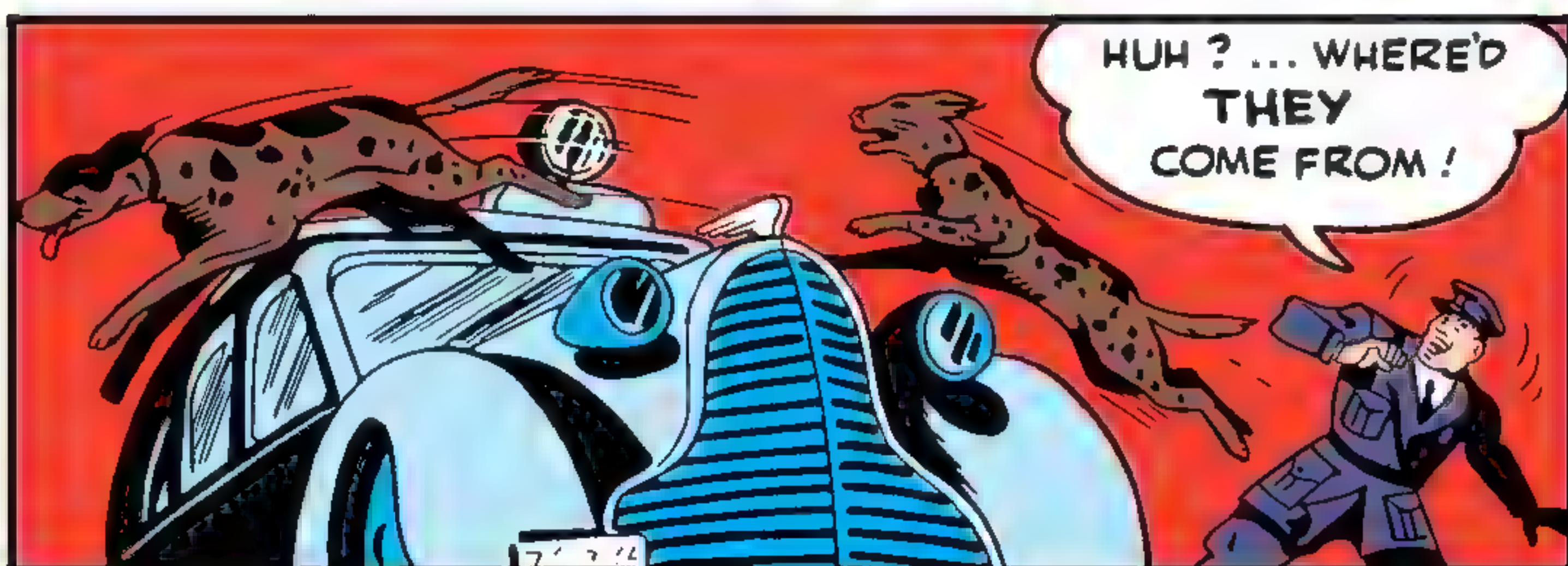


TELL THE COMMISSIONER
HE'LL HAVE TO WAIT
AWHILE FOR
THE PLEASURE
OF MY
COMPANY!

WHA--?



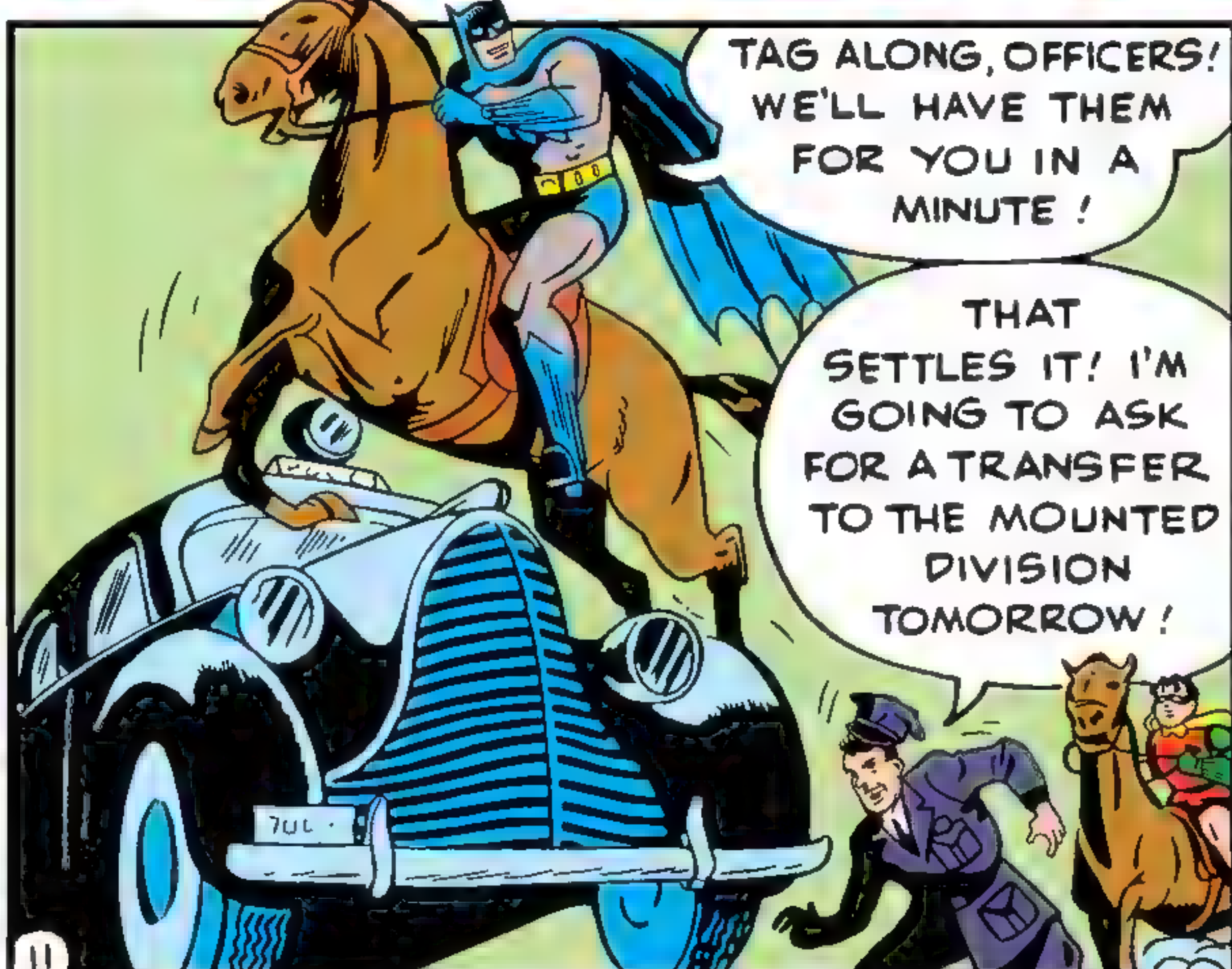
HUH? ... WHERE'D
THEY
COME FROM!



FRIGHTENED BY THE HARRYING HOUNDS,
THE PENGUIN'S HORSE SWERVES INTO
AN OPEN AIR RESTAURANT, DESERTED
IN THE MID-MORNING LULL ...

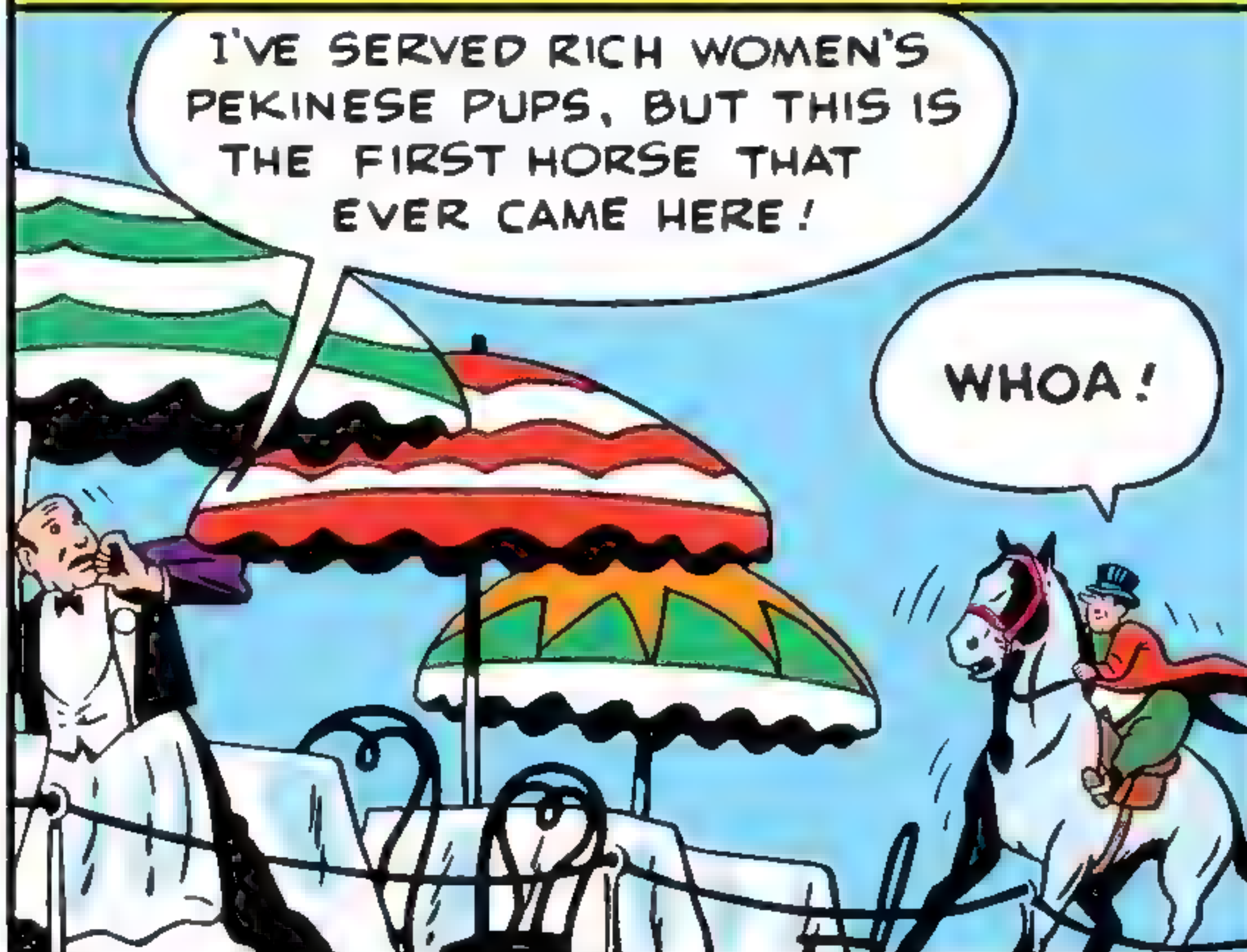
TAG ALONG, OFFICERS!
WE'LL HAVE THEM
FOR YOU IN A
MINUTE!

THAT
SETTLES IT! I'M
GOING TO ASK
FOR A TRANSFER
TO THE MOUNTED
DIVISION
TOMORROW!

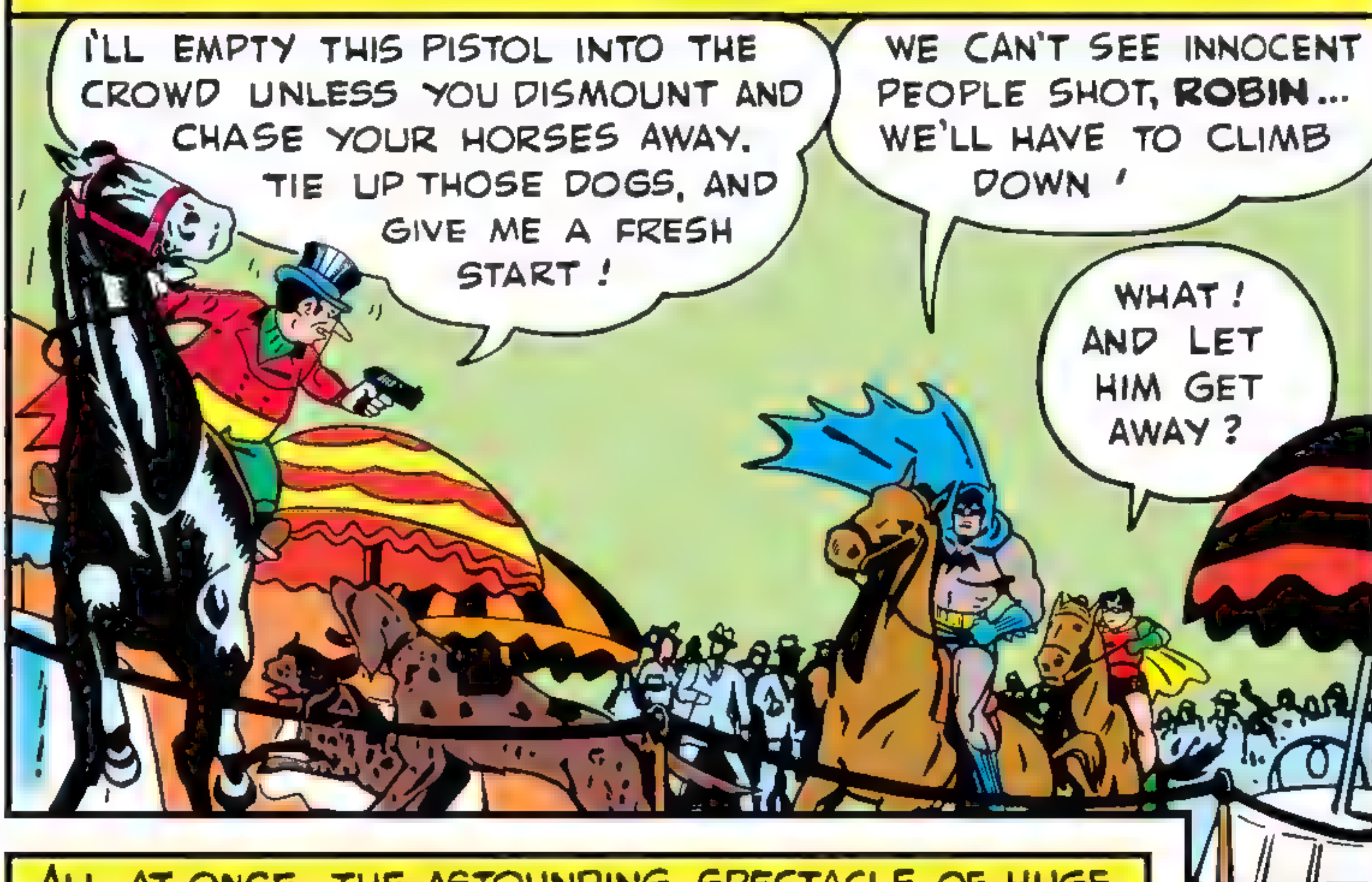


I'VE SERVED RICH WOMEN'S
PEKINESE PUPS, BUT THIS IS
THE FIRST HORSE THAT
EVER CAME HERE!

WHOA!



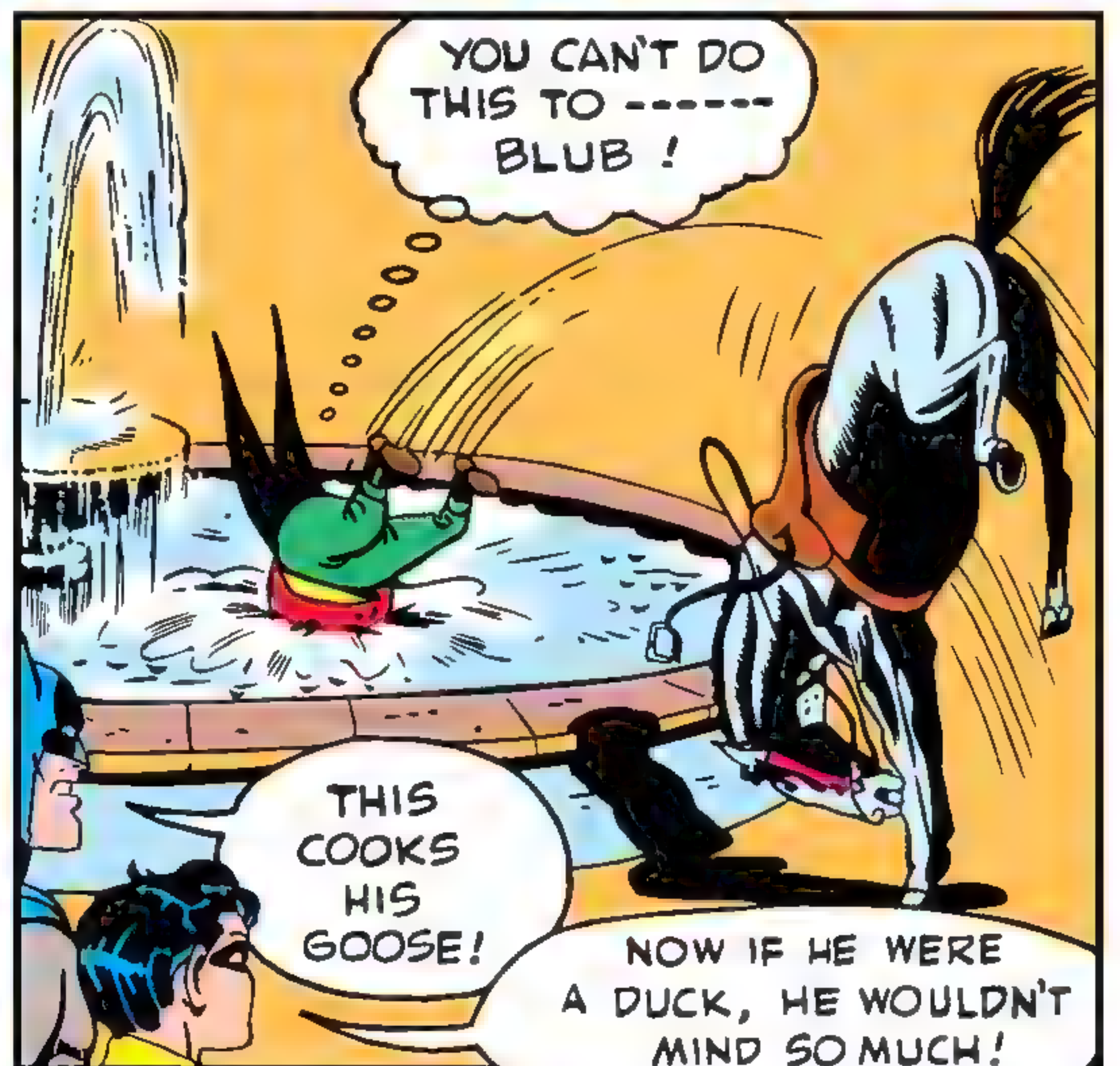
CORNERED, THE DESPERATE PENGUIN MAKES A LAST STAND...



BUT AS THE BATMAN DESCENDS FROM HIS HORSE, HIS HAND SEIZES THE VELVET ROPE ENCLOSING THE TABLES...



ALL AT ONCE, THE ASTOUNDING SPECTACLE OF HUGE, VARICOLORED UMBRELLAS SPINNING, LEAPING AND DANCING STARTLES THE ALREADY UNNERVED HORSE INTO A FRENZY!



NEXT DAY, WARDEN KEYES GREET'S AN OLD LODGER AT THE STATEPRISON...



WHILE AT THE WAYNE HOME...

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU GOT THE WARDEN TO MAKE FUN OF THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLAS, HOPING TO GOAD HIM INTO OVERREACHING HIMSELF?

RIGHT, DICK! YOU SEE HIS TENDEREST SPOT IS HIS VANITY! HE REFUSES TO BELIEVE THAT HE'S TOO OLD A BIRD TO LEARN NEW TRICKS!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

IN A HISTORIC AMERICAN CITY, MEN PLAN A CELEBRATION TO COMMEMORATE THE COURAGEOUS DEEDS OF THEIR PIONEER FOREFATHERS -- WHILE IN THE MURKY SHADOWS OF THE UNDERWORLD, A CUNNING CRIME CZAR PLOTS A FANTASTIC FIESTA OF FELONY!

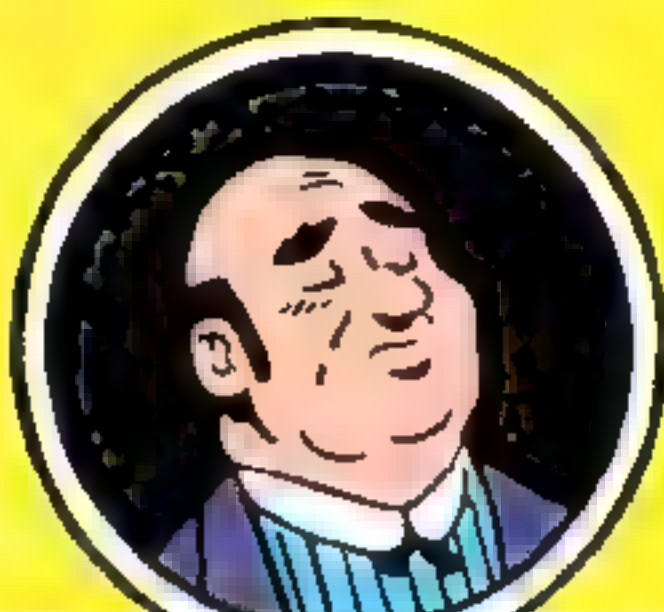
BUT WITH A BOLDNESS AND DARING WORTHY TO RANK WITH THE STIRRING EPICS OF THE PAST, THE MIGHTY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** SWING INTO PERILOUS ACTION TO REVISE AN UNSCHEDULED EVENT IN THE CELEBRATION WHICH HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A ...

"ROGUES' PAGEANT!"



FOR VICTORY
BUY
UNITED STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

A MOST REMARK-
ABLE MAN IS
ALFRED, WHO
ALONE OF ALL
LIVING PERSONS
SHARES THE
DANGEROUS
SECRET OF
THE DUAL IDEN-
TITY OF **BRUCE
WAYNE** AND **DICK
GRAYSON** - THE
BATMAN AND **ROBIN**!



IN FACT, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN A STRANGER MIGHT
HAVE TROUBLE DECIDING WHICH IS SERVANT AND
WHICH MASTER OF THE HOUSEHOLD!

AND FURTHERMORE, MR WAYNE --
BEGGIN' YOUR PARDON, AND ALL
THAT ROT -- I'VE DECIDED TO
PUT MY FOOT DOWN!

NOW,
ALFRED--

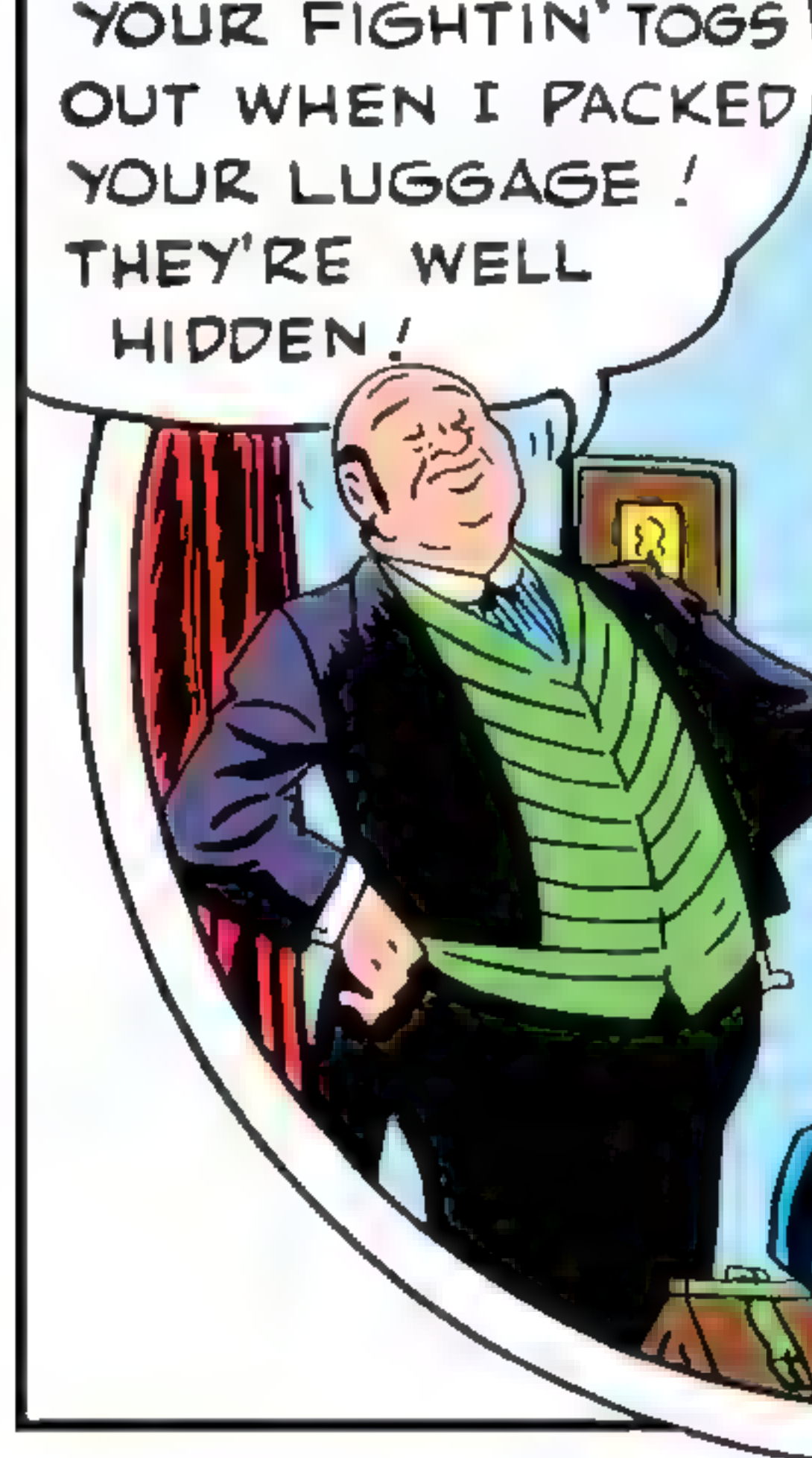


BOTH YOU AND THE
YOUNG MAWSTER HAVE
WORN YOURSELVES OUT
BATTLIN' FOOTPADS AND
SCALAWAGS, AND IT'S
MY DUTY TO SEE THAT
YOU TAKE A
REAL REST!

WE'LL
TAKE IT EASY
ON OUR VACA-
TION--HONEST!



AYE, SO YOU WILL --
BECAUSE I LEFT
YOUR FIGHTIN' TOGS
OUT WHEN I PACKED
YOUR LUGGAGE! THEY'RE WELL
HIDDEN!



BUT WE CAN'T GO INTO
ACTION WITHOUT THEM!
IT WOULD EXPOSE OUR
REAL IDENTITIES!

AND
THEN WE'D
BE USELESS
AGAINST THE
UNDERWORLD!



IN THE END, ALFRED HAS
HIS WAY...

SO LONG,
TYRANT!



IT'S ALL VERY
WELL TO SCOFF,
SIR -- BUT YOU KNOW
AS WELL AS I, I'M
ACTING FOR YOUR
OWN GOOD! MIND
YOU EAT WELL AND
GET LOTS OF SLEEP!

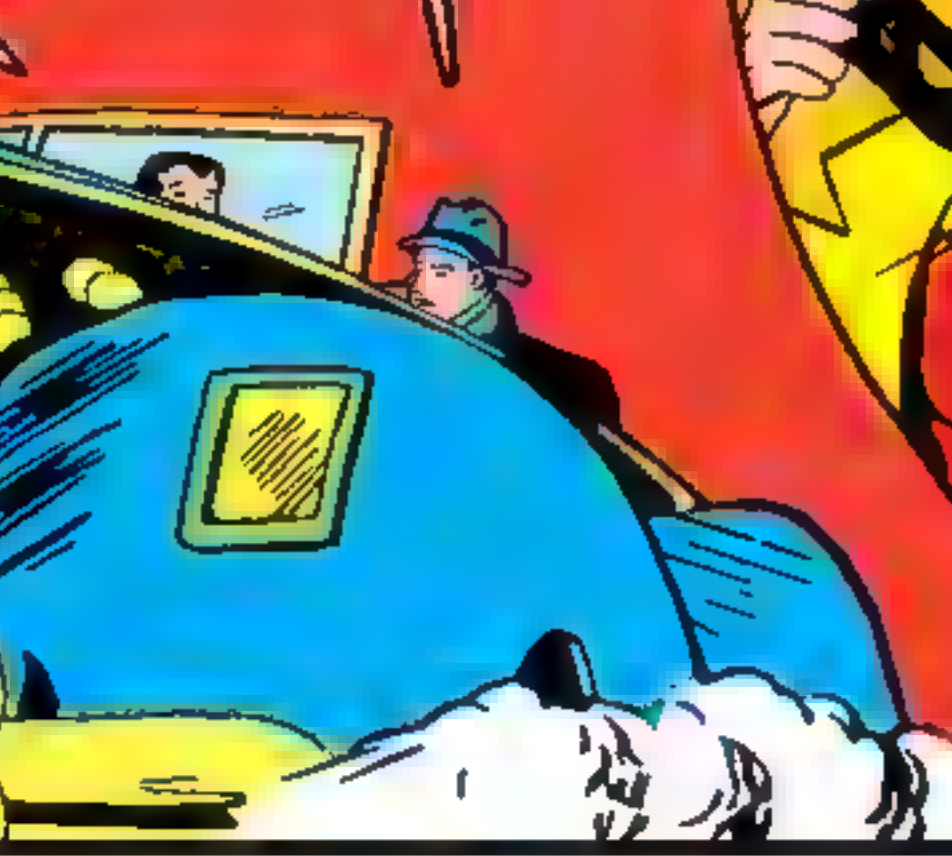


...OR DOES HE?

HE'S GUESSED
THIS ISN'T JUST A
VACATION TRIP,
BRUCE! HE KNOWS
WE WOULDN'T DRIVE
TO SANTO PABLO
JUST FOR PLEASURE,
WITH GAS AND RUBBER
AS SCARCE AS THEY
ARE!

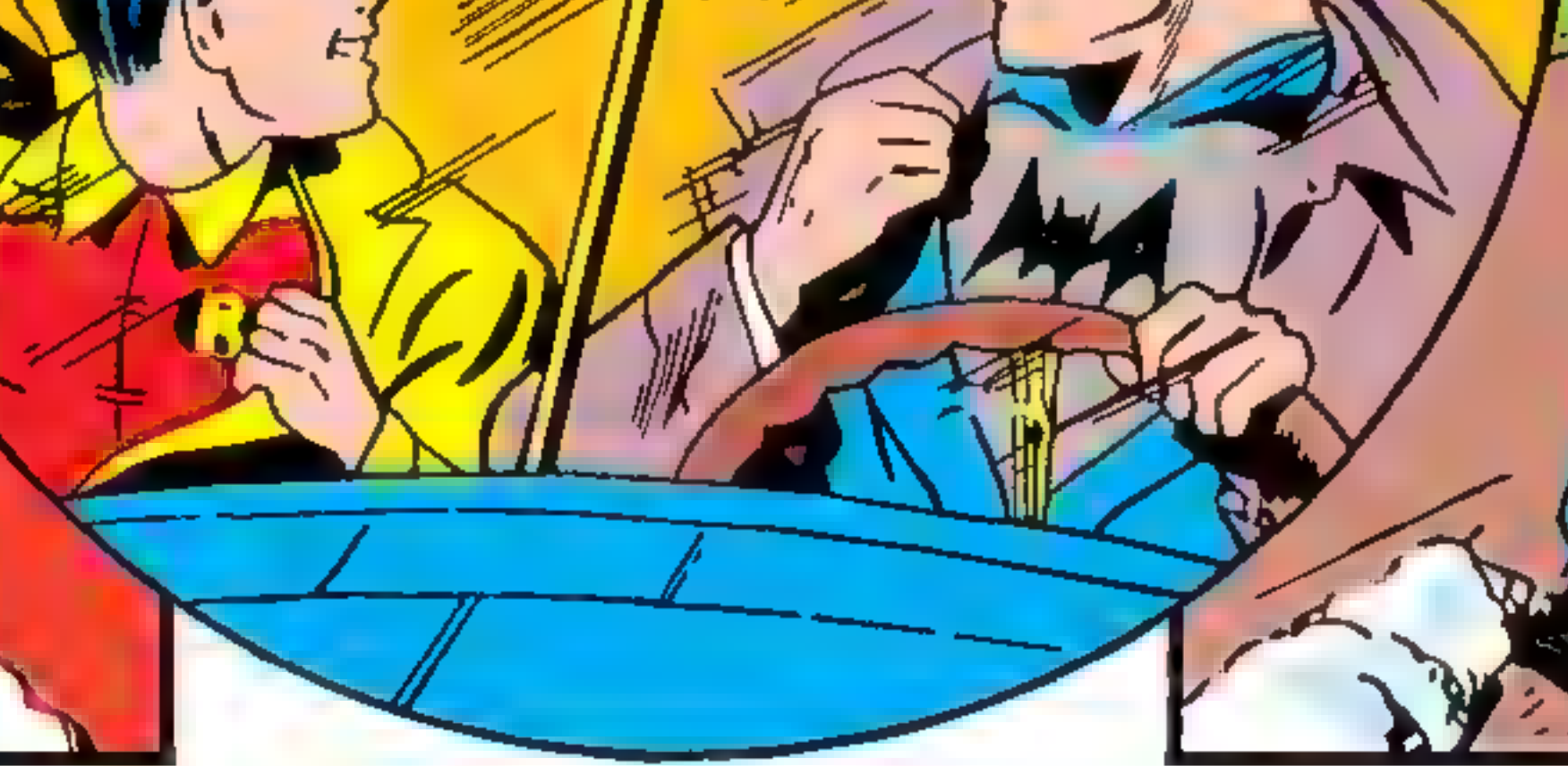


VERY LIKELY,
DICK! BUT I HAD
AN IDEA HE MIGHT
PROTEST, AND SO
I PULLED A
FAST ONE ON
HIM...



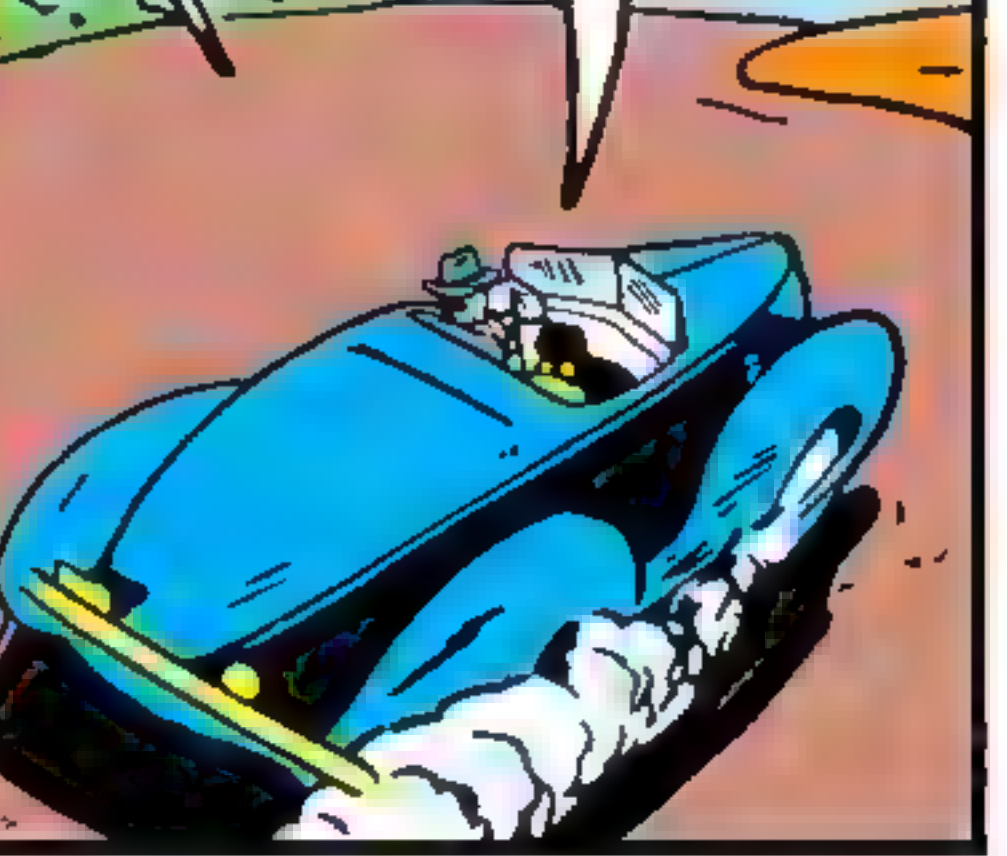
IT'S LUCKY HE DIDN'T SUSPECT
I PUT A SPARE **BATMAN** UNI-
FORM ON UNDERNEATH
THESE CLOTHES!

YOU'VE GOT
NOTHING ON ME,
CHUM! LOOK!



AND NOW FOR
HISTORIC SANTO
PABLO, ONE OF THE
OLDEST CITIES
OF THE SOUTHWEST!
SUNSHINE, ROMANCE!

AND
DANGER AND
EXCITEMENT--
I HOPE!



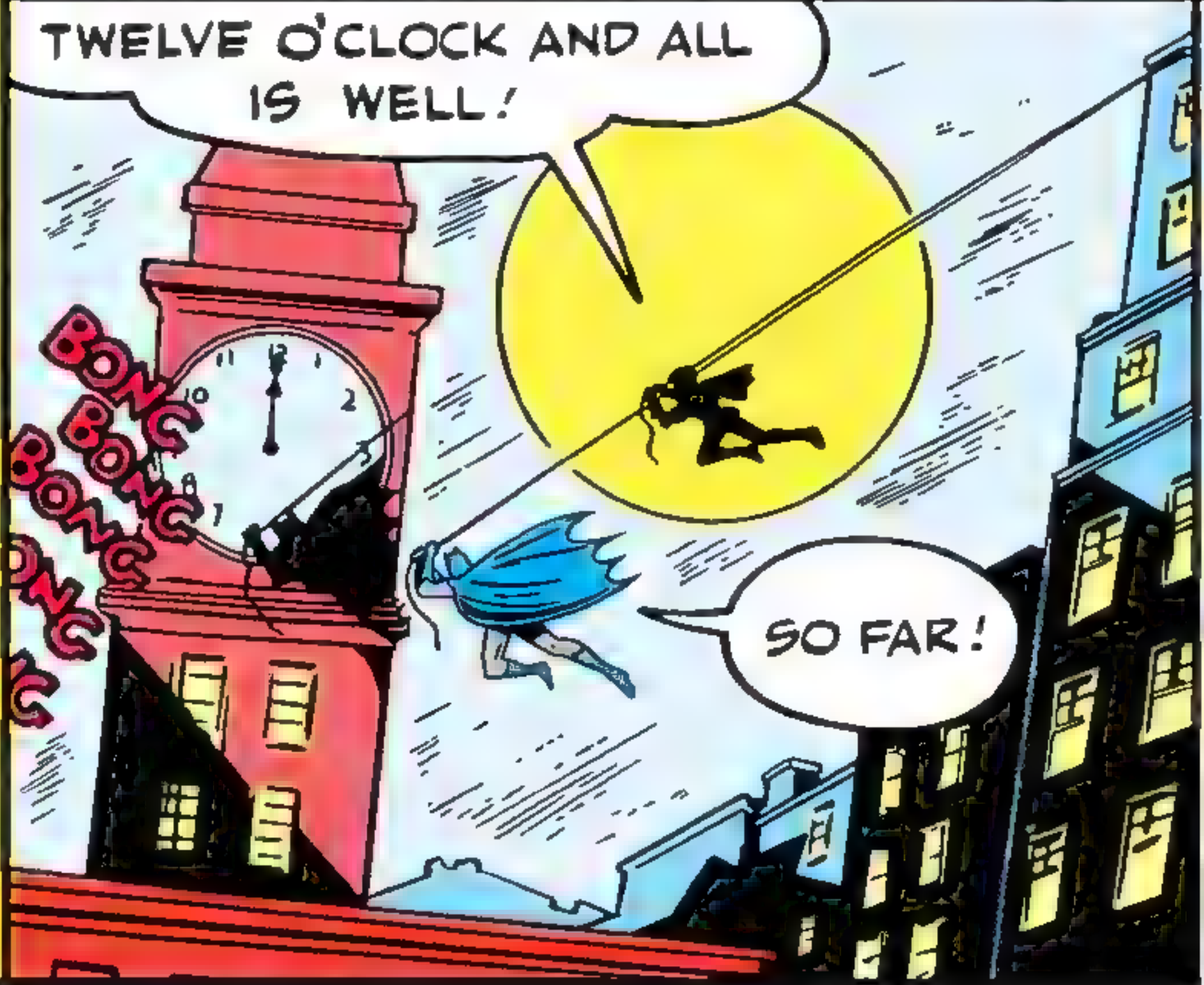
HAVING WITNESSED THE OUTWITTING OF THE EVER-VIGILANT ALFRED, LET US TURN THE CLOCK BACK A FEW HOURS AND SEE JUST WHY THIS "VACATION" JAUNT IS REALLY SOMETHING MORE THAN THAT...

LOOK SHARP, AND YOU'LL CATCH A GLIMPSE OF TWO AWESOME SHADOWS FLITTING ACROSS THE GOTHAM CITY ROOFTOPS ...

TWELVE O'CLOCK AND ALL IS WELL!

BONG BONG BONG

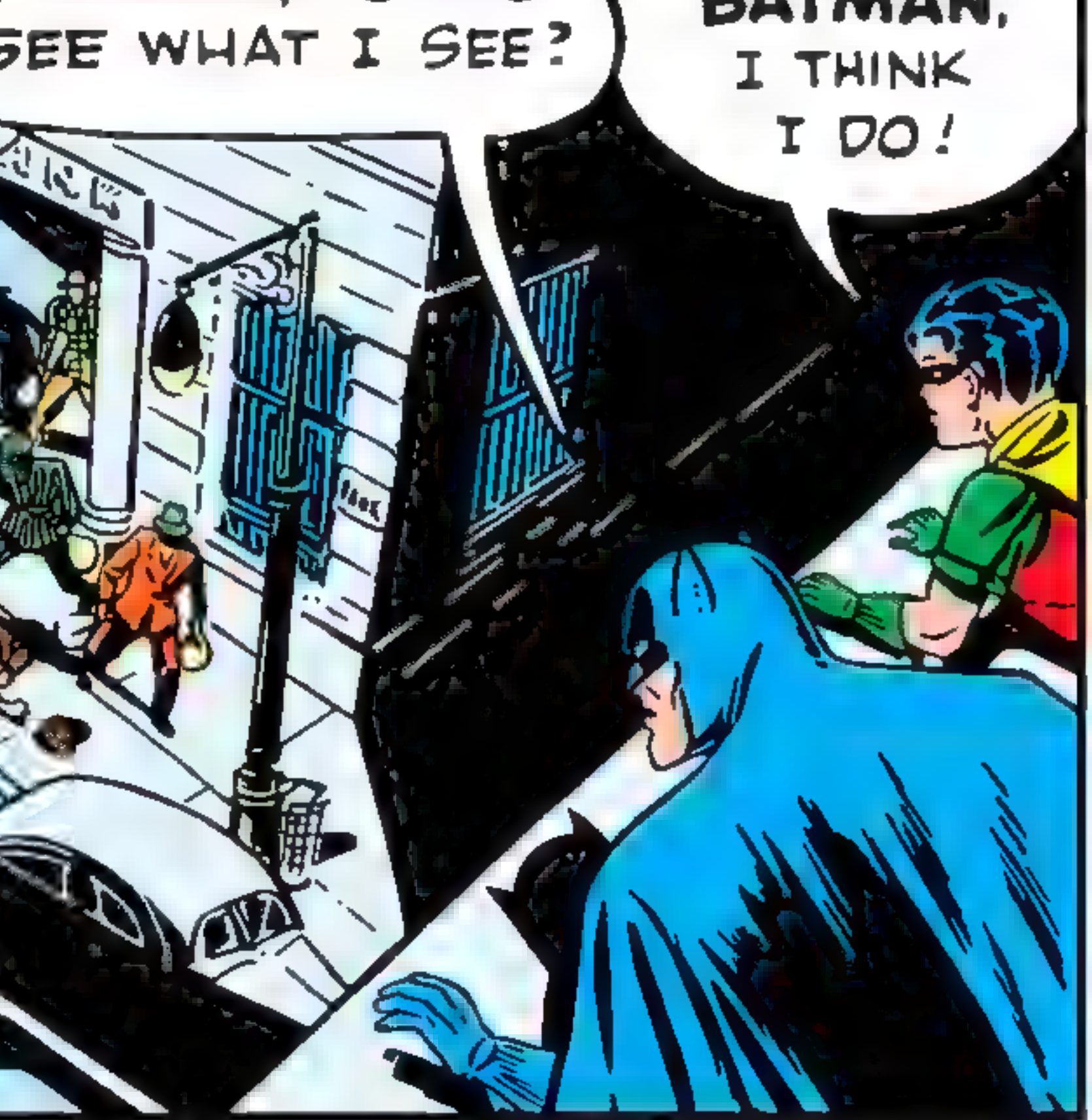
SO FAR!



SUDDENLY...

ROBIN, DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

IF YOU'RE LOOKING WHERE I AM, BATMAN, I THINK I DO!

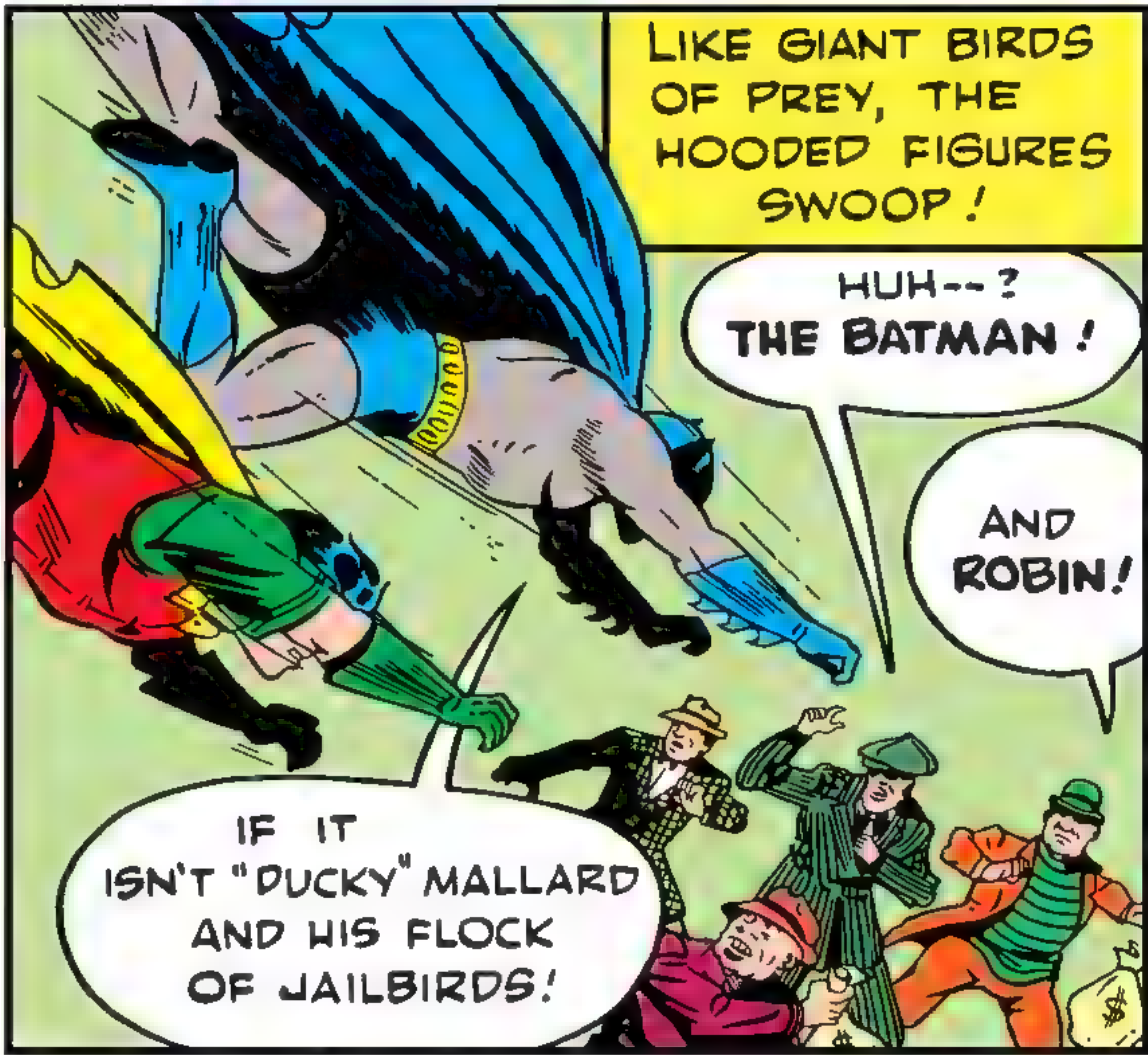


LIKE GIANT BIRDS OF PREY, THE HOODED FIGURES SWOOP!

HUH--? THE BATMAN!

AND ROBIN!

IF IT ISN'T "DUCKY" MALLARD AND HIS FLOCK OF JAILBIRDS!



IT'S A PLEASURE TO GIVE YOU MY HAND, "BULLET!"

MY BULLETS ARE MISSIN' HIM, BUT HE AIN'T MISSIN' "BULLET!"



LET'S SETTLE THIS ARGUMENT IN A SPORTING WAY, "SPORT"--WITH FISTS!

OW! WHO'S GONNA SETTLE MY STUMMICK?



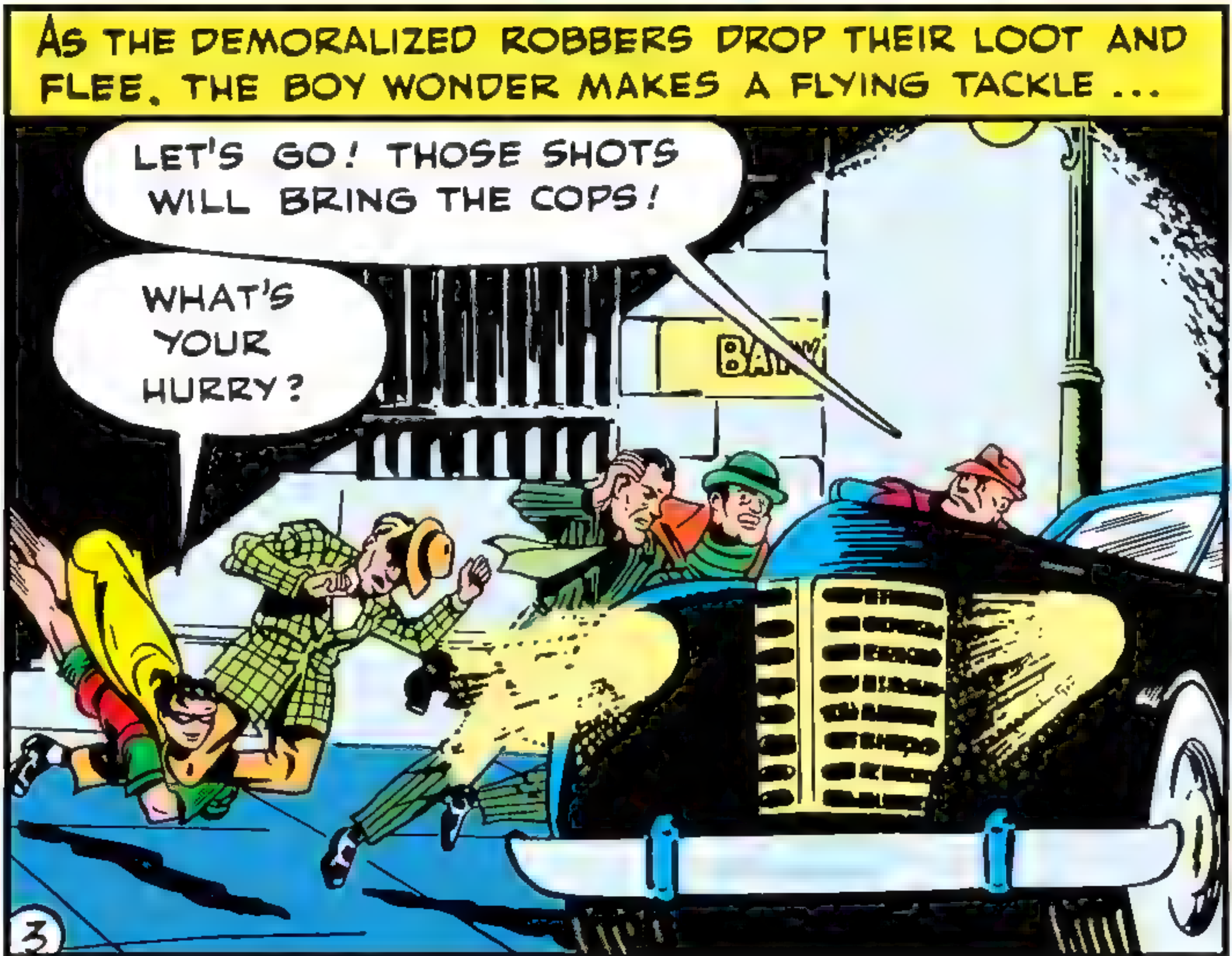
AS THE DEMORALIZED ROBBERS DROP THEIR LOOT AND FLEE, THE BOY WONDER MAKES A FLYING TACKLE ...

LET'S GO! THOSE SHOTS WILL BRING THE COPS!

WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?

BANK

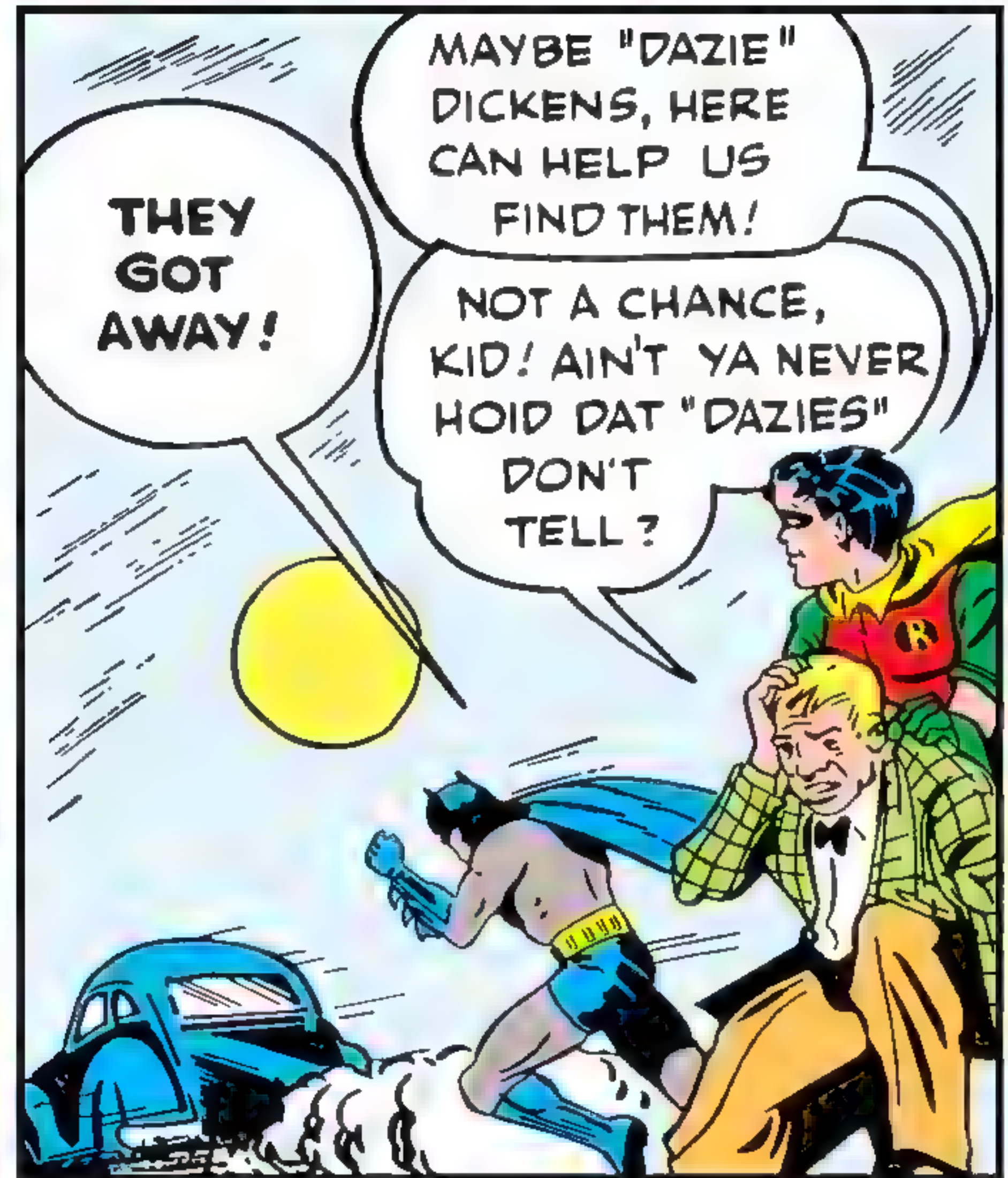
3



THEY GOT AWAY!

MAYBE "DAZIE" DICKENS, HERE CAN HELP US FIND THEM!

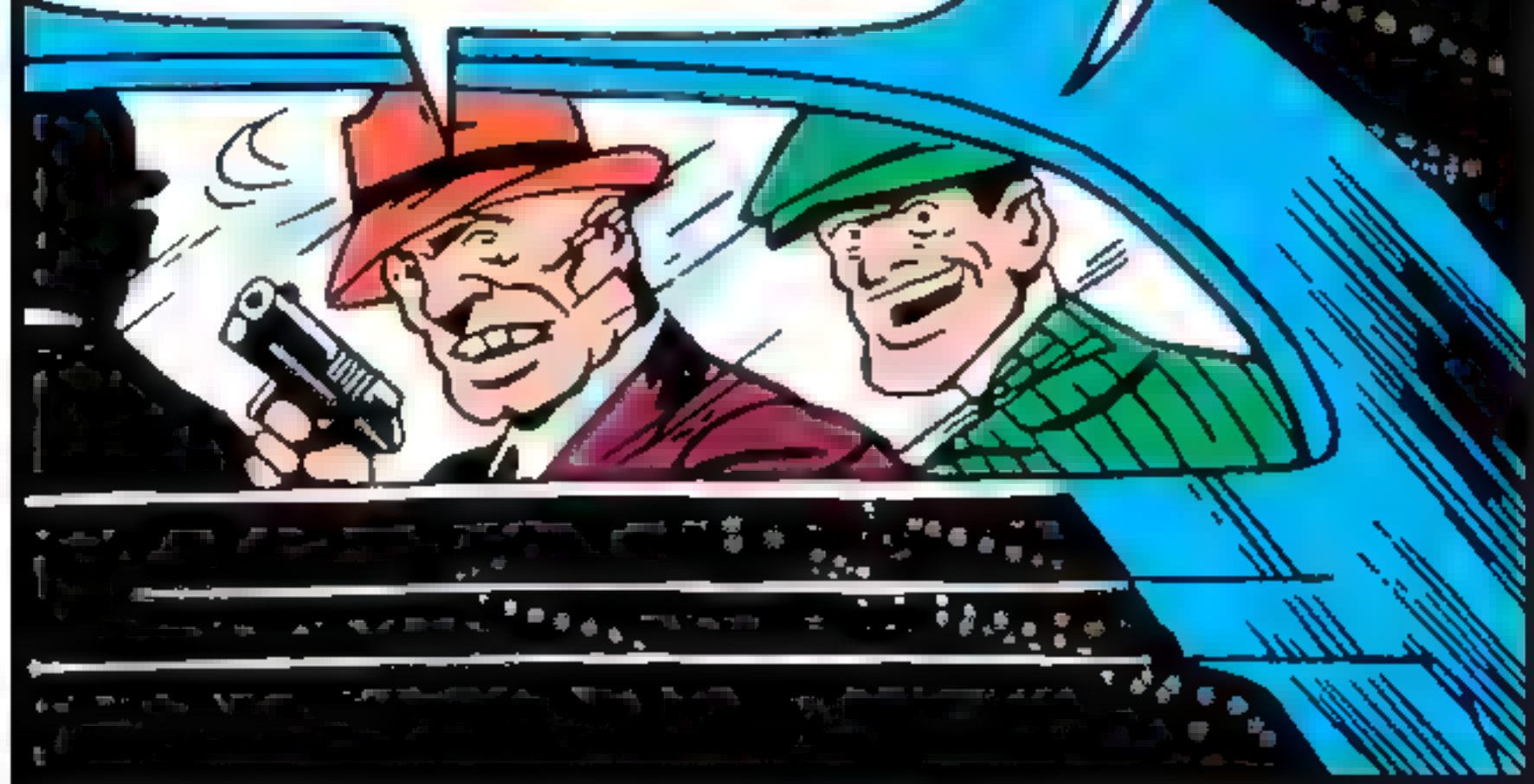
NOT A CHANCE, KID! AIN'T YA NEVER HOID DAT "DAZIES" DON'T TELL?



TRUE TO THE CODE OF THE UNDER-
WORLD, DAZIE MEANS TO REMAIN
SILENT-- BUT THE BOSS GANGSTER
DOES NOT TRUST HIS HENCHMAN...

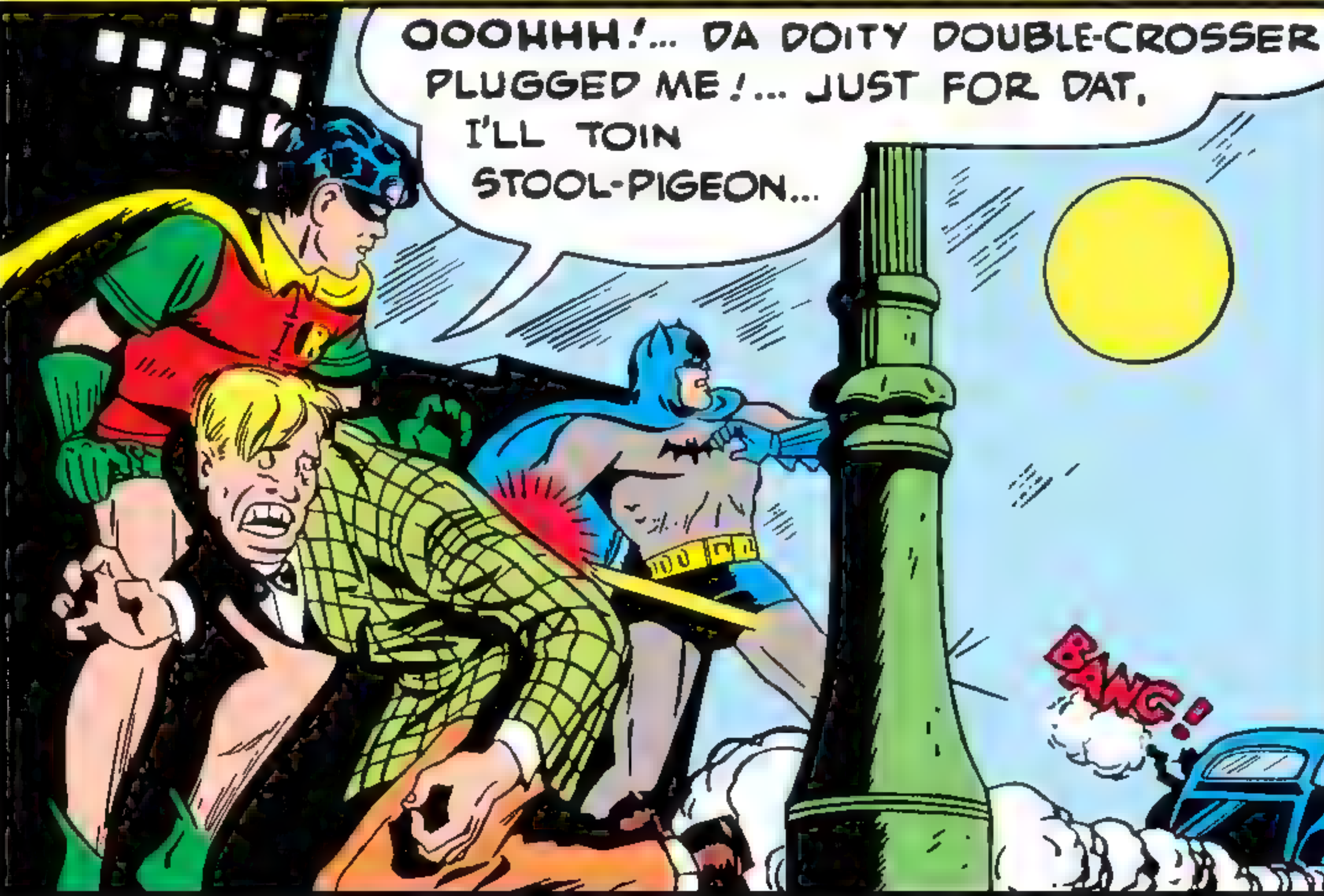
SLOW UP! THE
BATMAN'S GOT
DAZIE, AND HE
KNOWS THE WHOLE
SCHEME! I CAN'T
HAVE HIM SQUEALING!

SO YOU'RE
GONNA SEAL
HIS LIPS WID
LEAD.
HUH?



ONE ACT OF TREACHERY LEADS TO ANOTHER ...

OOOHHH!... DA DOITY DOUBLE-CROSSER
PLUGGED ME!... JUST FOR DAT,
I'LL TOIN
STOOL-PIGEON...



I'M DYIN'... BUT
I'LL GET EVEN!
DUCKY'S TAKIN'...
DA MOB... TO
SANTO PABLO...
FOR ...
AAAAAH-
HHHHH....

FOR WHAT, DAZIE?...
TOO LATE!
HE'S
DEAD!

NOW
WE'LL
NEVER
KNOW!

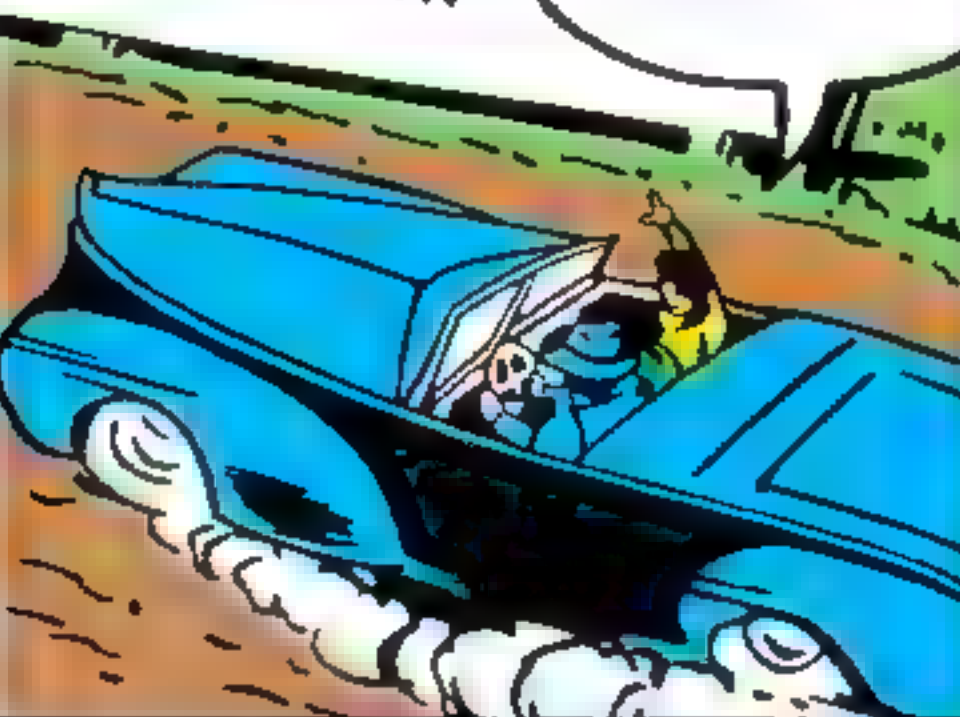
SANTO PABLO, EH?
I'D GO FURTHER
THAN THAT TO CLIP
DUCKY MALLARD'S
WINGS!

A CHANGE
OF
SCENERY
SOUNDS
GOOD TO
ME!



SO IT IS THAT, TWO
MORNINGS LATER,
A SLEEK ROADSTER
NEARS A THRIVING
LITTLE METROPOLIS
OF THE AMERICAN
SOUTHWEST...

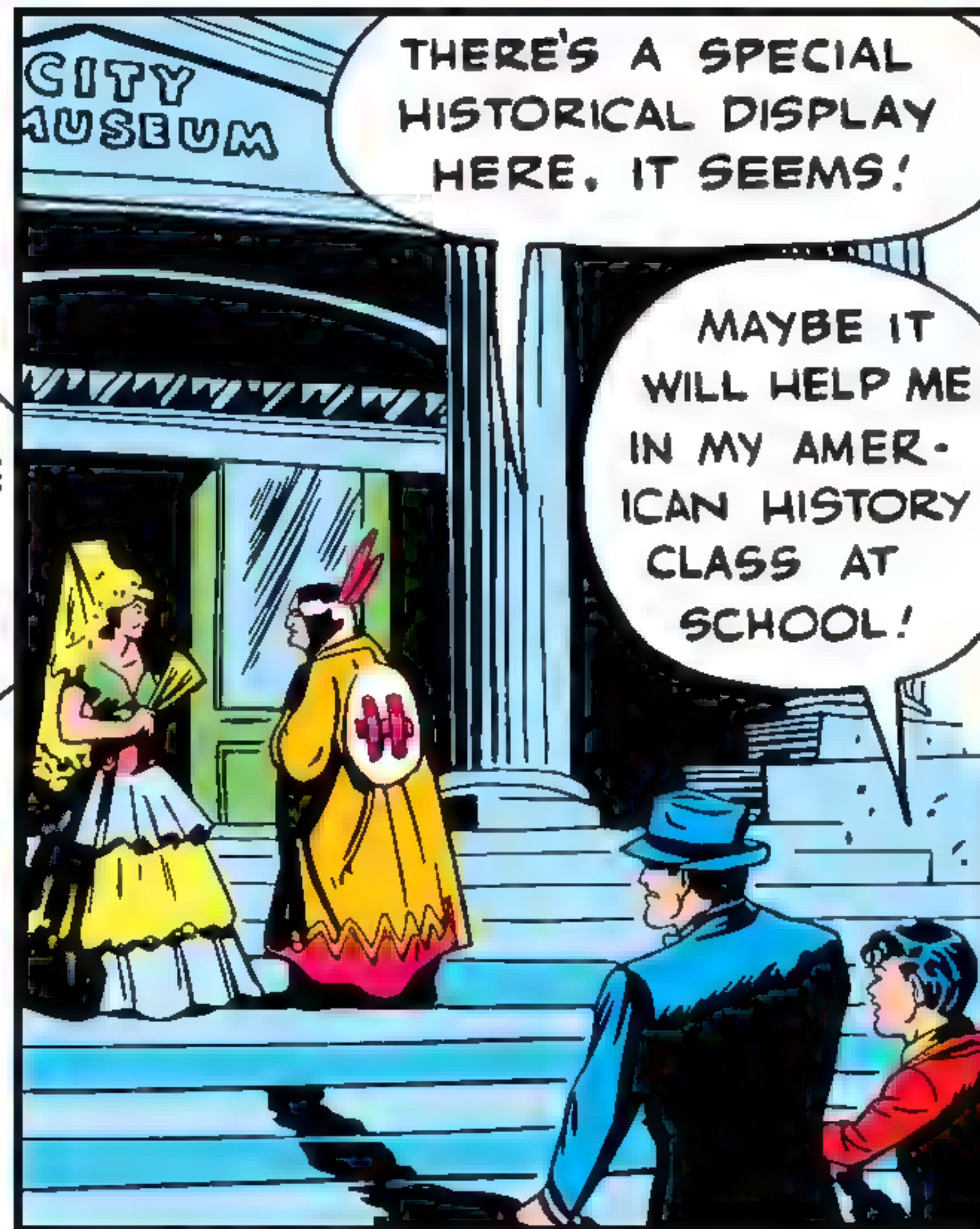
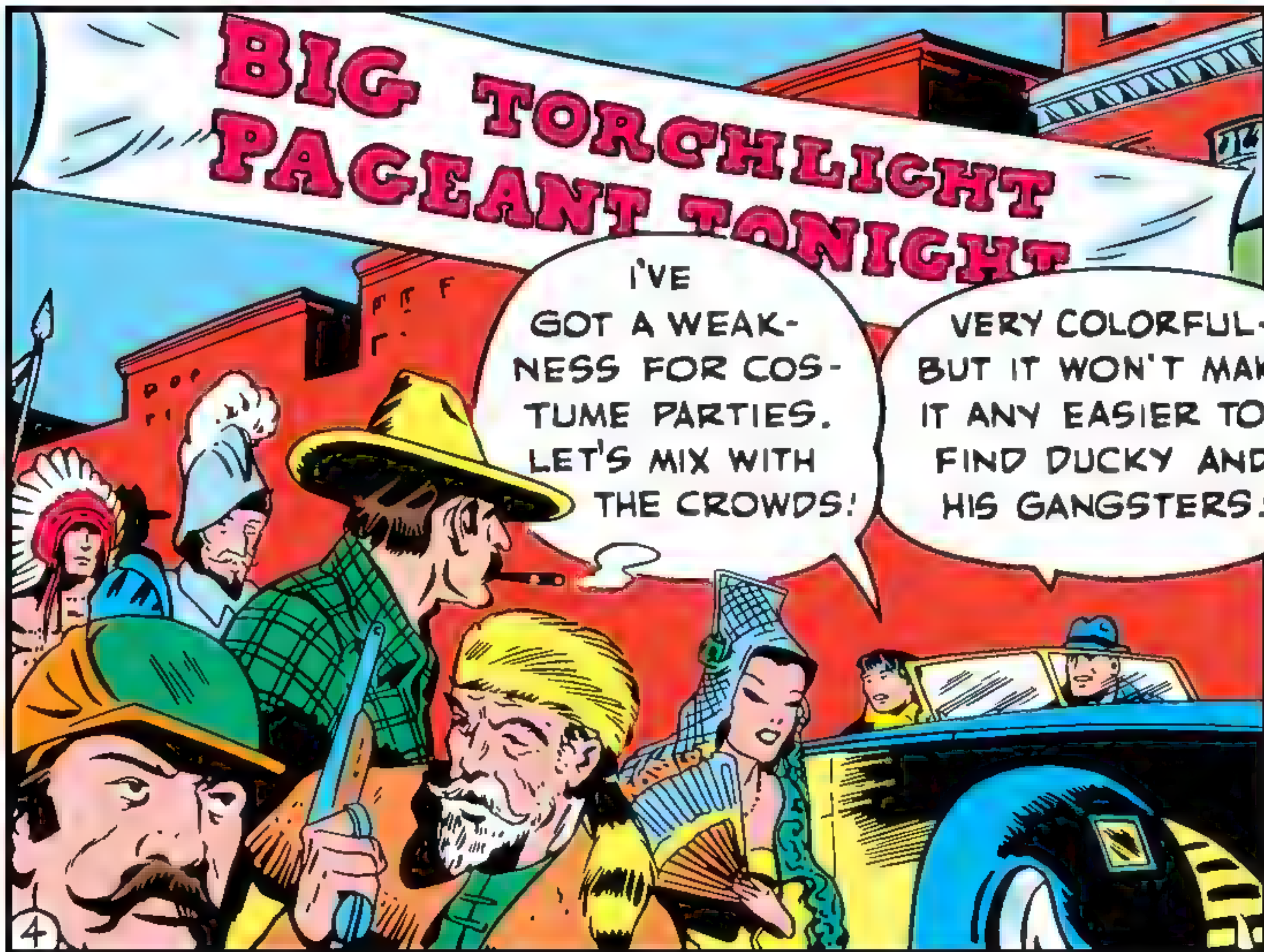
A BIRTHDAY PARTY!
WE CAN COMBINE
BUSINESS
WITH
PLEASURE!



**BIG TORCHLIGHT
PAGEANT TONIGHT**

I'VE
GOT A WEAK-
NESS FOR COS-
TUME PARTIES.
LET'S MIX WITH
THE CROWDS!

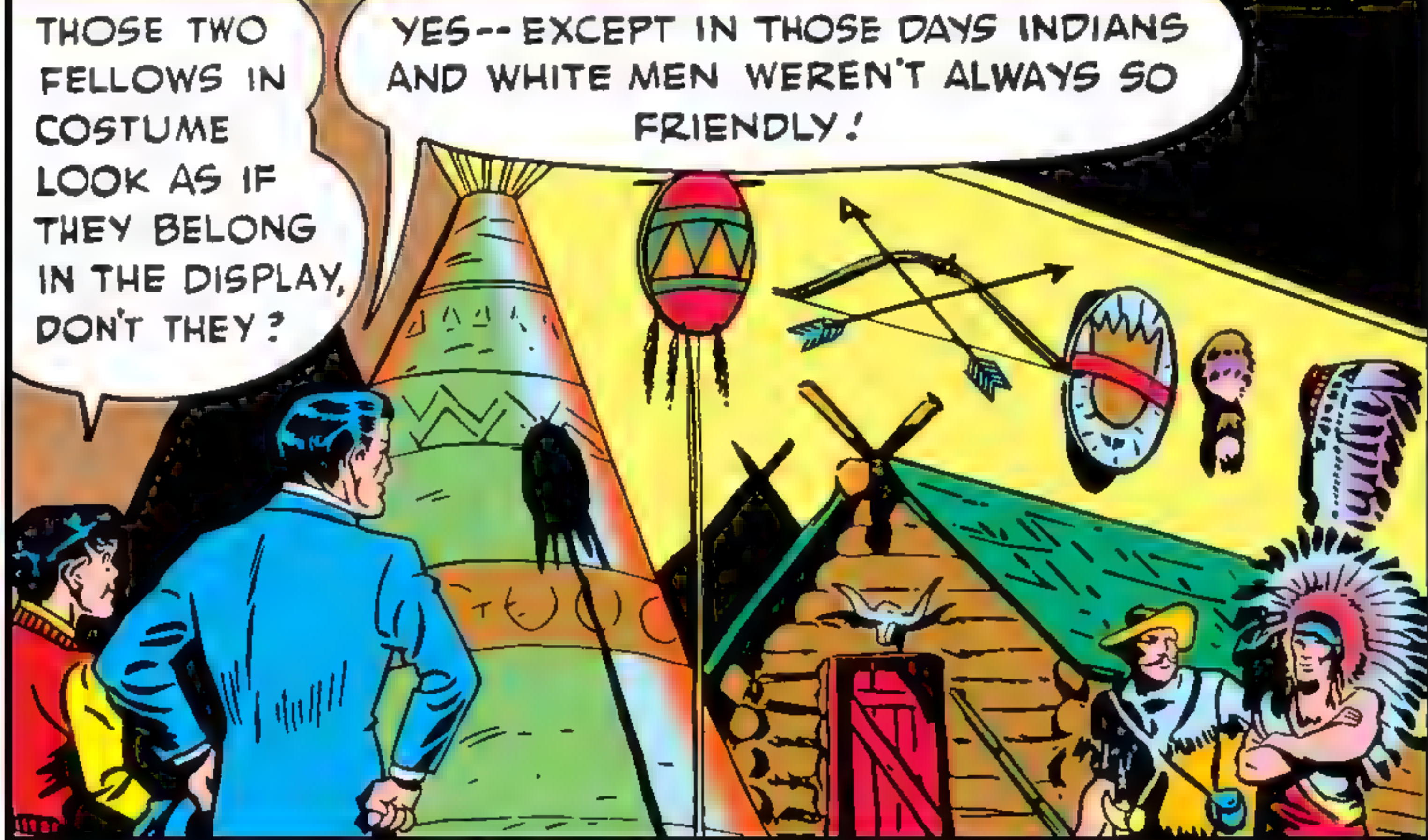
VERY COLORFUL--
BUT IT WON'T MAKE
IT ANY EASIER TO
FIND DUCKY AND
HIS GANGSTERS!



THERE'S A SPECIAL
HISTORICAL DISPLAY
HERE. IT SEEMS!

MAYBE IT
WILL HELP ME
IN MY AMER-
ICAN HISTORY
CLASS AT
SCHOOL!

MEMENTOES OF A GLAMOROUS PAST INSPIRE CITIZENS OF THE PRESENT ...



ONE MIGHT SAY, A GOLDEN PAST !

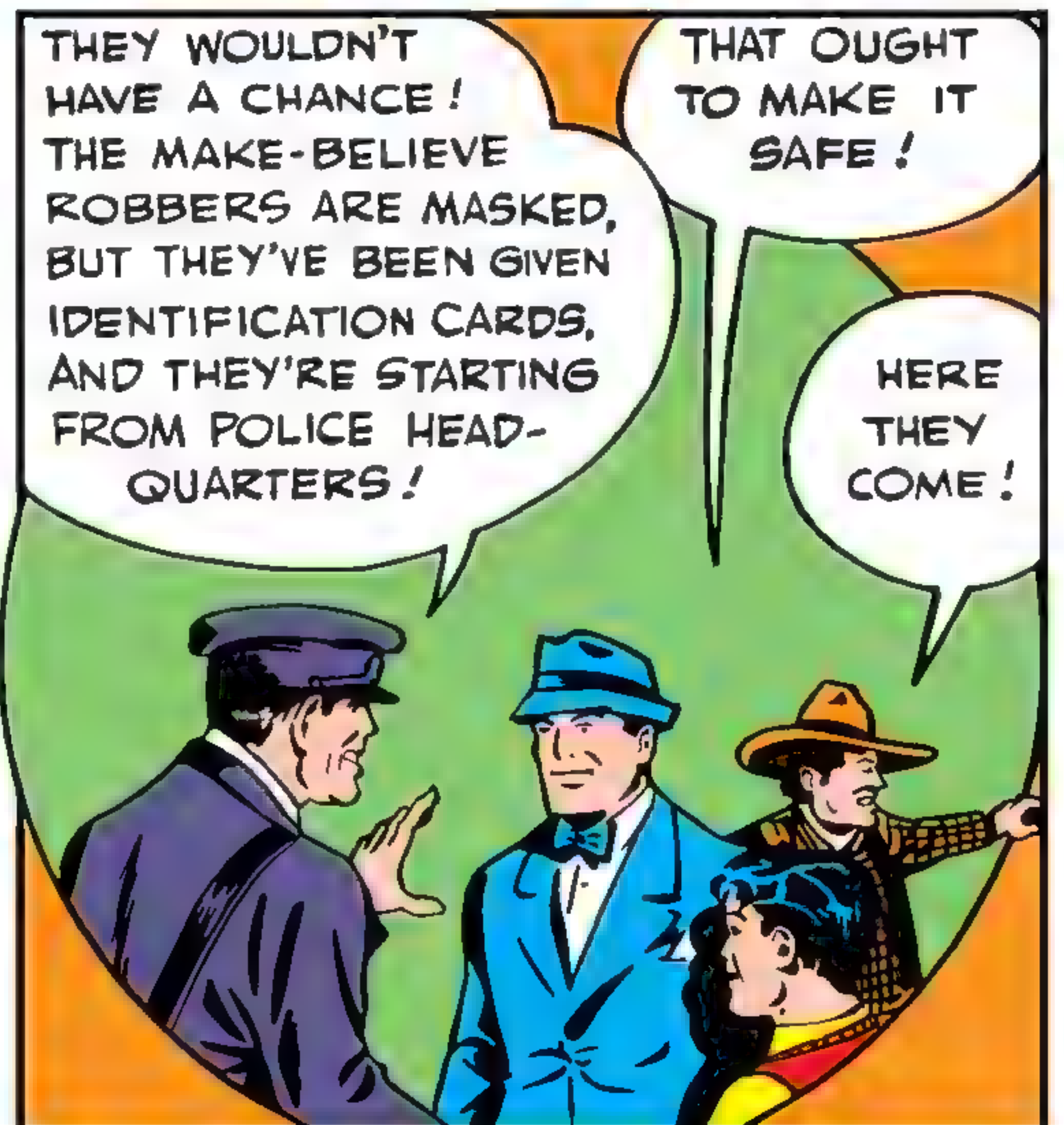
NUGGETS OF PURE GOLD! THEY MUST BE WORTH THOUSANDS !



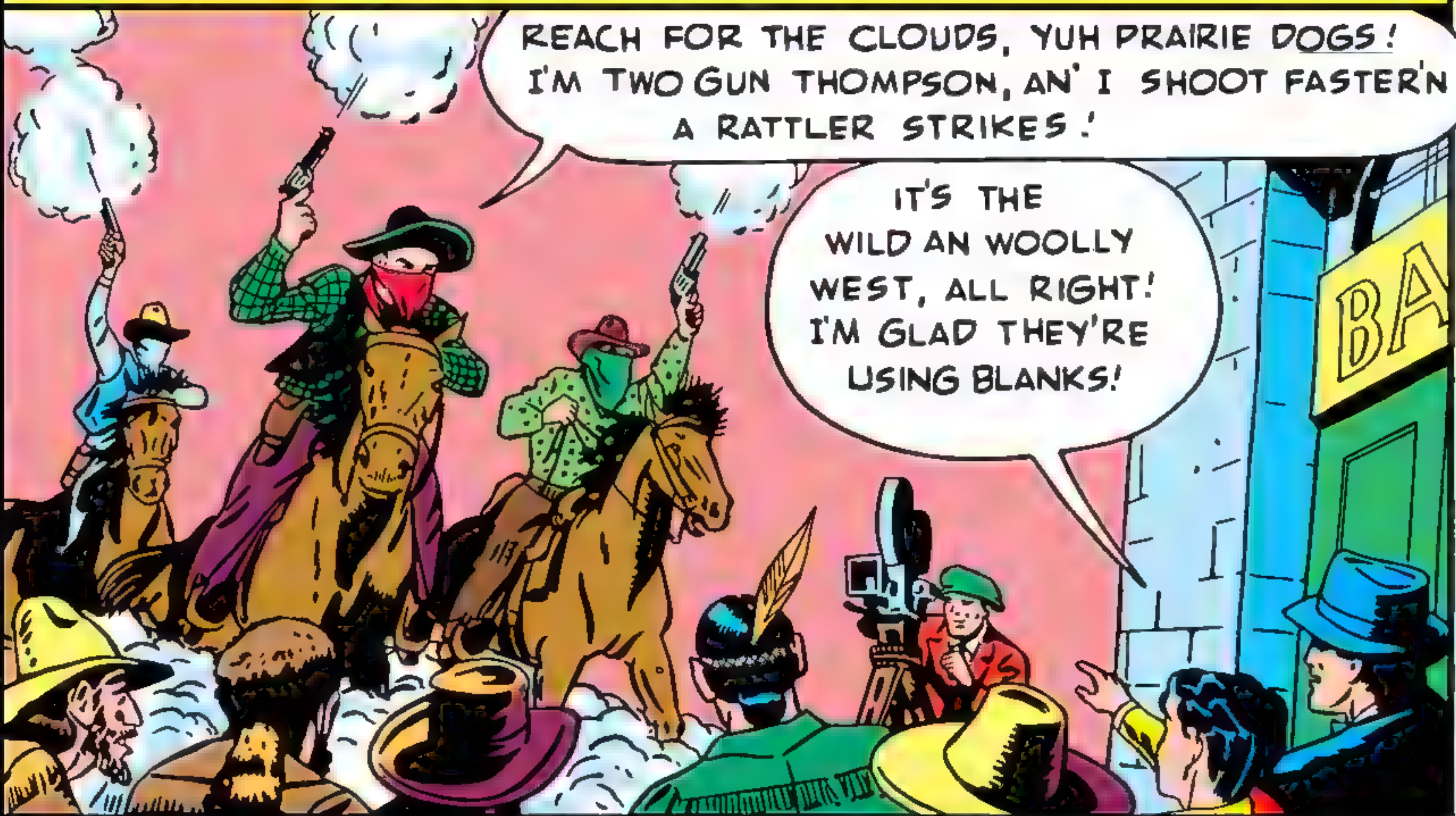
LATER, AS BRUCE AND DICK LUNCH AT THEIR HOTEL, THE ANCIENT LUMPS OF GOLD MAKE MODERN HISTORY !



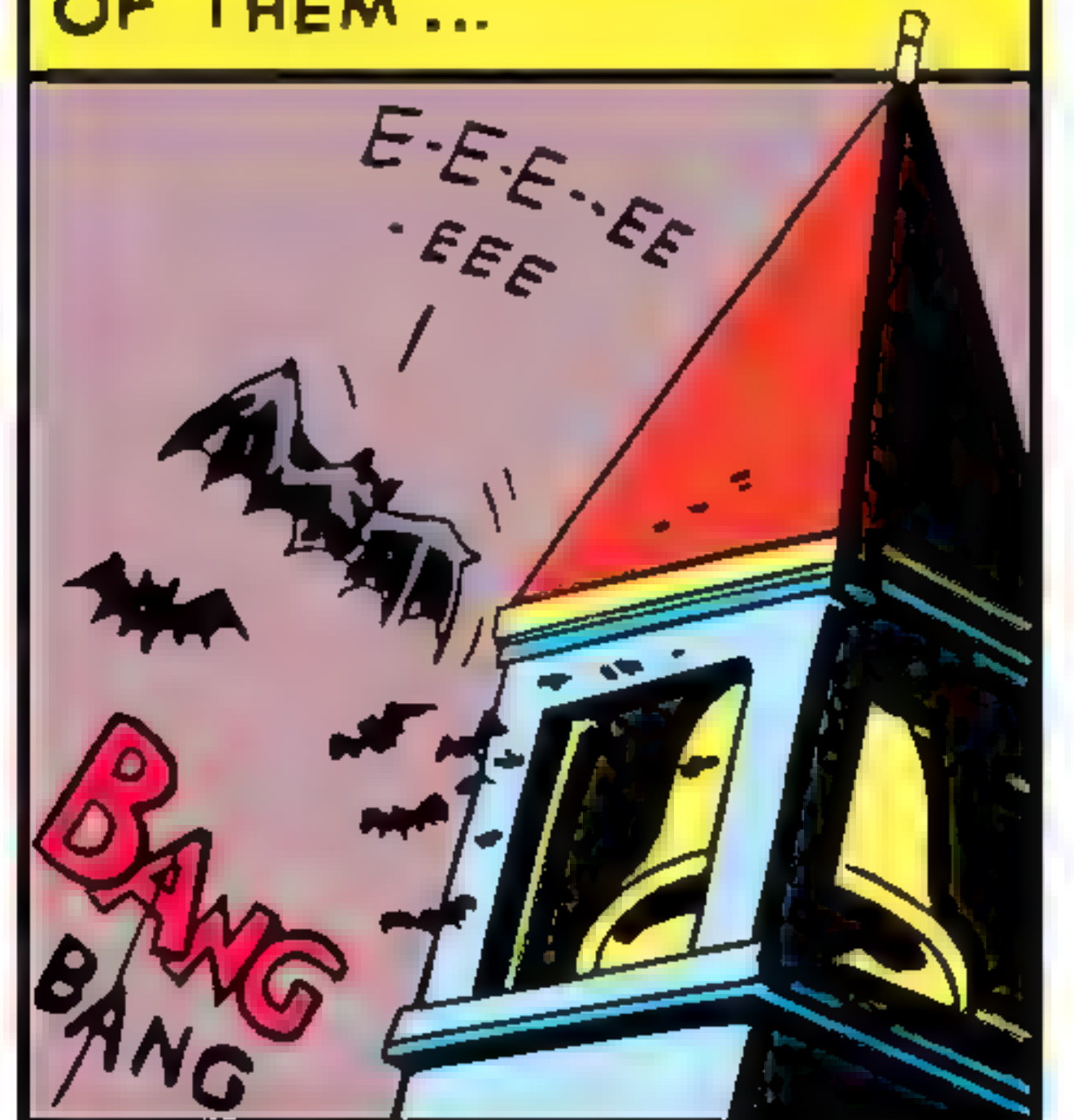
SANTO PABLO IS A BUSY, BUSTLING, GAY CITY THAT AFTERNOON ...



CLATTERING HOOFES AND THUNDERING GUNS BRING BACK ONE OF THE BANDIT EPICS OF THE SOUTHWEST ..



EVEN THE NIGHT-FLYING BATS ARE WAKENED AND STARTLED OUT OF A NEAR-BY BELFRY BY THE CRASH-ING OF SHOTS -- WHICH IS UNFORTUNATE FOR ONE OF THEM ...



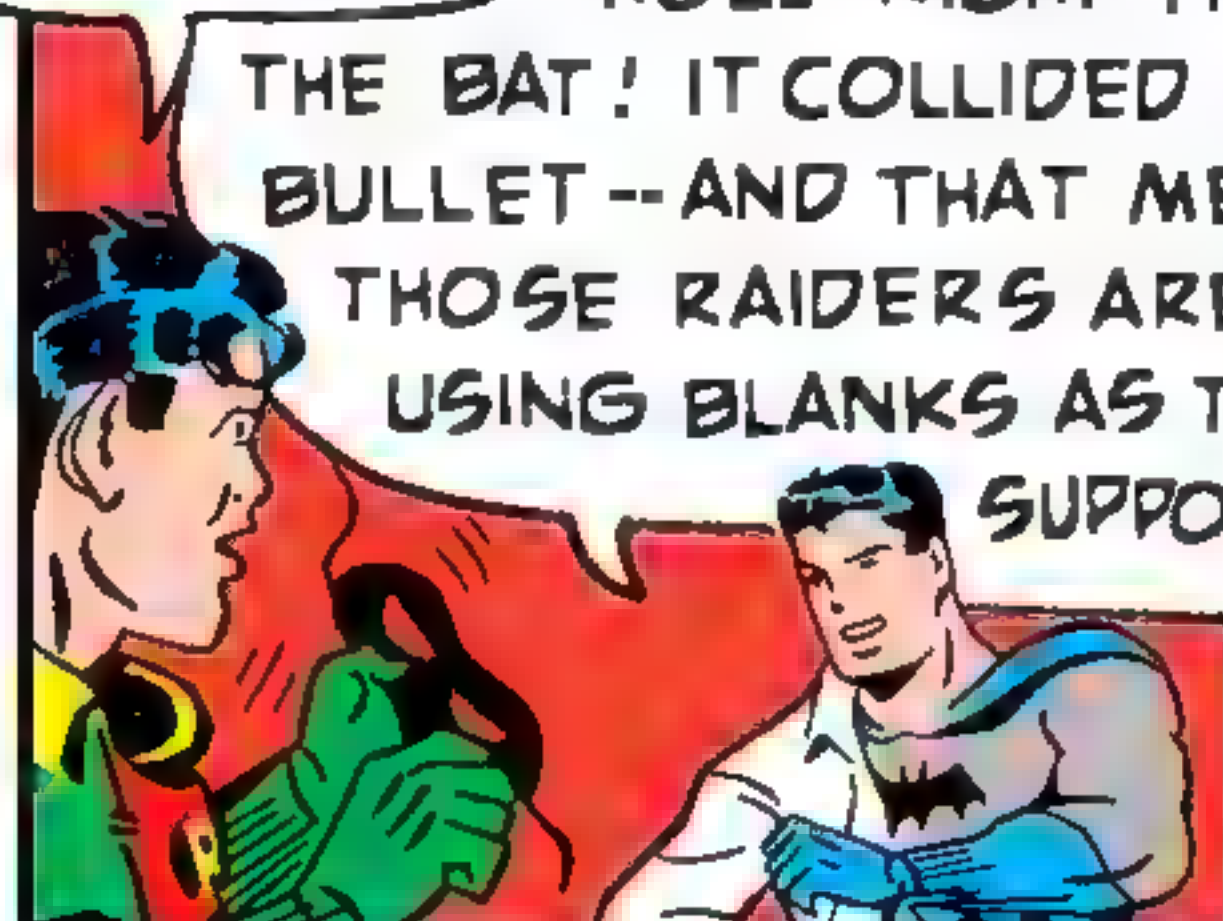
A SECOND LATER ...



IN A SECLUDED DOORWAY BEHIND THE CROWD, A SWIFT TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE ..

I DON'T GET IT! WHY DO WE SWITCH TO BATMAN AND ROBIN JUST BECAUSE A BAT HAD A HEAD-ON COLLISION?

BECAUSE THERE'S A HOLE RIGHT THROUGH THE BAT! IT COLLIDED WITH A BULLET --AND THAT MEANS THOSE RAIDERS AREN'T USING BLANKS AS THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO!

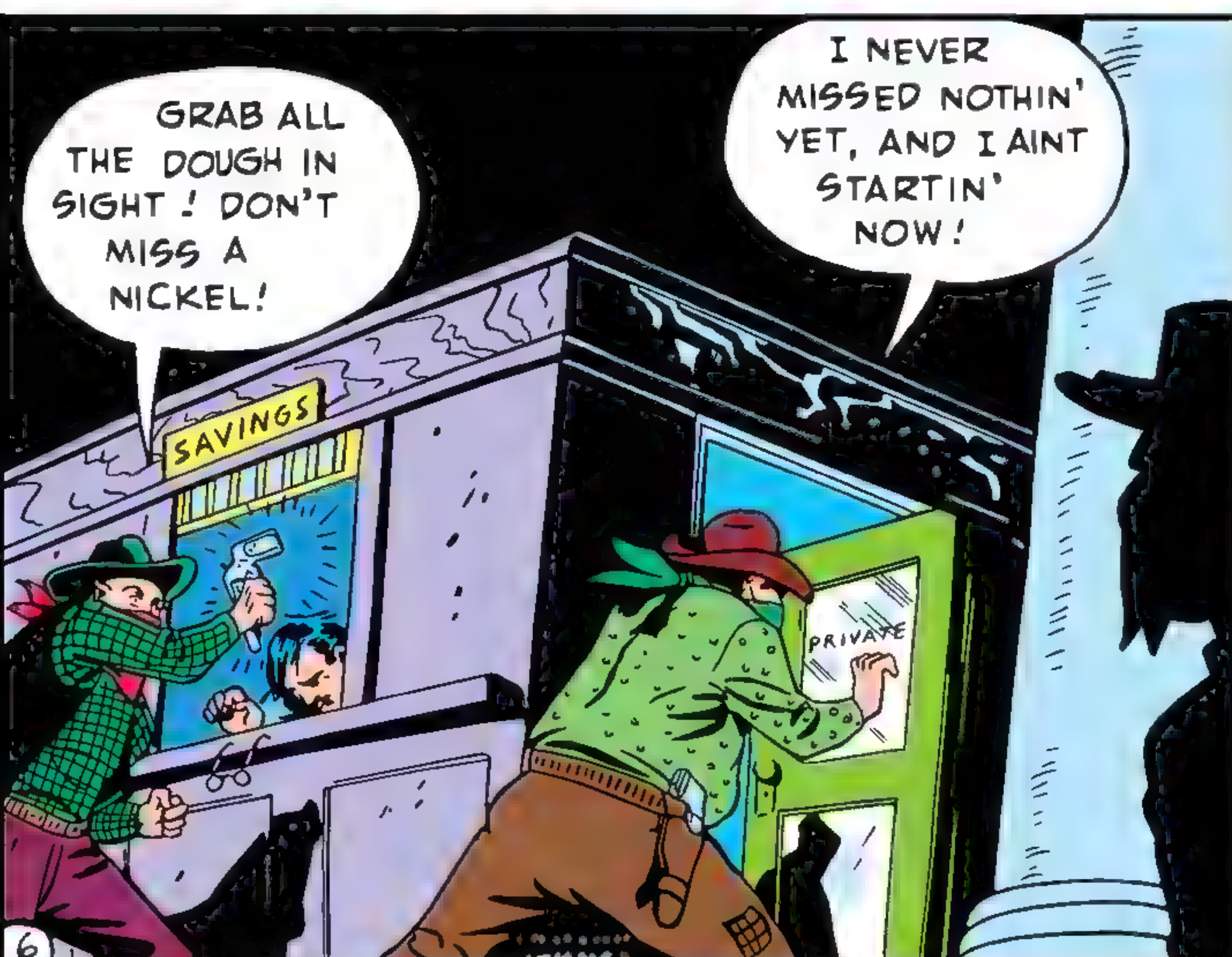
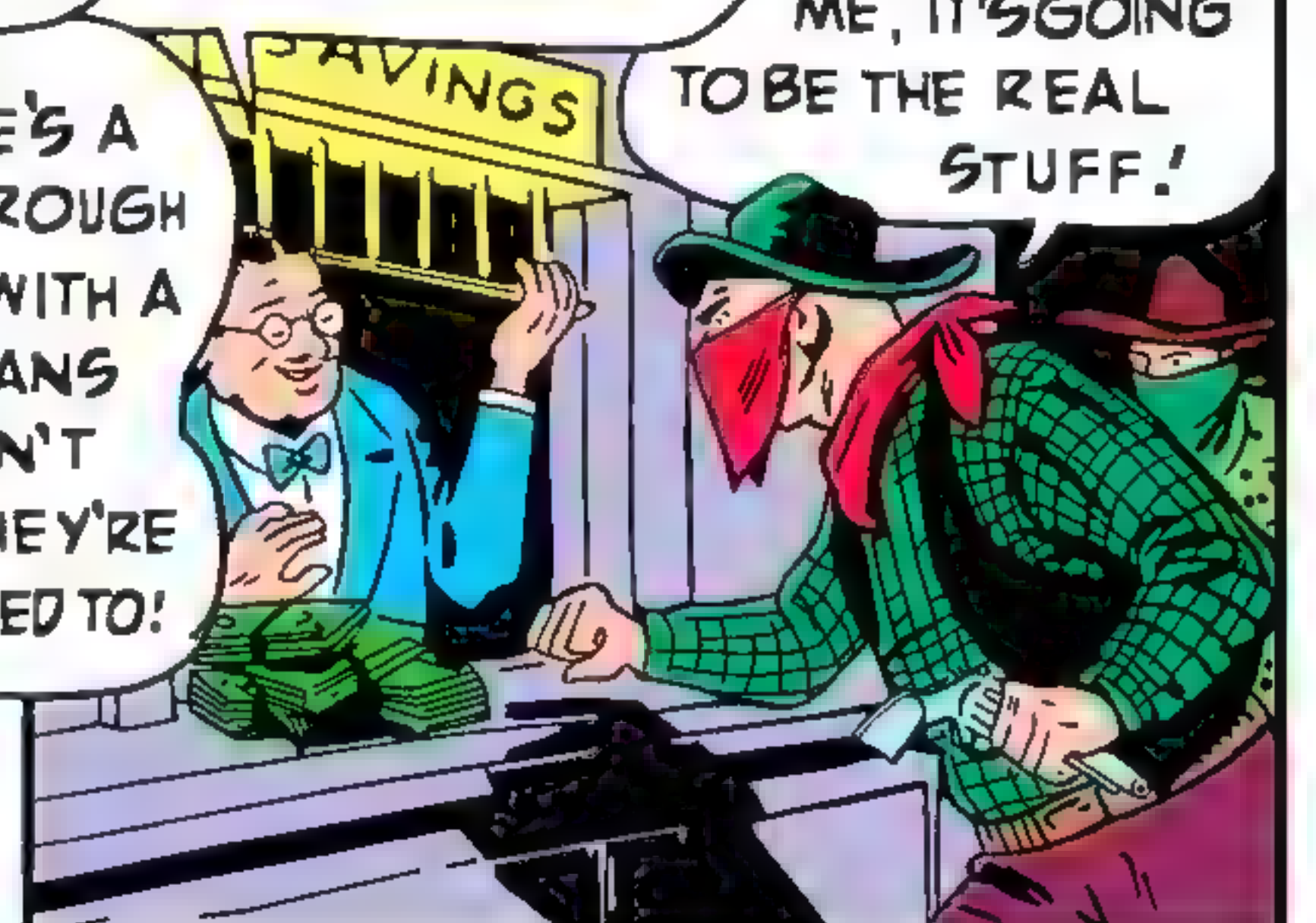


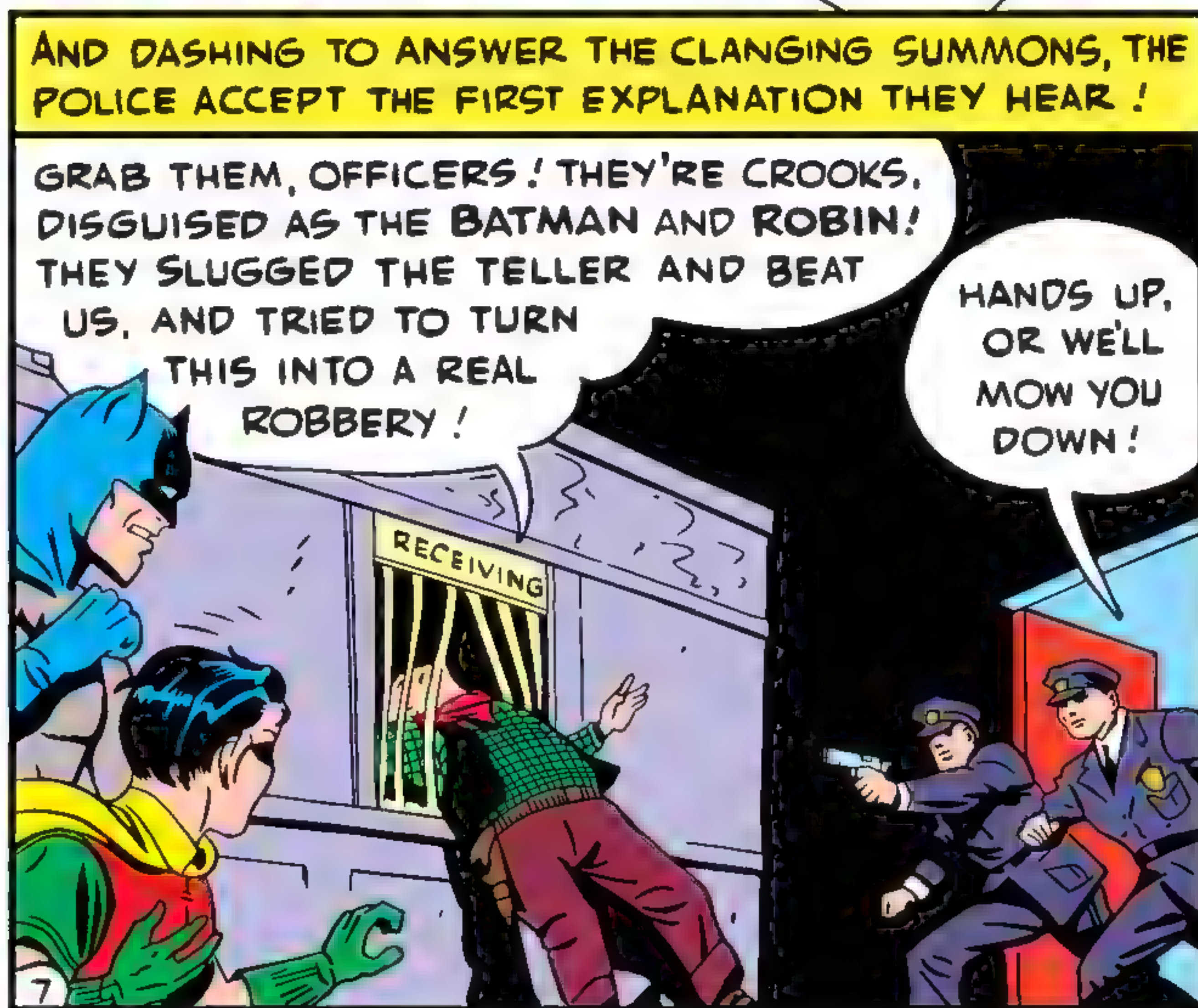
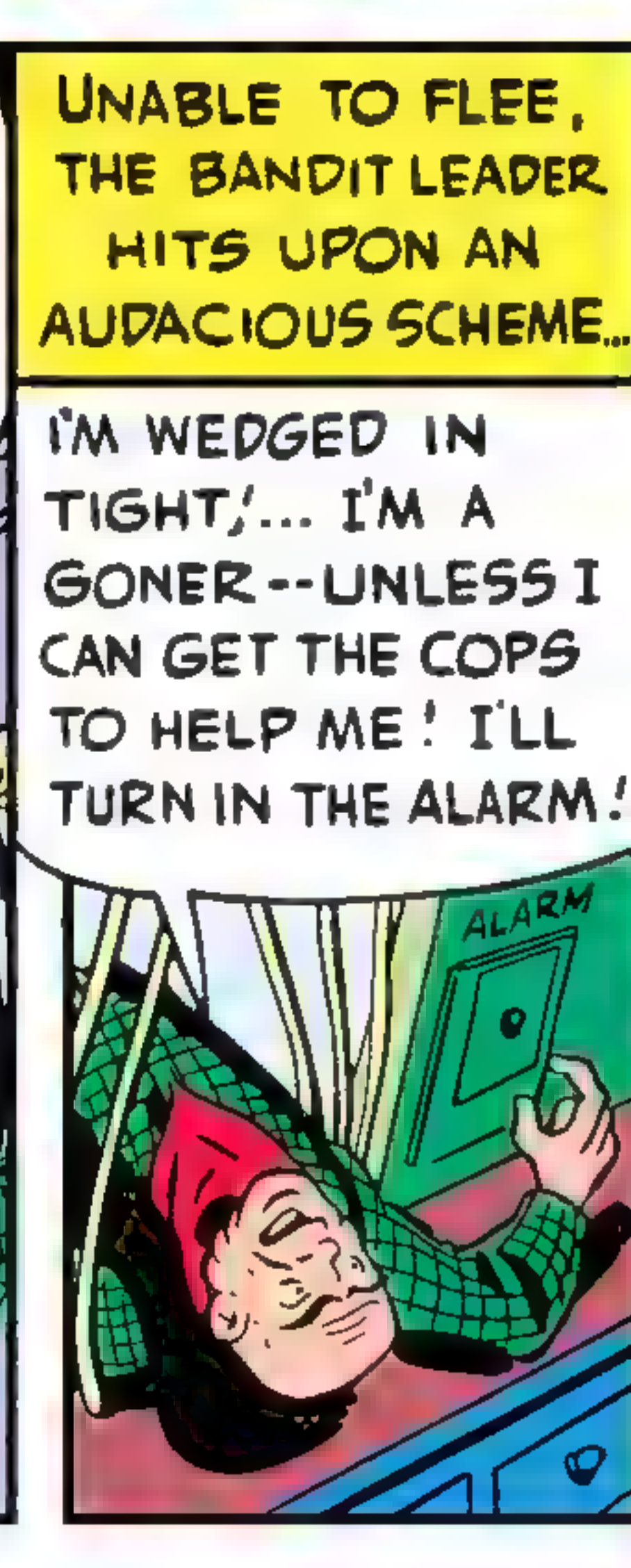
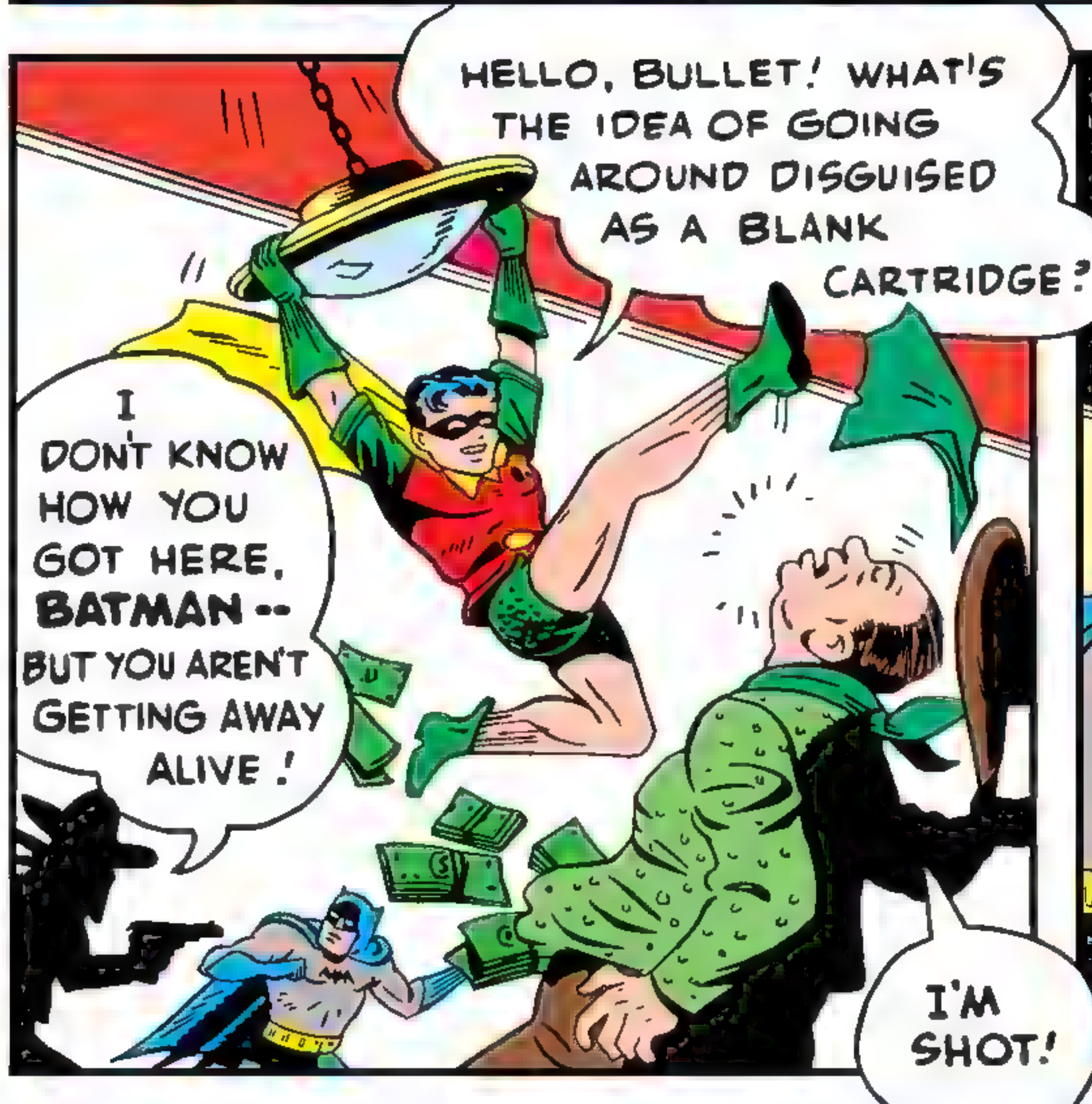
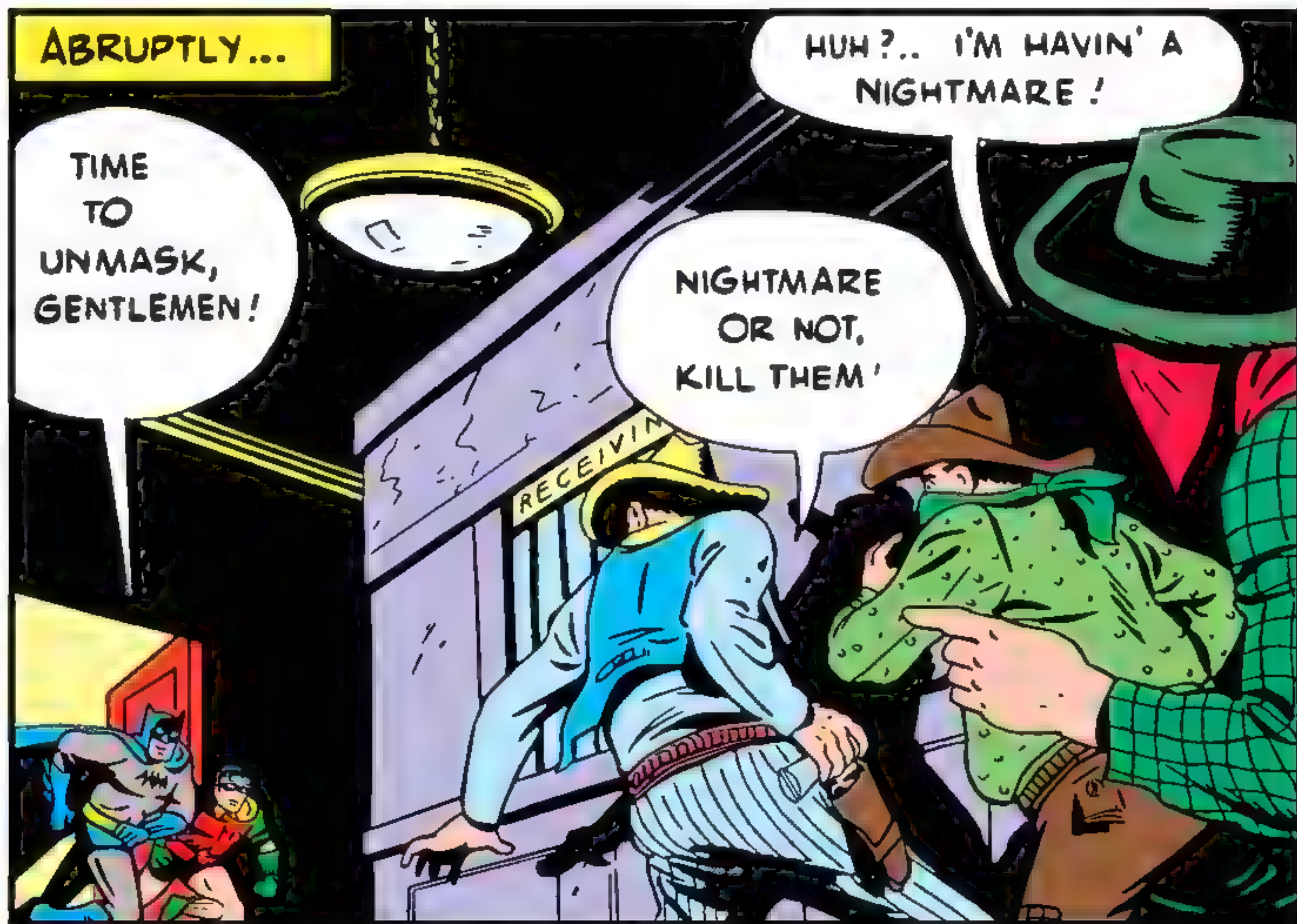
MEANWHILE, WITHIN THE BANK ...

HA, HA! HERE'S YOUR LOOT, TWO-GUN THOMPSON! TOO BAD IT'S STAGE MONEY, INSTEAD OF THE REAL STUFF

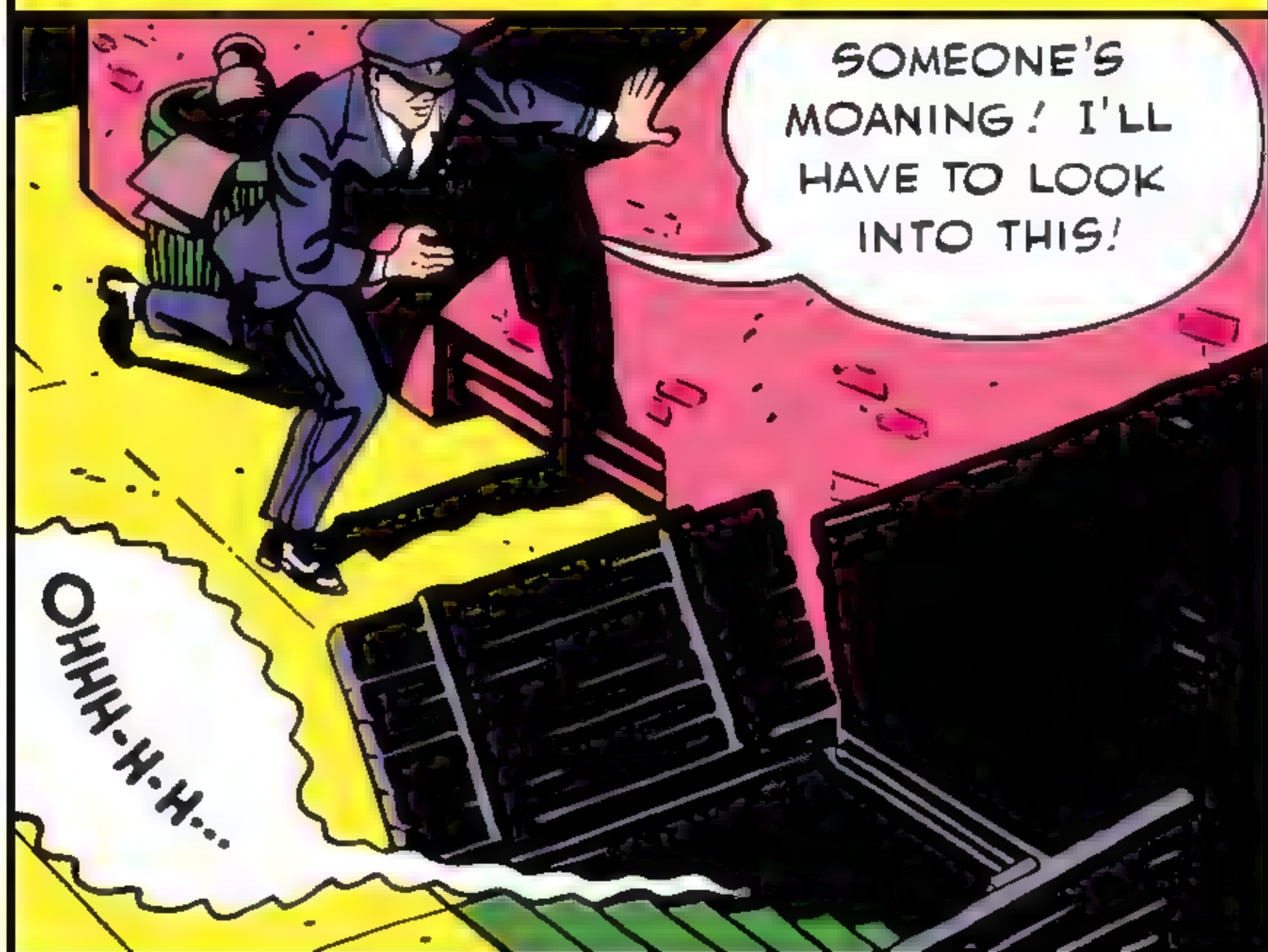
I'VE GOT IN THE CASH DRAWER!

JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME, IT'S GOING TO BE THE REAL STUFF!





SOME TIME LATER, ANOTHER PATROLMAN INVESTIGATES STRANGE SOUNDS FROM A DESERTED CELLAR



SOMEONE'S MOANING! I'LL HAVE TO LOOK INTO THIS!

OH-H-H-H...

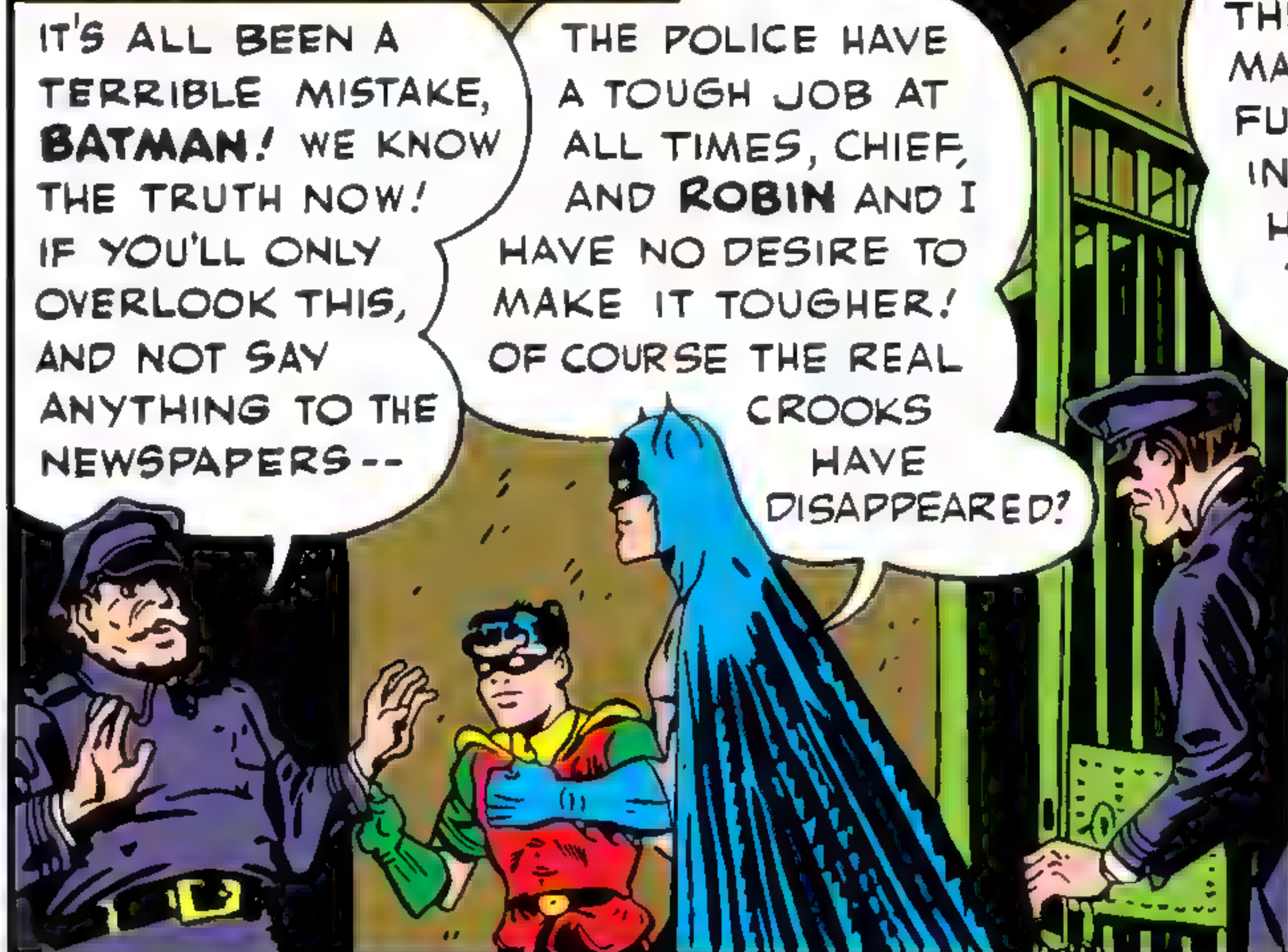
AND A MYSTERY IS EXPLAINED!



ABOUT TIME SOMEONE FOUND US! WE WERE SUPPOSED TO REHEARSE THAT MAKE-BELIEVE BANK ROBBERY--BUT THREE GUN-MEN KIDNAPPED US, STOLE OUR COSTUMES AND IDENTIFICATION CARDS, AND LEFT US

JUMPING TADPOLES-- LIKE THIS! THIS WILL RAISE THE ROOF AT HEAD-QUARTERS!

AT THE POLICE STATION...



IT'S ALL BEEN A TERRIBLE MISTAKE, **BATMAN!** WE KNOW THE TRUTH NOW! IF YOU'LL ONLY OVERLOOK THIS, AND NOT SAY ANYTHING TO THE NEWSPAPERS --

THE POLICE HAVE A TOUGH JOB AT ALL TIMES, CHIEF, AND **ROBIN** AND I HAVE NO DESIRE TO MAKE IT TOUGHER! OF COURSE THE REAL CROOKS HAVE DISAPPEARED?

OF COURSE THEY DID! THE NERVE OF THEM -- MASQUERADING AS PEACEFUL CITIZENS, AND STARTING RIGHT FROM HEADQUARTERS TO PULL THAT JOB!

I SUPPOSE THEY'VE LEFT FOR PARTS UNKNOWN WITH THE SWAG!

HMMM!



NO, I DON'T THINK THEY'VE GONE! ALL CROOKS ARE EGO-MANIACS, AND THEIR SUCCESS THUS FAR WILL HAVE GONE TO THEIR HEADS! THEY'LL STRIKE AGAIN--PROBABLY TONIGHT, AT THE HEIGHT OF THE EXCITEMENT!

BUT WHERE? HOW? WITH MOST OF THE FORCE NEEDED TO HANDLE THE CROWDS, WHAT CAN I DO?

DRESS UP TWENTY OR THIRTY PICKED OFFICERS TO TAKE PART IN VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE PARADE! **ROBIN** AND I WILL MAKE ALL OTHER ARRANGEMENTS!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE IN MIND, **BATMAN**, BUT I'LL DO IT! IT WOULD RUIN ME AND DISGRACE SANTO PABLO IF THEY GOT AWAY WITH THIS!

WHAT IS THE **BATMAN'S** MYSTERIOUS PLAN? ALL AFTER-NOON HE SITS IN A PRIVATE ROOM AT THE POLICE STATION, SCISSORING PAPER SILHOUETTES!

CUTTING OUT PAPER DOLLS! ANYONE WHO SAW YOU WOULD THINK THE **BATMAN** HAD GONE BATTY!

WHO KNOWS? PERHAPS I HAVE? TELL THE CHIEF I'LL NEED A DOZEN POWERFUL SEARCHLIGHTS!



NIGHT -- AND A LURID GLARE OF TORCHES BEATS AGAINST LOW-HANGING CLOUDS AND IS REFLECTED BACK UPON AN AMAZING PROCESSION OF WEIRDLY-GARBED MEN AND WOMEN, WALKING AND RIDING LIKE RISEN GHOSTS OF THE PAST !

WA-WA-WAA-A-A-A !

FIERCE AND HAUGHTY RED MEN, WHO HELD THE LAND BEFORE PALEFACE ADVENTURERS ARRIVED FROM BEYOND THE SEAS...

SPANISH CONQUISTADORES WHO CAME TO ROB THE INDIANS... AND BUCKSKIN-CLAD PIONEERS WHO SOUGHT MORE ENDURING RICHES.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS !

SOME PIONEER YOU'D HAVE MADE ! YOU CAN'T EVEN KEEP OUR LAWN CUT !

BEARDED DREAMERS WHO PROSPECTED FOR PRECIOUS METALS .. HARD-RIDING CATTLE-MEN OF THE PLAINS... AND ALL THE DANGER-LOVING HOST THAT MANNED AMERICA'S FRONTIERS !

PIKE'S PEAK OR BUST !

HIGH ABOVE THE MASSES OF SPECTATORS, WHEELING BATS ENCIRCLE TWO GRIM WATCHERS ...

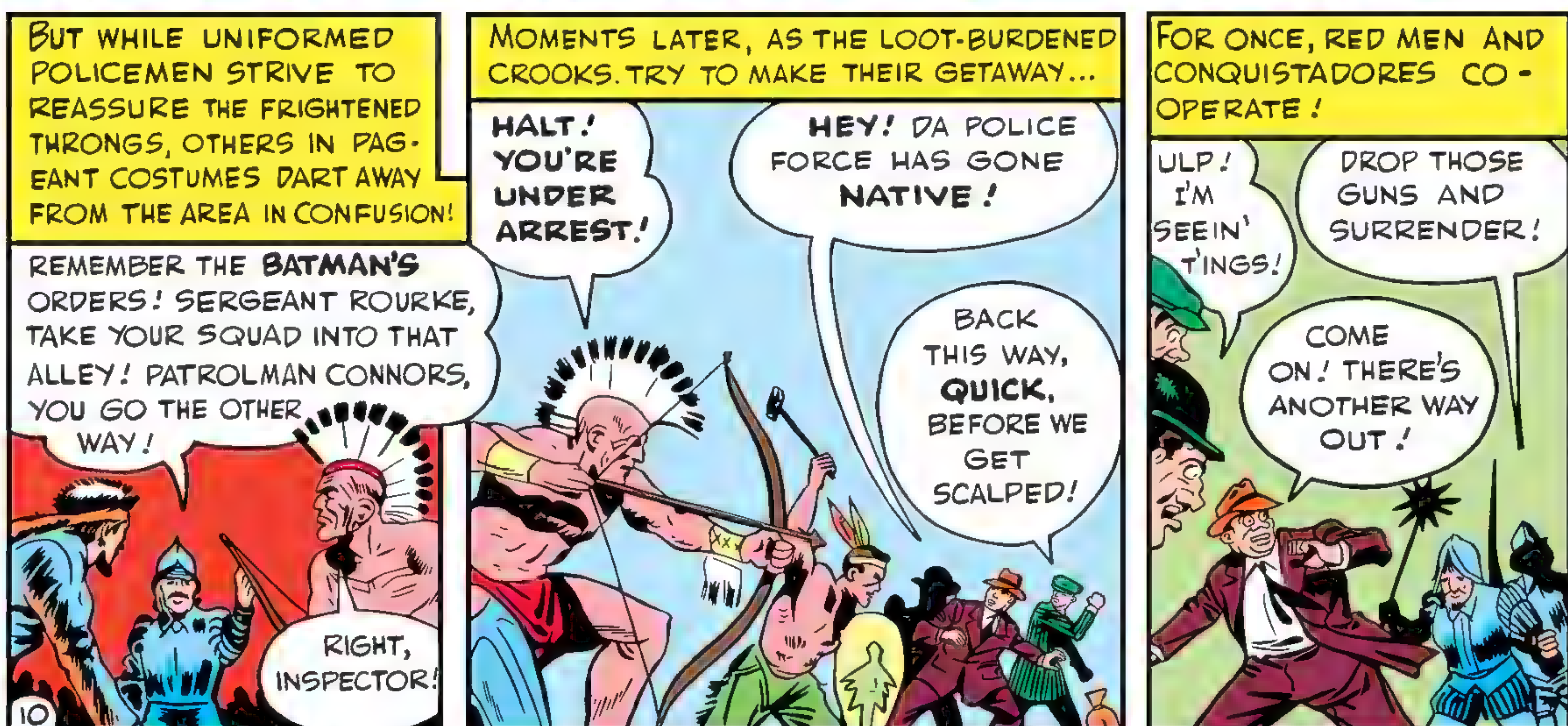
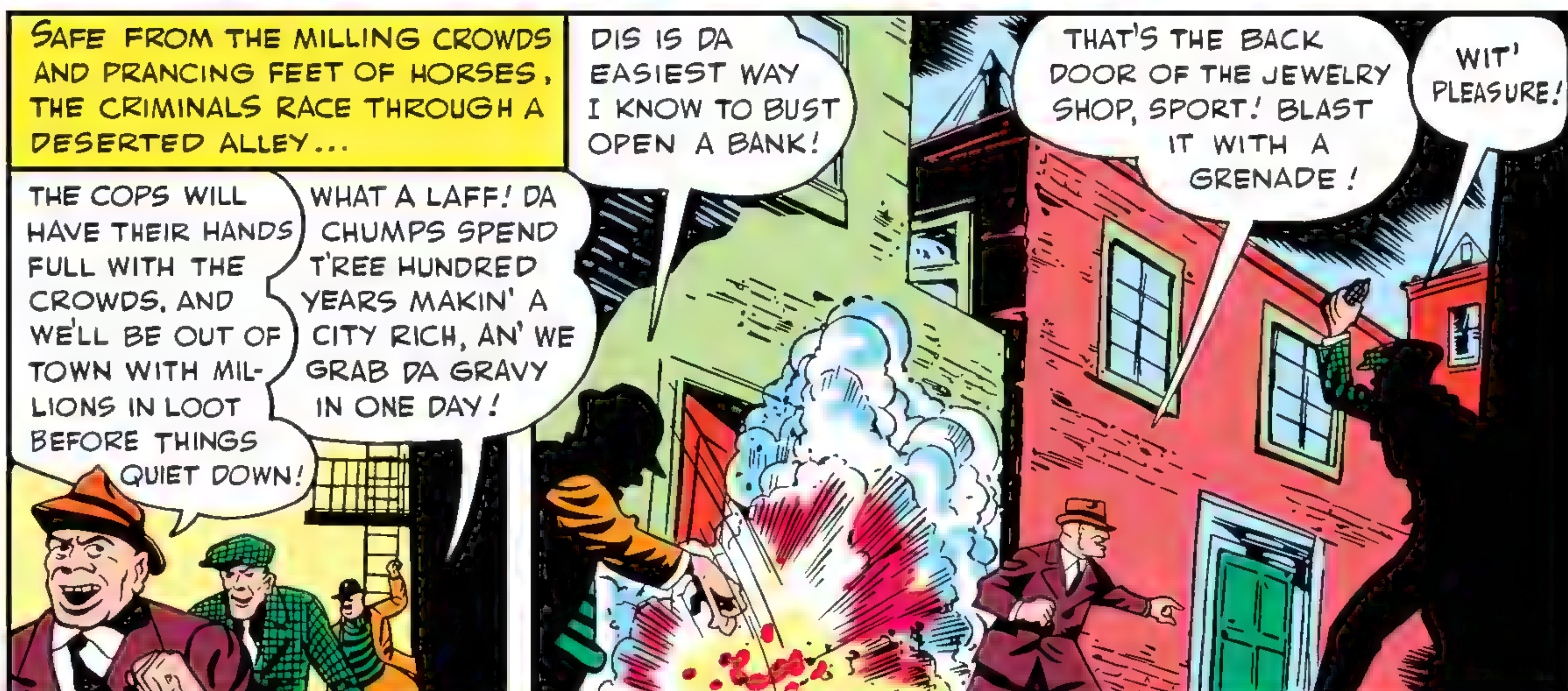
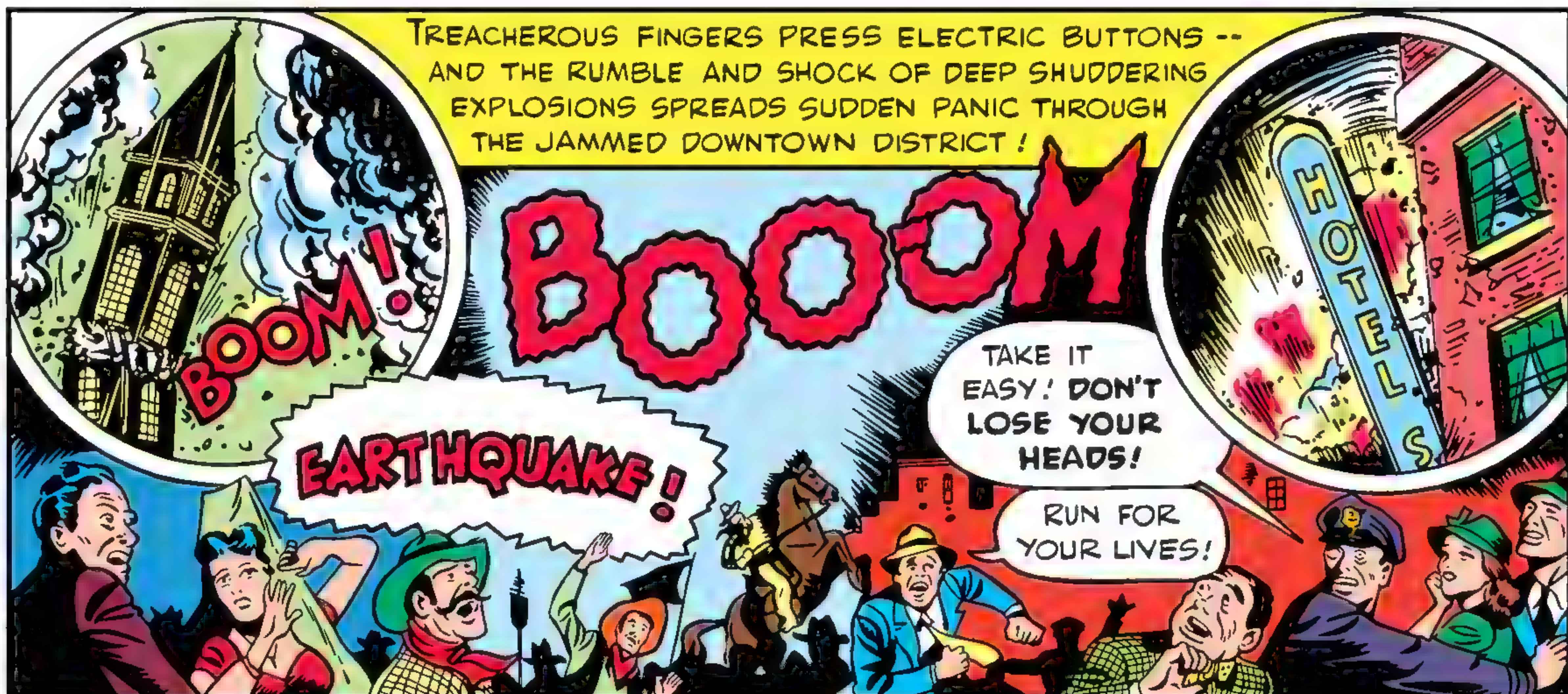
WE AMERICANS HAD SOME GREAT ANCESTORS, DIDN'T WE, ROBIN ?

YES, BUT WHAT IS DUCKY MALLARD UP TO WHILE WE WATCH THE CENTURIES GO BY ?

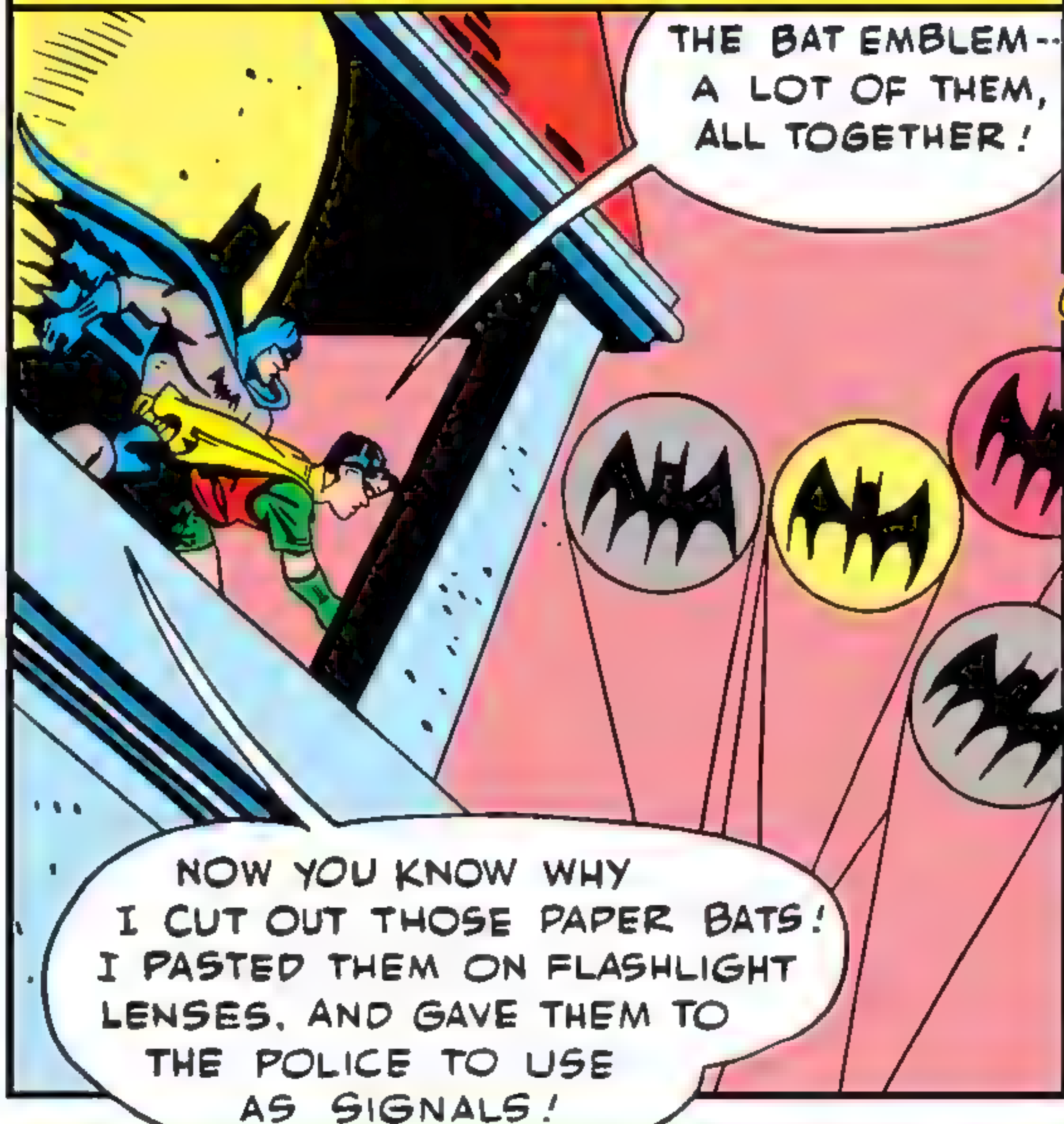
WHAT IS DUCKY UP TO ? NOTHING GOOD, WE MAY BE SURE !

LOOKIT DA SAPS ! WONT DEY BE SURPRISED WHEN OUR HOMEMADE EARTHQUAKE HITS EM ?

"SURPRISED" ISN'T THE WORD, SPORT ! THEY'LL STAMPEDE LIKE A HERD OF CRAZY BUFFALO WHEN I SET OFF THE DYNAMITE CHARGES WE PLANTED !



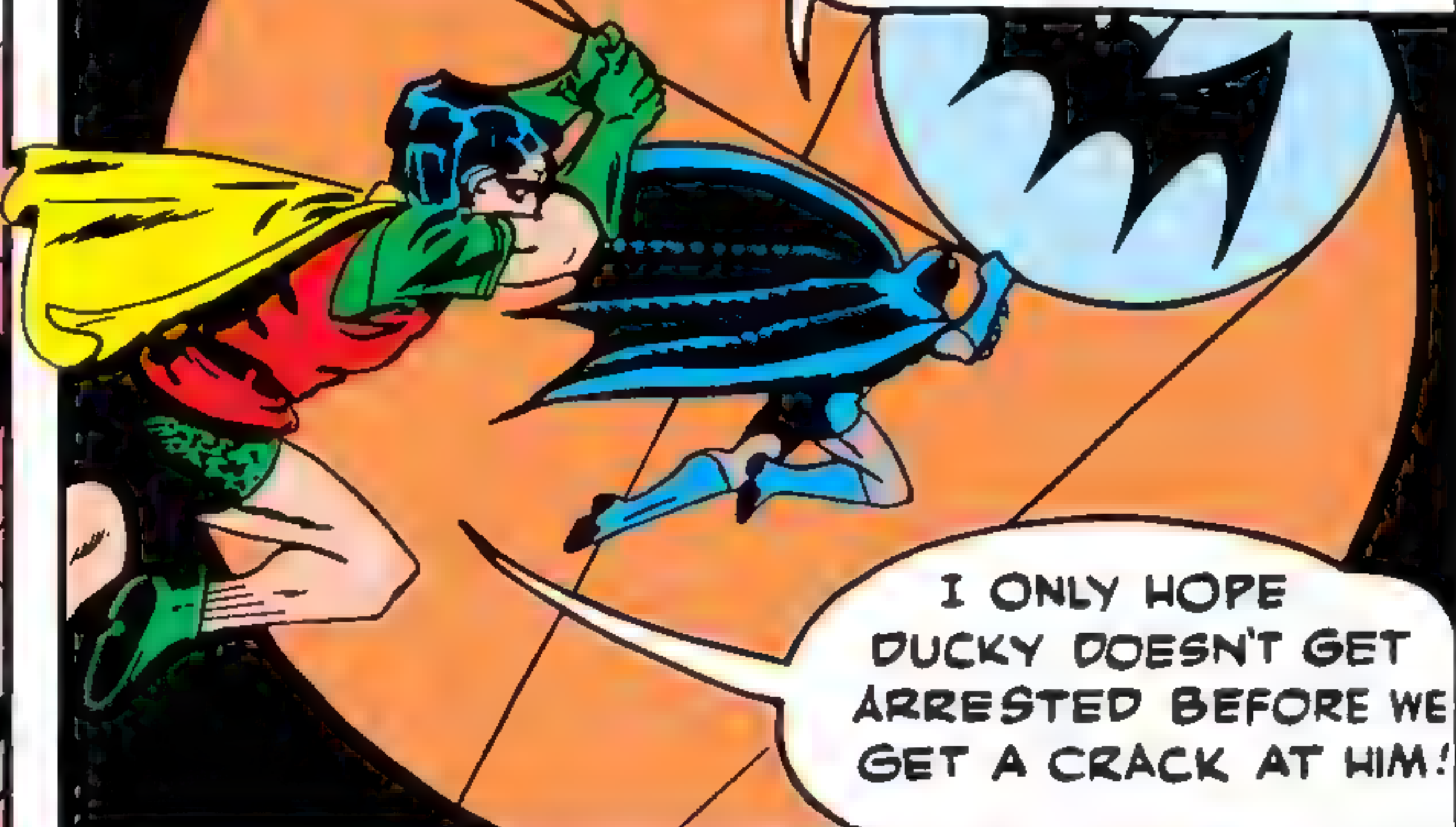
AND NOW, AN AWE-INSPIRING DISPLAY OF LIGHT-BEAMS CONVERGES WITH STARTLING EFFECT AGAINST THE LOW CLOUDS ...



CORNERED, THE GANGSTERS TURN LIKE TRAPPED BEASTS AND HOLD THEIR PURSUERS AT BAY!



YOU AND I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD MUCH CHANCE OF FINDING DUCKY AND HIS MOB WITHOUT HELP! THAT'S WHY I HAD POLICEMEN PUT IN THE PARADE, TO SPREAD OUT AND START HUNTING AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE!



THE NEXT INSTANT ...





WELL, THAT'S THAT! OUR JOB'S FINISHED!

NO, IT ISN'T! THAT PANIC GRIPPING THE CROWD MAY BECOME MORE DANGEROUS THAN AN ARMY OF CRIMINALS! COME ON!

THE SEETHING THROG'S ATTENTION IS CAUGHT BY A REASSURING CRY, AS A LITHE FIGURE RISES INTO VIEW...

LISTEN TO ME! THERE'S NO DANGER!

HUH?... IT'S THE BATMAN!

NO DANGER, HE SAYS! BUT WE HEARD THE EARTHQUAKE, FELT IT, SAW IT!

AND SOUND COMMON SENSE SOON TRIUMPHS OVER BLIND TERROR!

THESE EXPLOSIONS WERE SET BY CROOKS TO STAMPEDE YOU, SO THAT THEY COULD BREAK INTO BANKS! BUT THEY'VE BROKEN INTO JAIL INSTEAD!

SO THAT'S THE ANSWER!

WHAT FOOLS WE WERE TO GET EXCITED!

THE PAGEANT IS RESUMED -- AND TWO MODERN HEROES ARE MADE TO TAKE THEIR PLACES WITH THOSE OF OTHER ERAS!

THREE CHEERS FOR THE BATMAN! HOORAY FOR ROBIN!

THE FIGHTING WAS FUN BUT THIS IS EMBARRASSING!

THEY MEAN WELL, ROBIN -- AND ANYWAY, WE HAVEN'T ANY MORE CHANCE OF ESCAPING THAN DUCKY AND HIS UGLY DUCKLINGS HAVE!

BUT LATER, WHEN BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON RETURN TO GOTHAM CITY...

BACK SOONER THAN WE EXPECTED, ALFRED! WE WERE AFRAID WE'D BE BORED AND --

IT'S NO GOOD PRETENDIN', MAWSTER DICK I'VE READ THE PUBLIC PRINTS AND YOUR DECEIT IS KNOWN TO ME

OH, OH -- I'M AFRAID WE'RE IN FOR IT!

AS YOU WILL NOTE, I HAVE ALREADY PACKED MY BELONGINGS!

BUT, ALFRED, YOU CAN'T LEAVE US! YOU'RE LIKE ONE OF THE FAMILY! WE COULDN'T GET ALONG WITHOUT YOU!

PLEASE SAY YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LEAVE!

INDEED I'M GOING TO LEAVE, SIR -- WITH YOU, ON YOUR VERY NEXT OUT-OF-TOWN CASE! AS A TRAINED CRIMINOLOGIST, I'LL BE INVALUABLE TO YOU.

WHEW! THAT'S DIFFERENT! EH, DICK?

WHEW! I'LL SAY!

THE END

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

FAR OUT ON THE CALM PACIFIC, WHERE FISHERMEN PLY THEIR PEACEFUL TRADE, CRIME STRIKES WITH SUDDEN SAVAGE FURY! MARAUDERS FROM NOWHERE LASH OUT AND VANISH WITH DEADLY SPEED! THEIR VICTIMS—HELPLESS TOILERS OF THE SEA! THEIR LOOT--- THE STRANGEST SWAG CRIMINALS EVER SOUGHT! WHO ARE THEY? WHERE DO THEY COME FROM? HOW DO THEY DISAPPEAR SO MYSTERIOUSLY? FOLLOW **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER AS THEY FISH WITH LEFT HOOKS AND BARBED WITS FOR THE AMAZING ANSWER IN THE ...

"ADVENTURE of the VITAMIN VANDALS!"



AT THE RICH FISHING GROUNDS OFF CALIFORNIA'S BOUNTIFUL COAST, THE GOOD SHIP "JENNY JONES" COMES TO THE END OF A HIGHLY PROFITABLE TRIP...

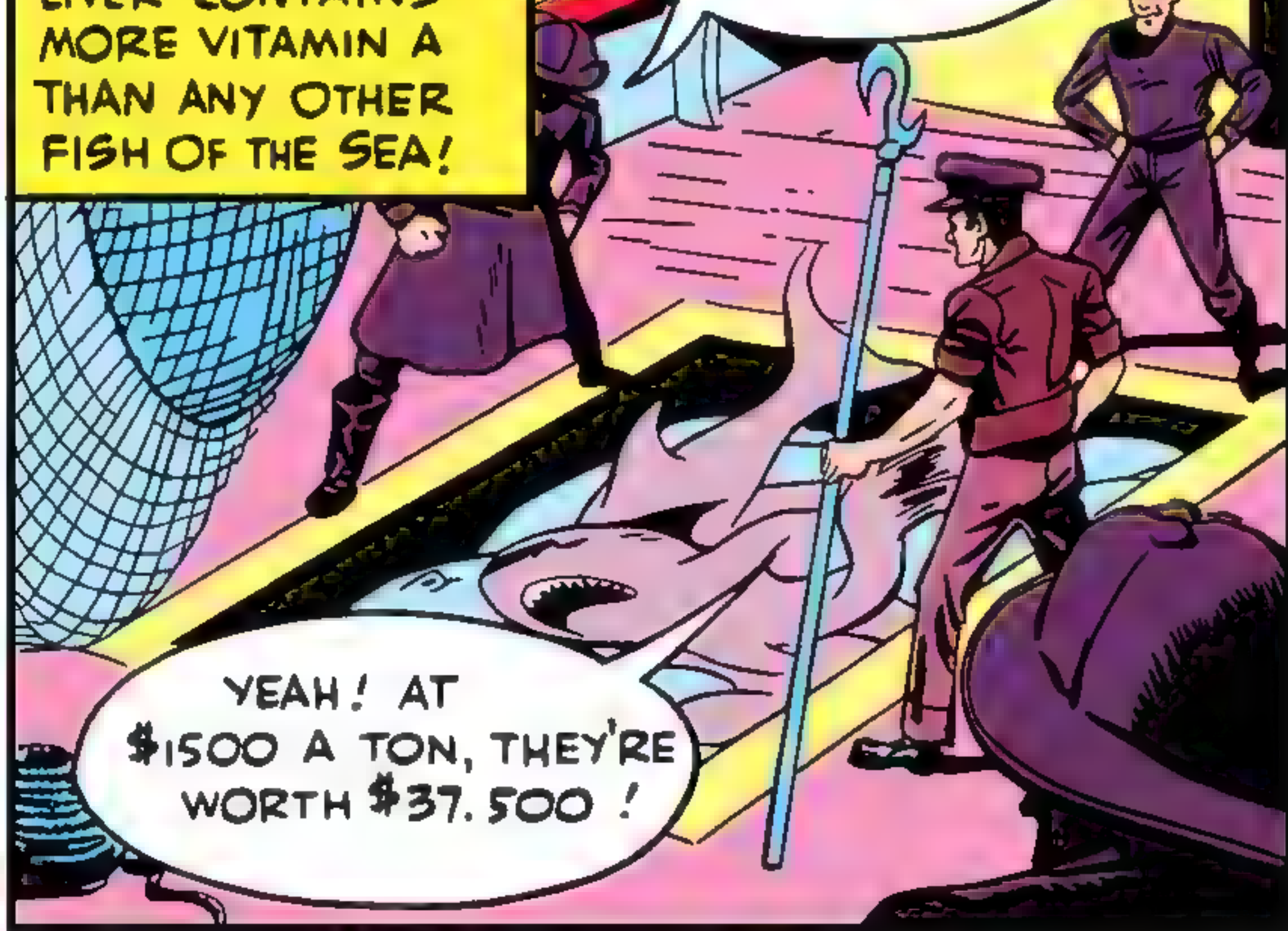


PUT ABOUT, MATES! WE'RE RICH AND WERE HEAD-ING HOME!

AYE, THAT WE ARE, SKIPPER! RIGHT NOW AT LEAST!

FOR HER HOLD IS JAM-PACKED WITH PRICELESS SOUP-FIN SHARKS--WHOSE LIVER CONTAINS MORE VITAMIN A THAN ANY OTHER FISH OF THE SEA!

A MIGHTY BIG HAUL! WE'VE GOT TWENTY-FIVE TONS OF 'EM!

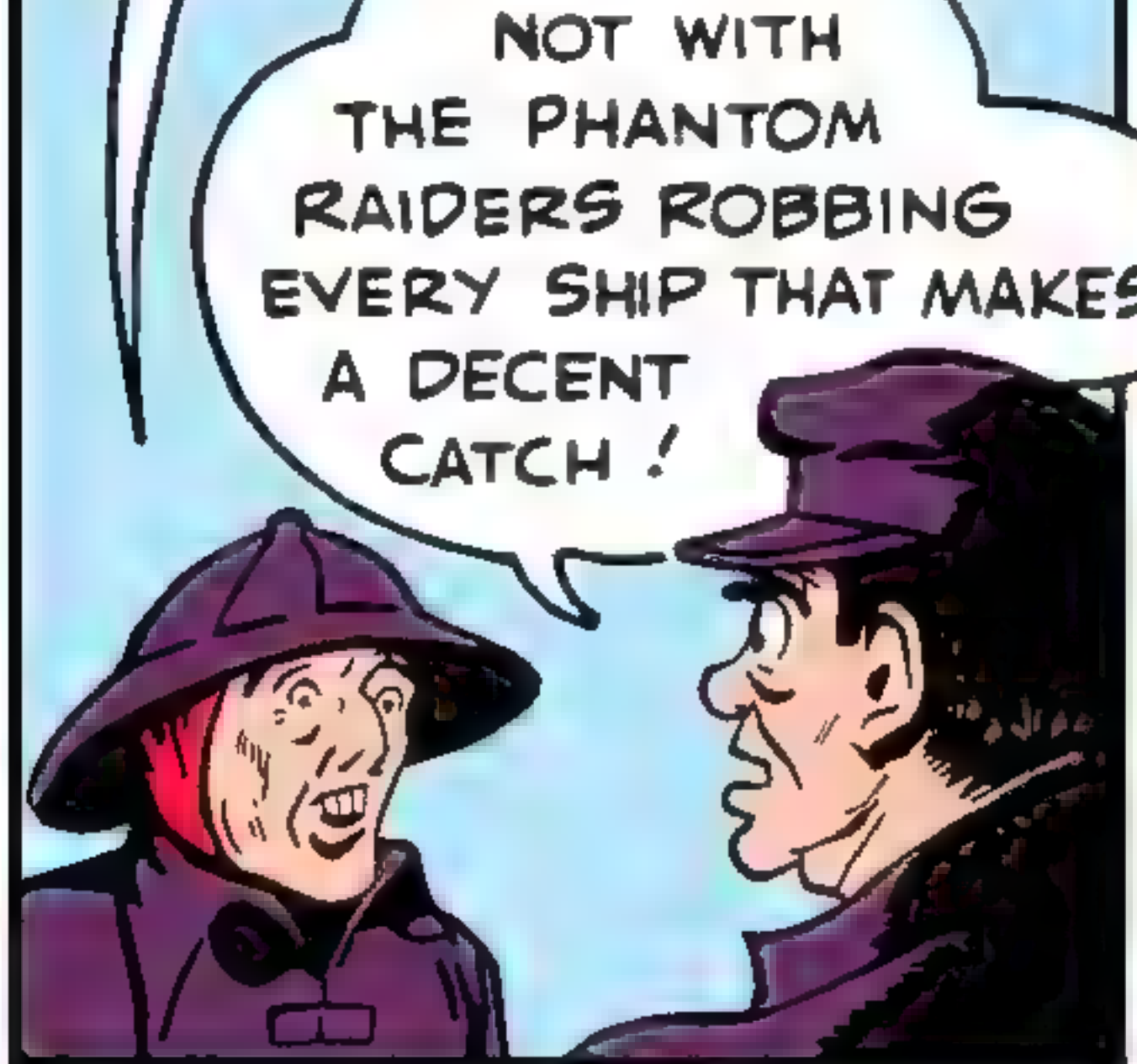


YEAH! AT \$1500 A TON, THEY'RE WORTH \$37,500!

YET FEAR AND GLOOM LIE HEAVILY ON THE HEARTS OF THE LUCKY FISHERMEN!

WHAT'S THE USE OF KIDDING OURSELVES? WE'LL NEVER GET THESE SHARKS TO PORT!

NOT WITH THE PHANTOM RAIDERS ROBBING EVERY SHIP THAT MAKES A DECENT CATCH!



THE PHANTOM RAIDERS--DREAD SCOURGES OF THE FISHING GROUNDS! AS NIGHT DRAWS NEAR...

HOW CAN THEY CLIMB ABOARD? WE'VE GOT EVERY SIDE OF THE JENNY COVERED!



SURE! EVEN A DINGHY COULDN'T PULL UP WITHOUT BEING SIGHTED... AND PICKING UP A CARGO OF LEAD!

BUT SUDDENLY...

T'ROW DOWN YOUR ROSCOES! DE ONE DAT DON'T IS A DEAD MACKEREL, SEE?

THE PHANTOM RAIDERS!

THEY GOT ON THE SHIP WITHOUT US SEEING THEM!



SURROUNDED FORE AND AFTER, THERE IS NO CHOICE BUT SURRENDER!

NO MORE OF THIS FOR ME! I'M GETTING A JOB ON THE BEACH!

WHAT YOU CHUMPS KICK-IN' ABOUT? LOOKIT THE DOUGH YA ALMOST MADE!

ME, TOO! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

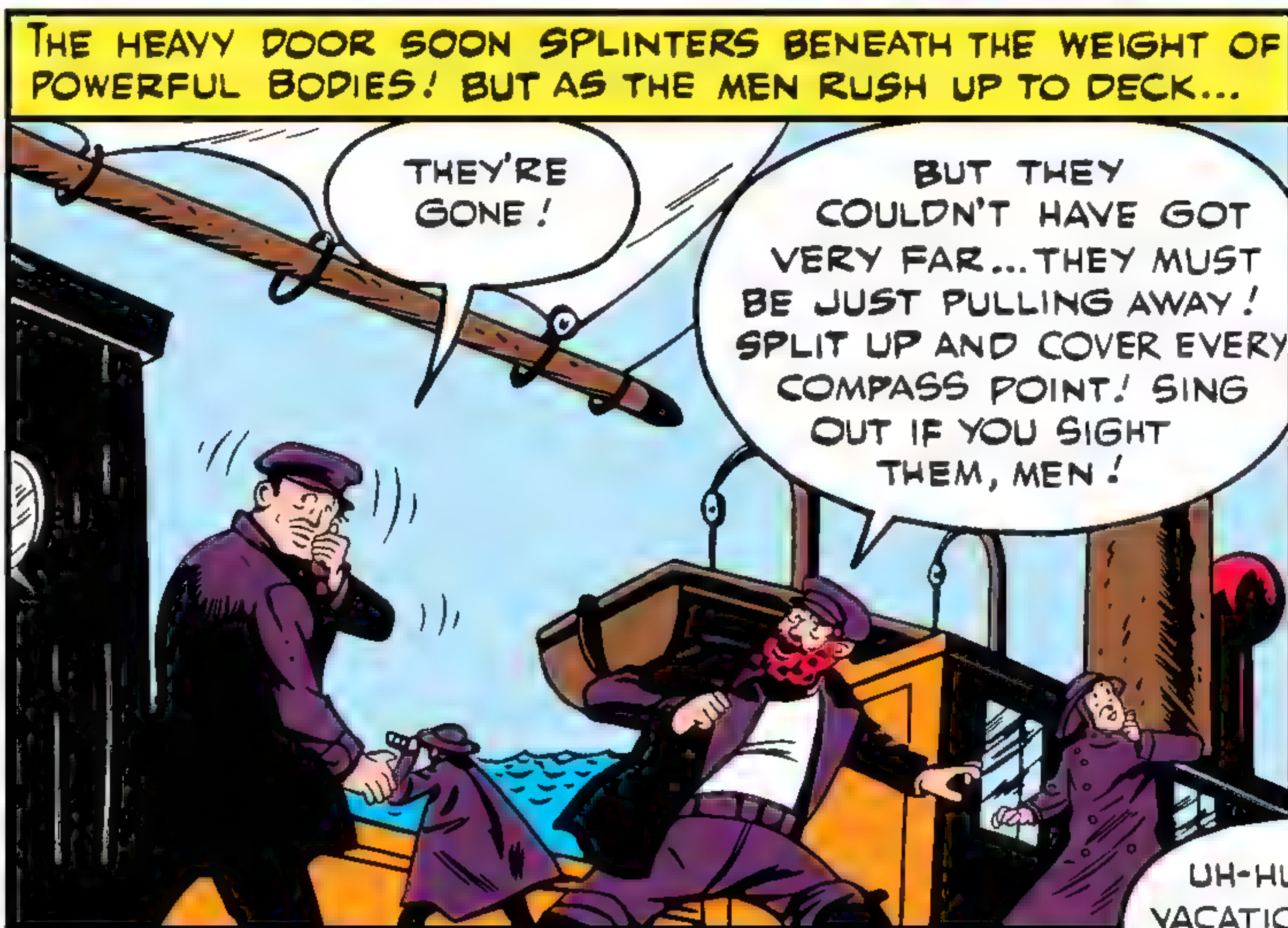


A KEY GRATES IN THE STOUT OAKEN DOOR... THE HEAVY FOOTSTEPS OF THE PHANTOM RAIDERS ECHO TOWARD THE DECK... AND THE CREW IS HELD PRISONER IN THEIR OWN SHIP!

WHO'S THE CONSERVED TRAITOR WHO LET THEM ABOARD?

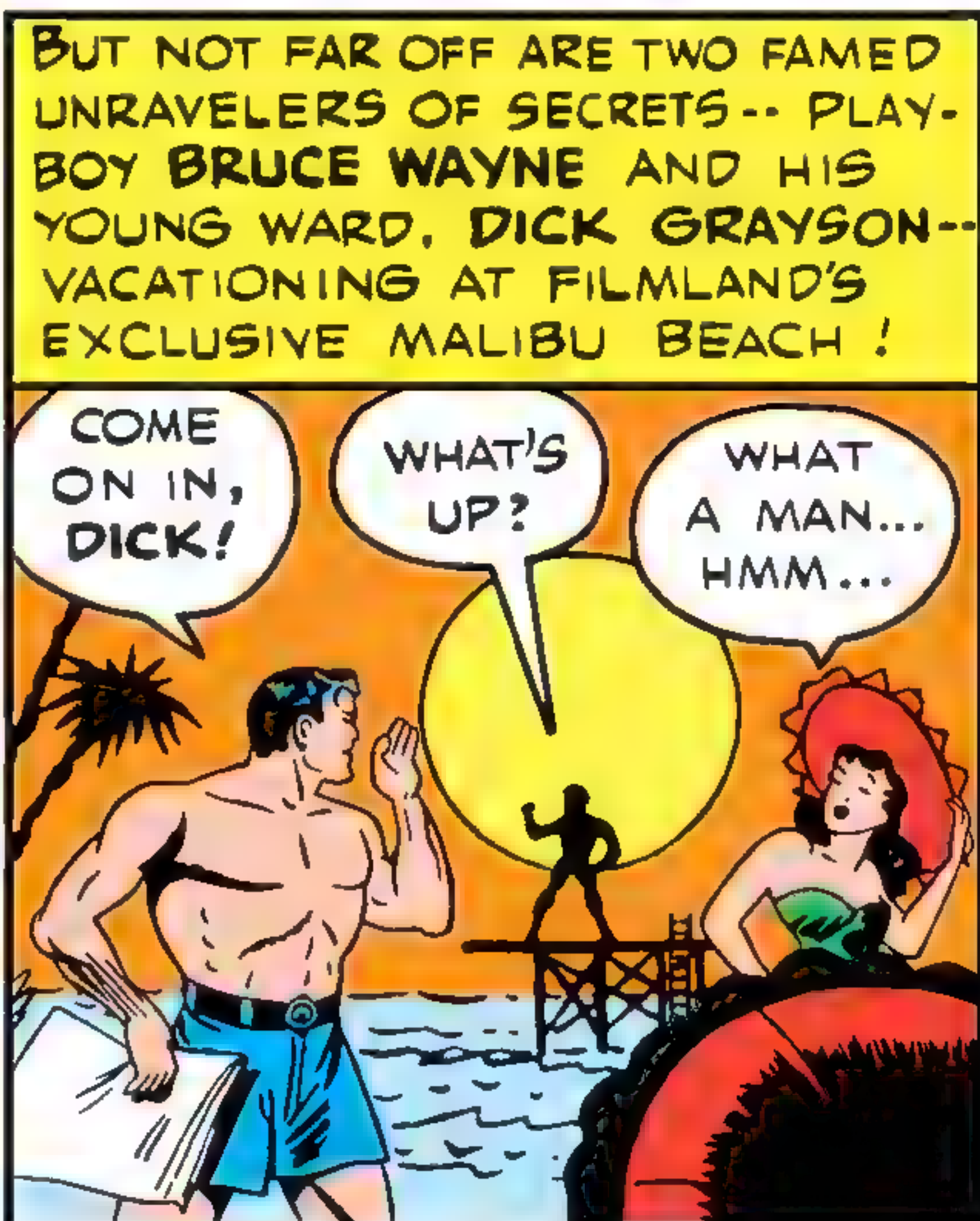
NOBODY, SIR! THEY DIDN'T BOARD US... THEY CAME FROM AMIDSHIPS, WHILE WE WERE WATCHING THE SEA!



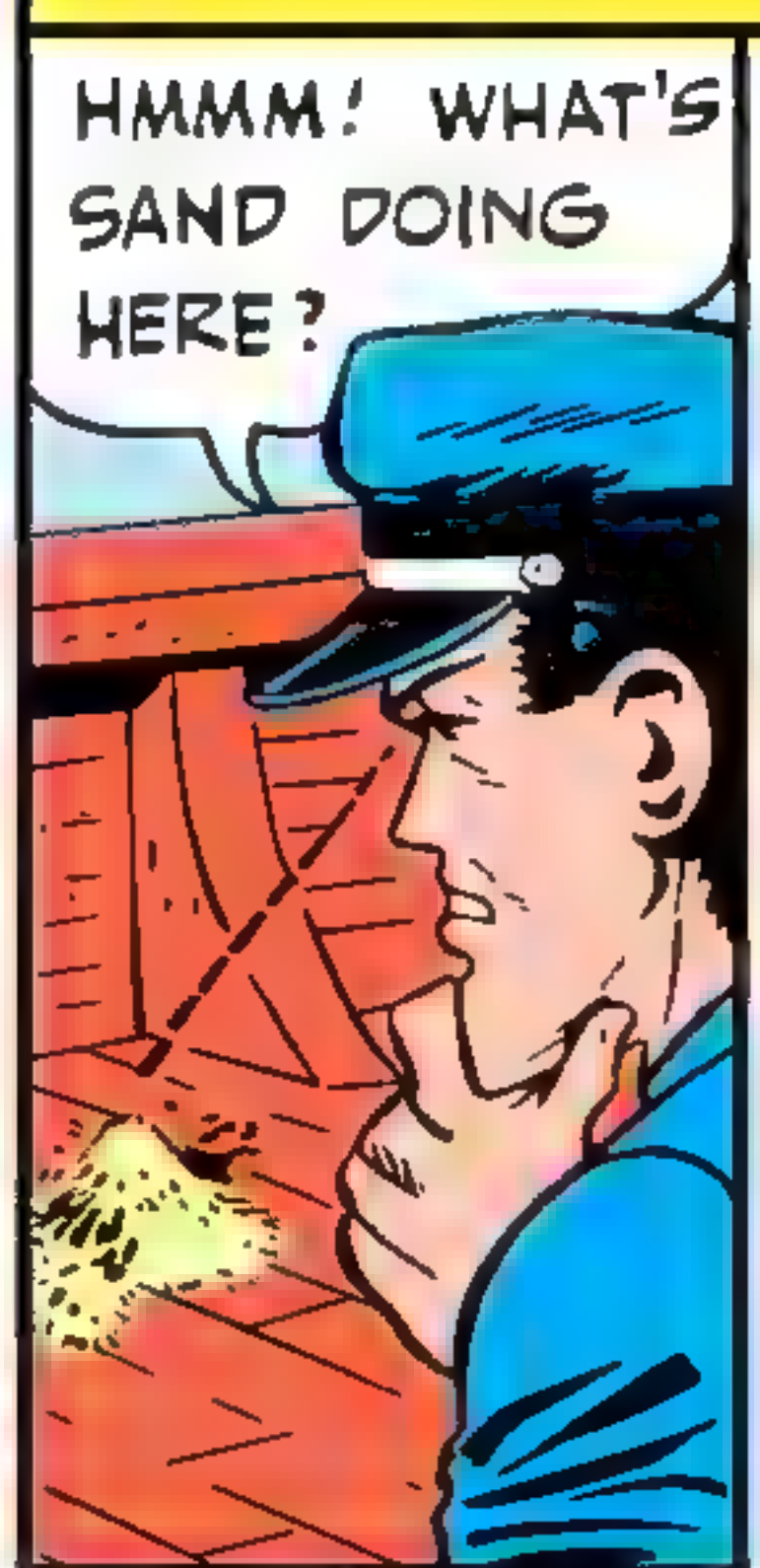


LIKE A PALL, BLACK MYSTERY HANGS OVER THE JENNIE JONES! HOW COULD THE EERIE BANDITS APPROACH ACROSS OPEN WATER AND YET ESCAPE DETECTION? HOW COULD THEY SWARM ABOARD WITHOUT BEING SEEN? HOW COULD THEY VANISH, LEAVING NO TRACE?

3



AS THE CAPTAIN TALKS TO FISH-BROKER ARCHIE GIBBONS, THE DISGUISED BATMAN AND ROBIN GLANCE AROUND...



HMMM! WHAT'S SAND DOING HERE?

WE FISH BROKERS ARE BEING PUT OUT OF BUSINESS BY THOSE BLASTED PHANTOMS! I'VE GOT TO HAVE SHARK LIVERS! I'LL GIVE YOU \$2000 A TON FOR SOUP-FINS!



A \$500 A TON BONUS! WELL... OKAY! IT'S WORTH THE RISK!

AVAST, YOU TWO--YOU'RE HIRED! REPORT TOMORROW MORNING!



THANKS, SKIPPER! WHEW! I THOUGHT WE'D HAVE TO HUNT ALL OVER THE DOCKS FOR A SHIP THAT'S GOING OUT!

PRETTY SPORTING OF THAT FISH-BROKER, ARCHIE GIBBONS, TO MAKE IT WORTH-WHILE FOR SHIPS TO MAKE MORE TRIPS!

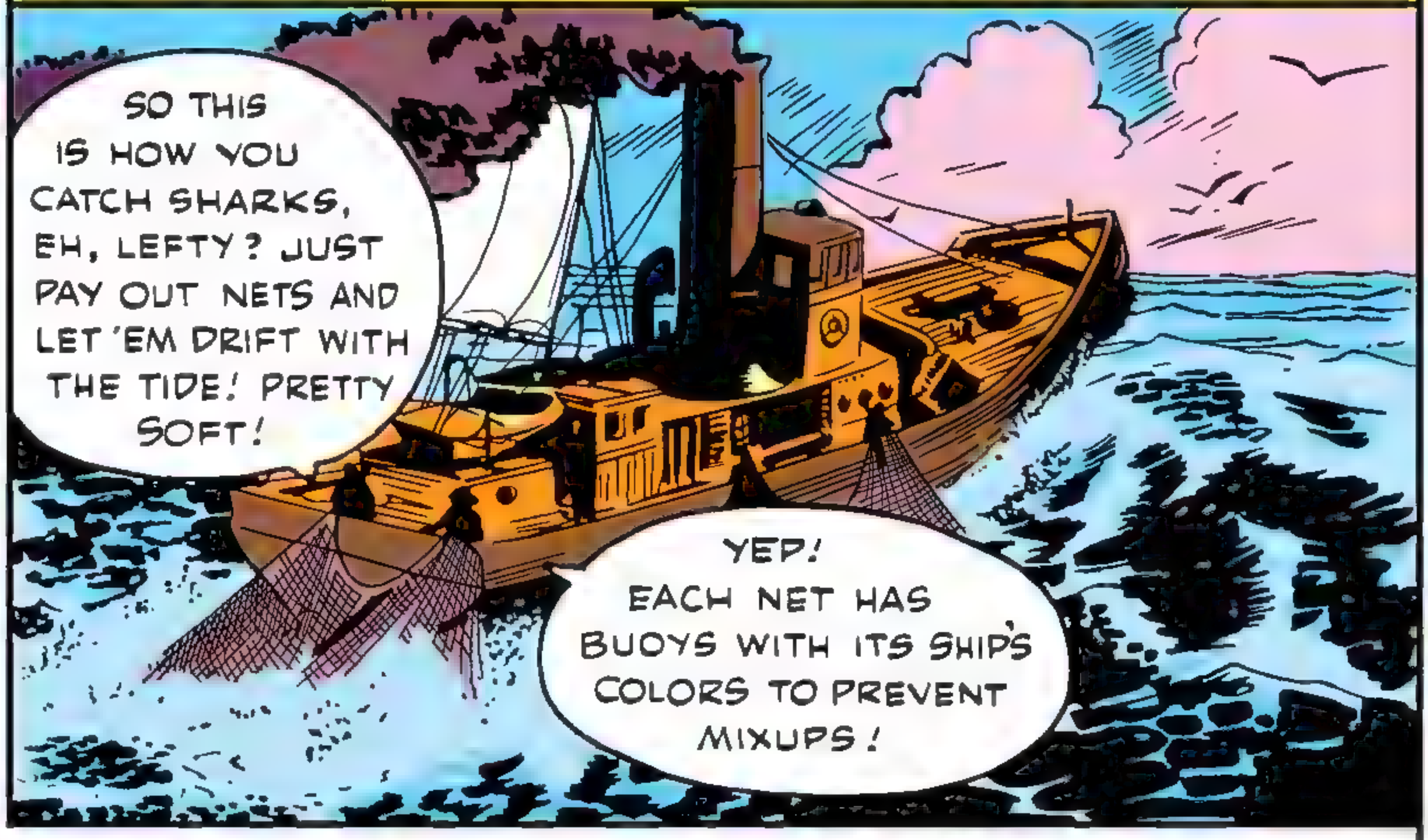
YES... BUT DID YOU NOTICE THAT PILE OF SAND ON THE JENNY'S DECK? PECULIAR THING TO FIND ON A FISHING SHIP THAT'S JUST DOCKED!



THE DECKS ARE SWABBED SEVERAL TIMES A DAY WHEN FISH ARE BEING PULLED IN... SO THE SAND MUST HAVE GOT THERE ON THE WAY HOME--

MAYBE AROUND THE TIME OF THE ROBBERY, EH? WE'LL KEEP OUR EYES OPEN!

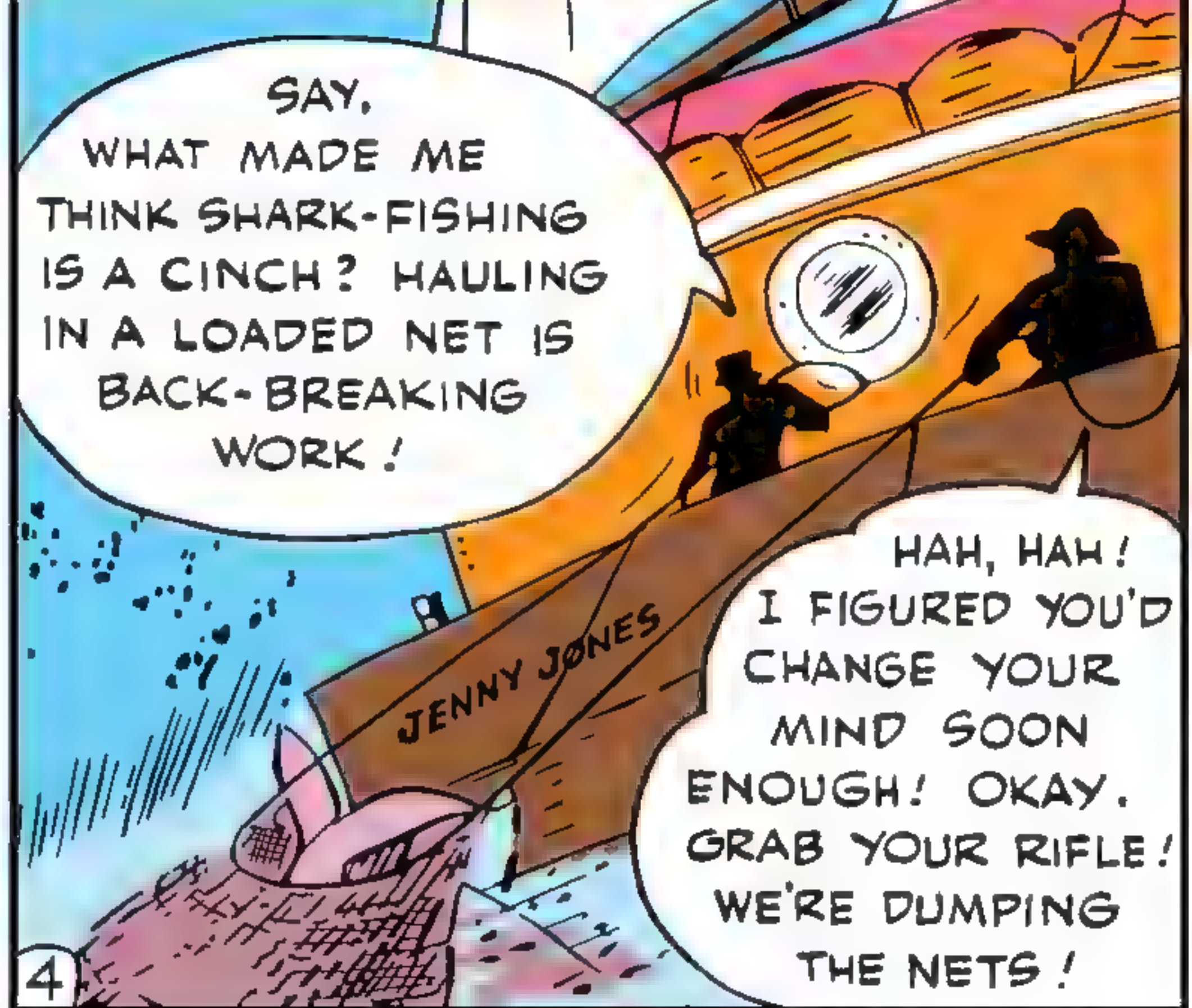
LATE THE NEXT DAY, THE JENNY JONES REACHES THE TEEMING FISHING GROUNDS WHERE VALUABLE SOUP-FINS ABOUND...



SO THIS IS HOW YOU CATCH SHARKS, EH, LEFTY? JUST PAY OUT NETS AND LET 'EM DRIFT WITH THE TIDE! PRETTY SOFT!

YEP! EACH NET HAS BUOYS WITH ITS SHIP'S COLORS TO PREVENT MIXUPS!

AND ON THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW...



SAY, WHAT MADE ME THINK SHARK-FISHING IS A CINCH? HAULING IN A LOADED NET IS BACK-BREAKING WORK!

HAH, HAH! I FIGURED YOU'D CHANGE YOUR MIND SOON ENOUGH! OKAY. GRAB YOUR RIFLE! WE'RE DUMPING THE NETS!



READY WITH THAT GUN NOW! CLUBBING USUALLY KNOCKS THEM OUT... BUT NOT ALWAYS!

AND A SHARK LOOSE ON DECK MUST BE A PRETTY DANGEROUS CUSTOMER WITH SKIN LIKE NUMBER ONE SANDPAPER AND TEETH LIKE YOUNG BAYONETS!

ABRUPTLY... AS IF FATE HAD OVERHEARD... THE MOMENT DREADED BY ALL SHARK-FISHERMEN!

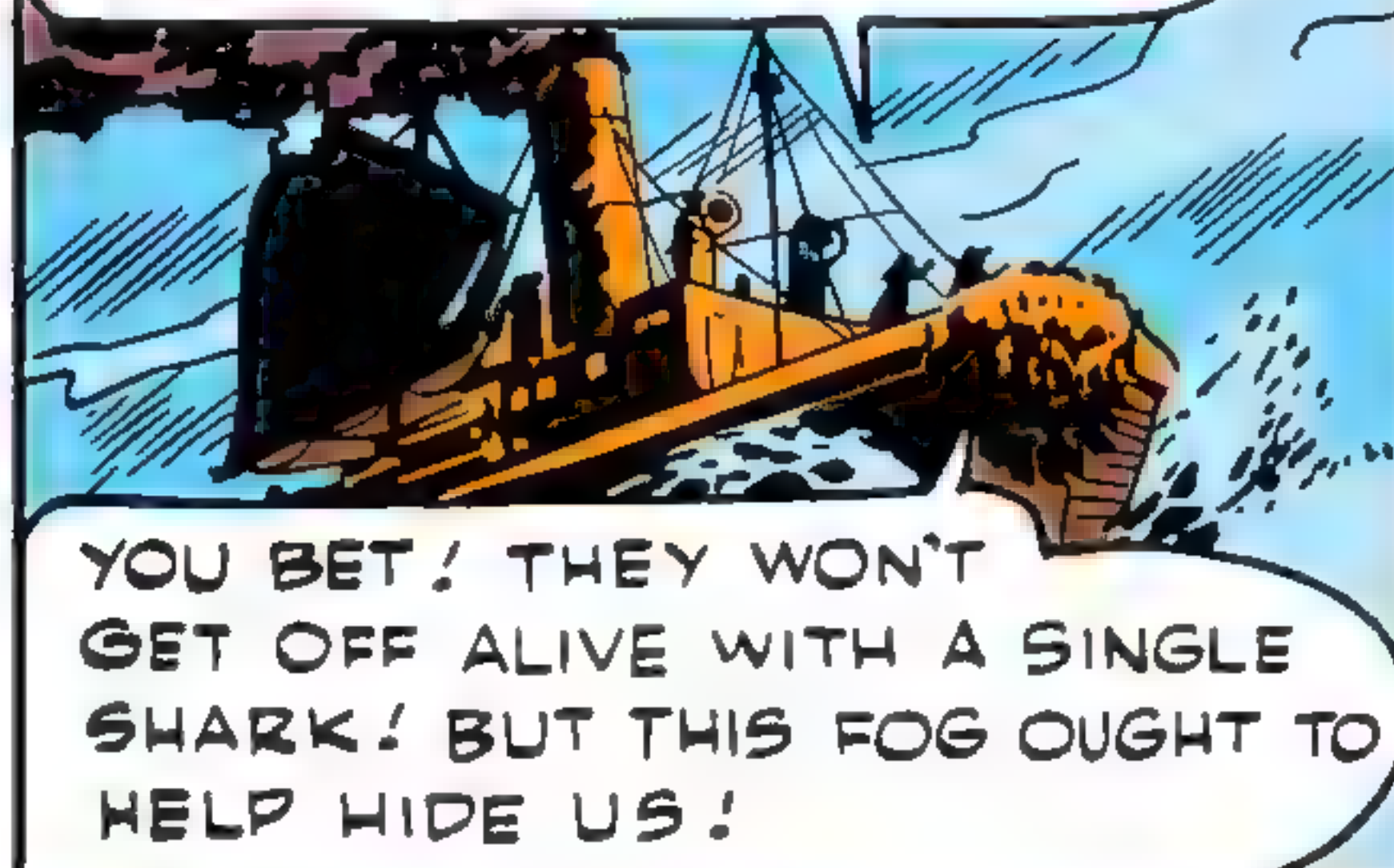


BUT TRAINED MUSCLES AND SPLIT-SECOND COORDINATION ARE MORE THAN A MATCH FOR THE DEADLY GRAY SEA-TIGER!



AT LAST, HER HOLD ONCE AGAIN FILLED WITH PRECIOUS CARGO, THE JENNY JONES MAKES FOR PORT...

MAYBE WE CAN'T STOP THE PHANTOMS FROM BOARDING US... BUT WE CAN FILL 'EM FULL OF HOLES IF THEY DO! WE'RE ALL ARMED TO THE TEETH!



MEANWHILE, TWO EXPERIENCED CRIME-CRUSHERS WORK OUT A DIFFERENT BATTLE PLAN TO REPEL FREEBOOTERS...

WHAT'S THE GOOD OF WATCHING THE DECK? I KNOW THE GANG DIDN'T STOW AWAY... I'VE BEEN THROUGH EVERY INCH OF THE SHIP!

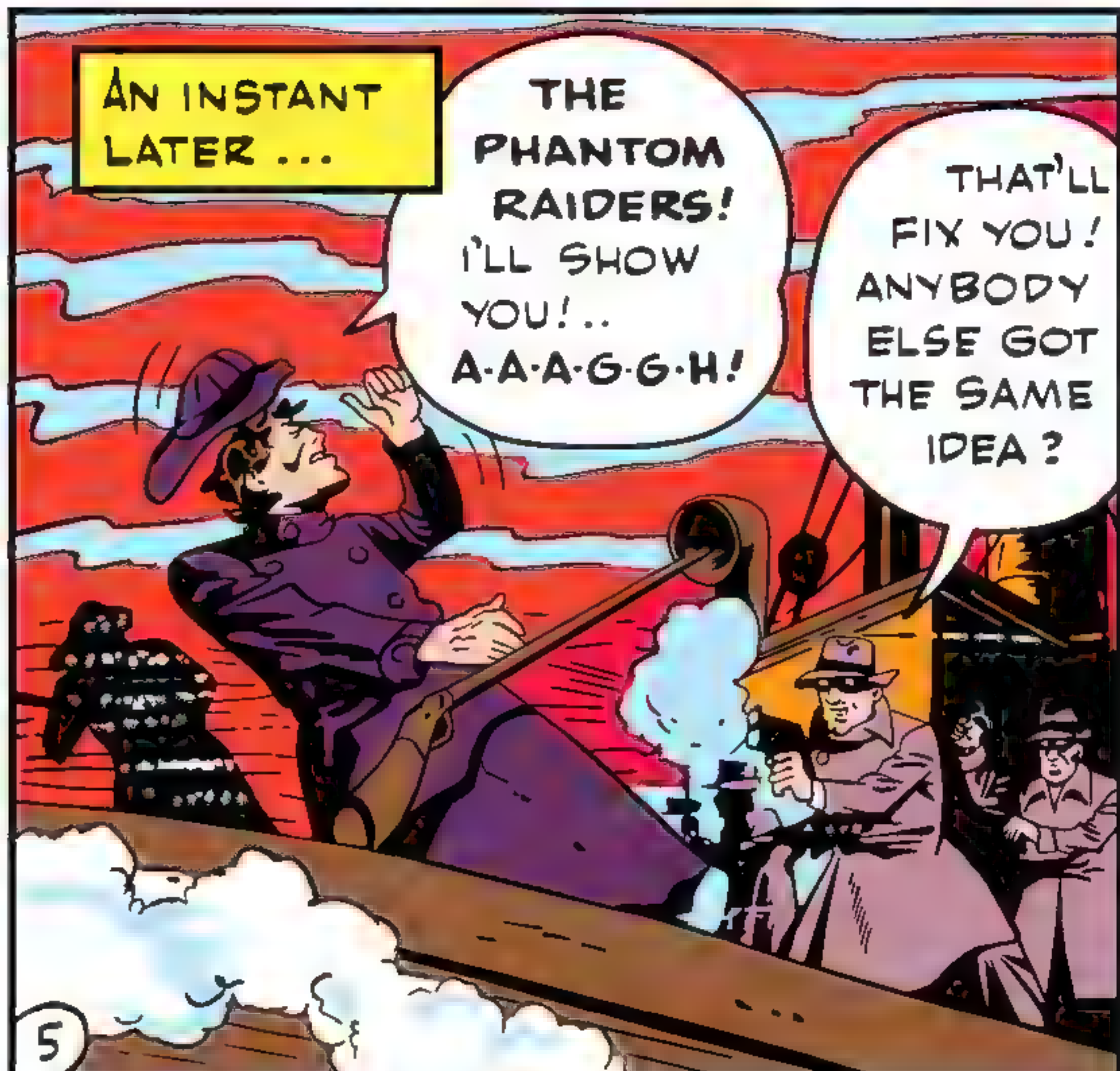
THEY COULDN'T COME ABOARD WITHOUT CLIMBING OVER THE SIDE! AND THERE ARE ENOUGH MEN WATCHING THE WATER! SAY, LOOK AT THAT!



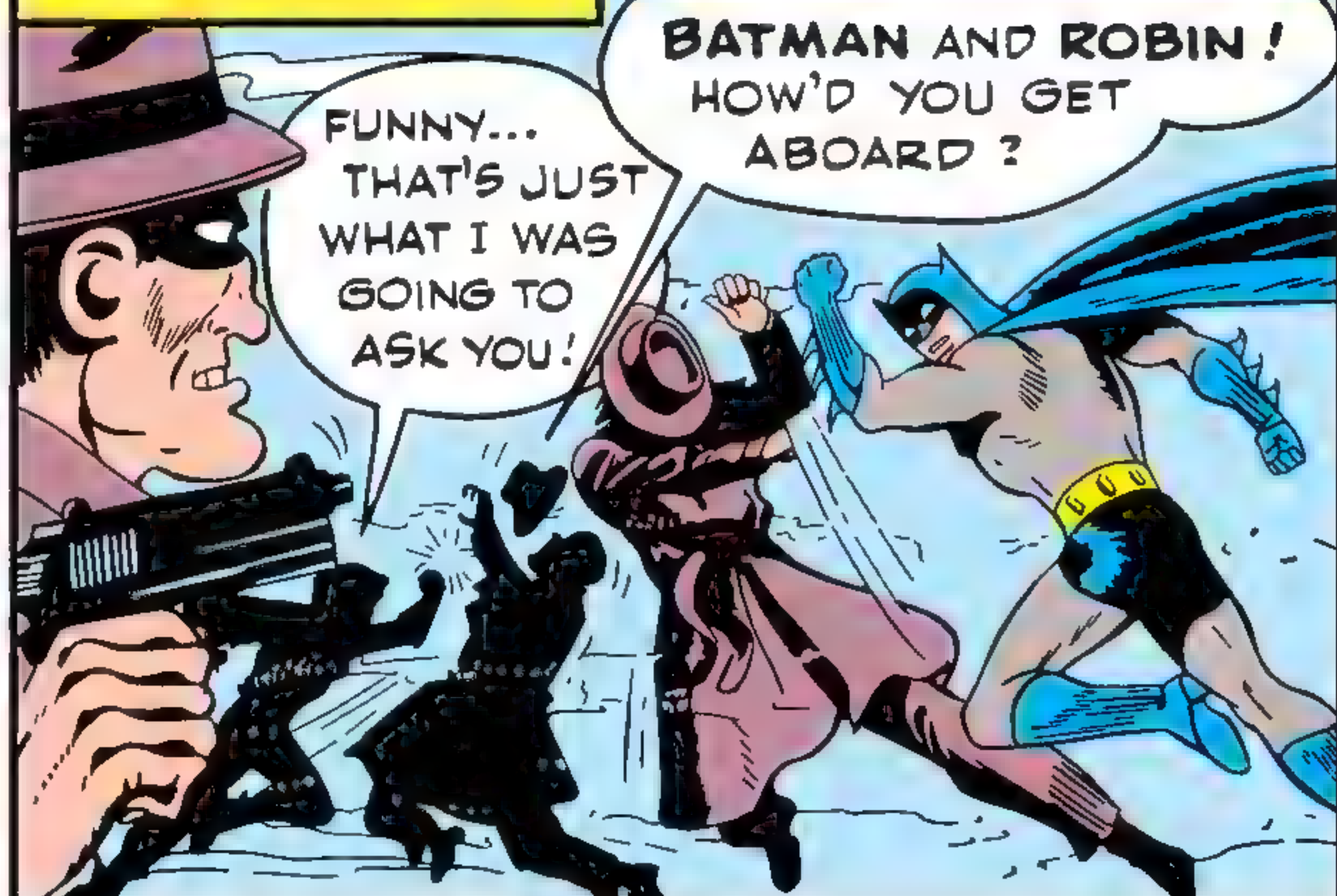
AN INSTANT LATER...

THE PHANTOM RAIDERS! I'LL SHOW YOU!... A-A-A-G-G-H!

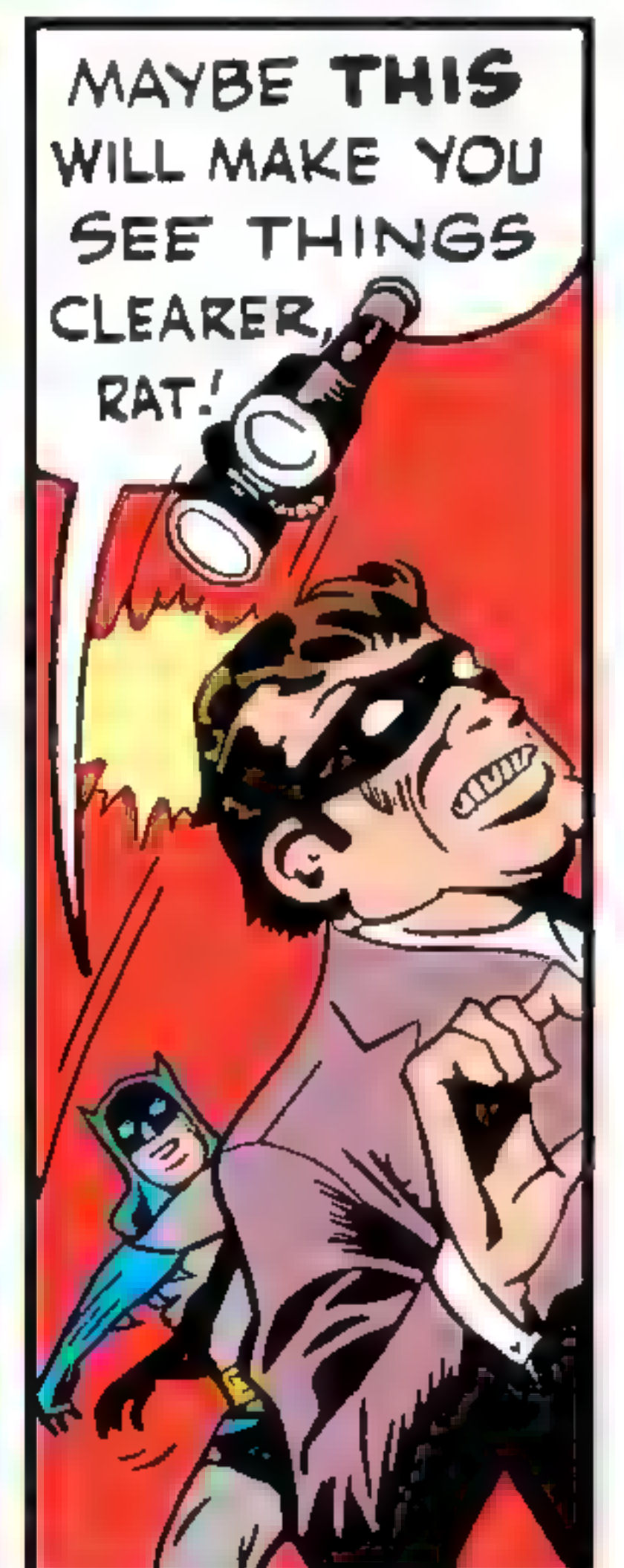
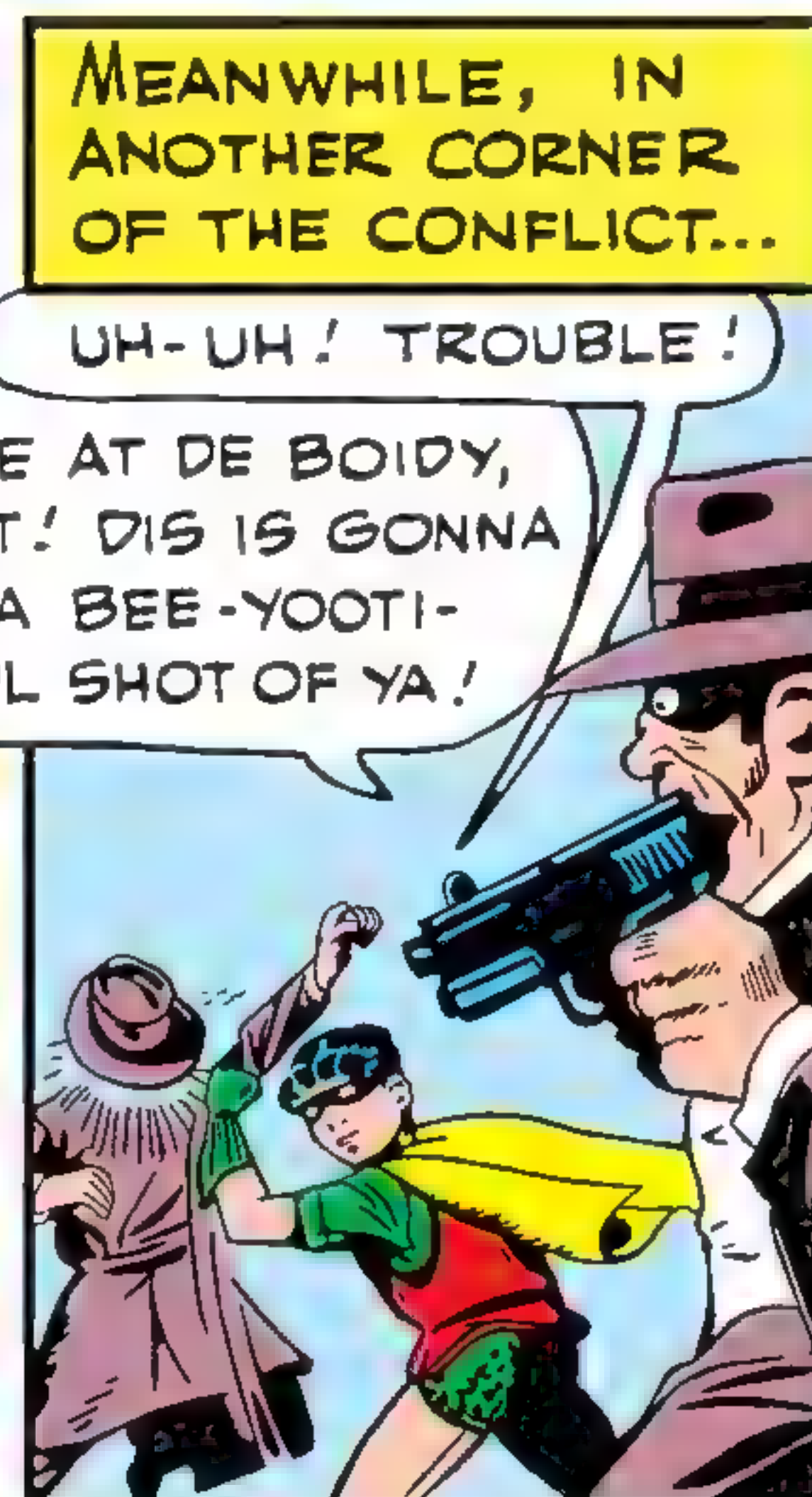
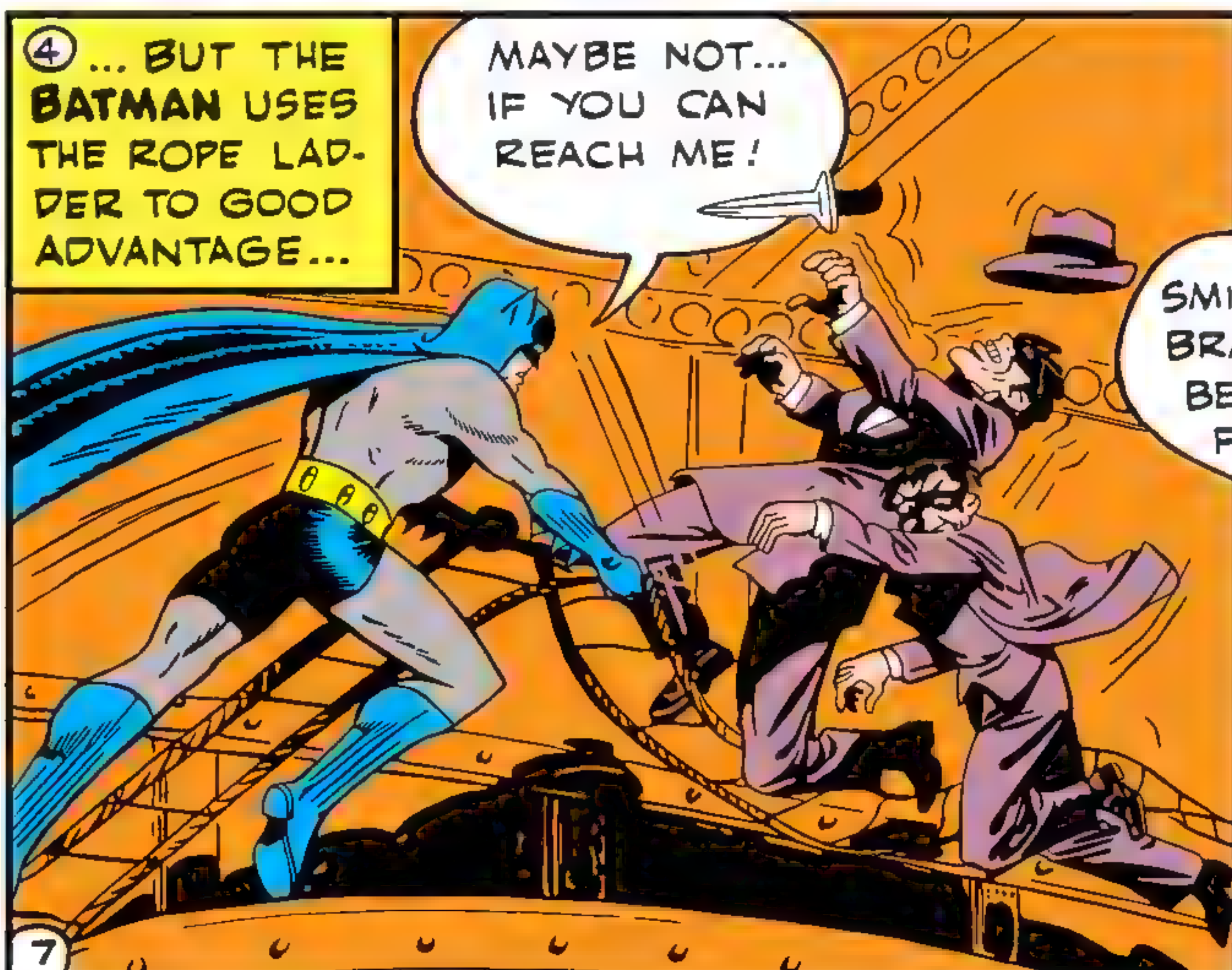
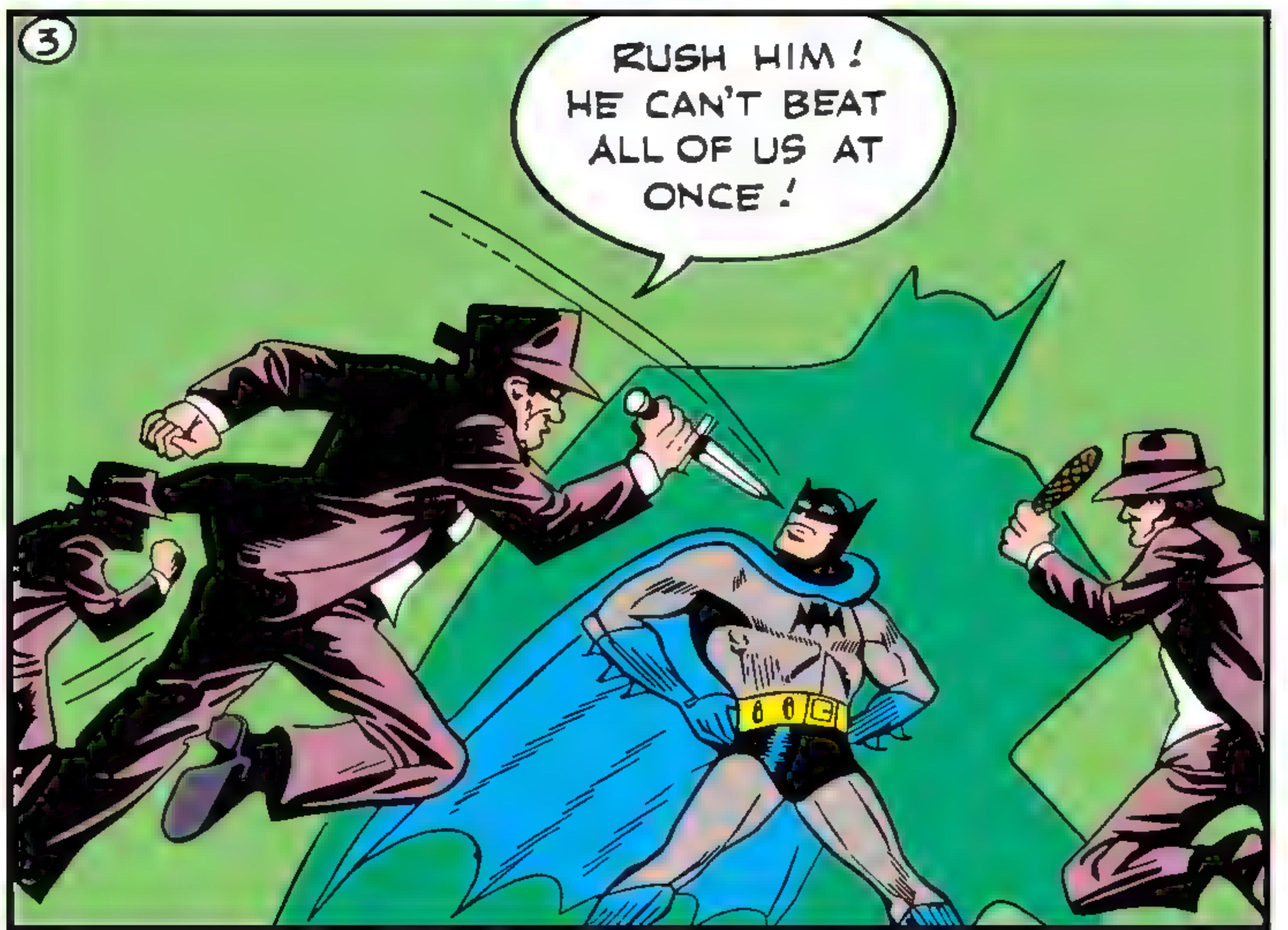
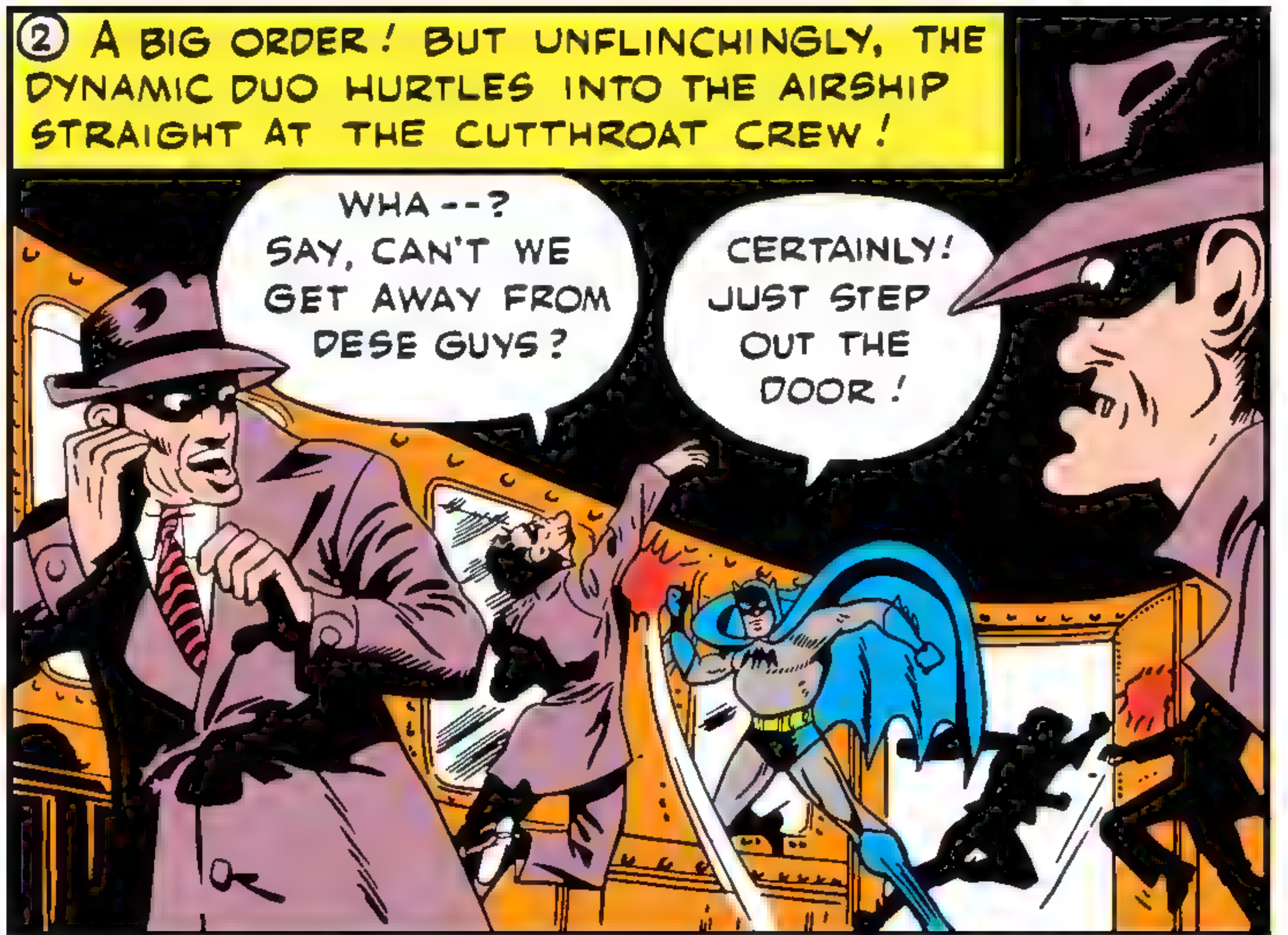
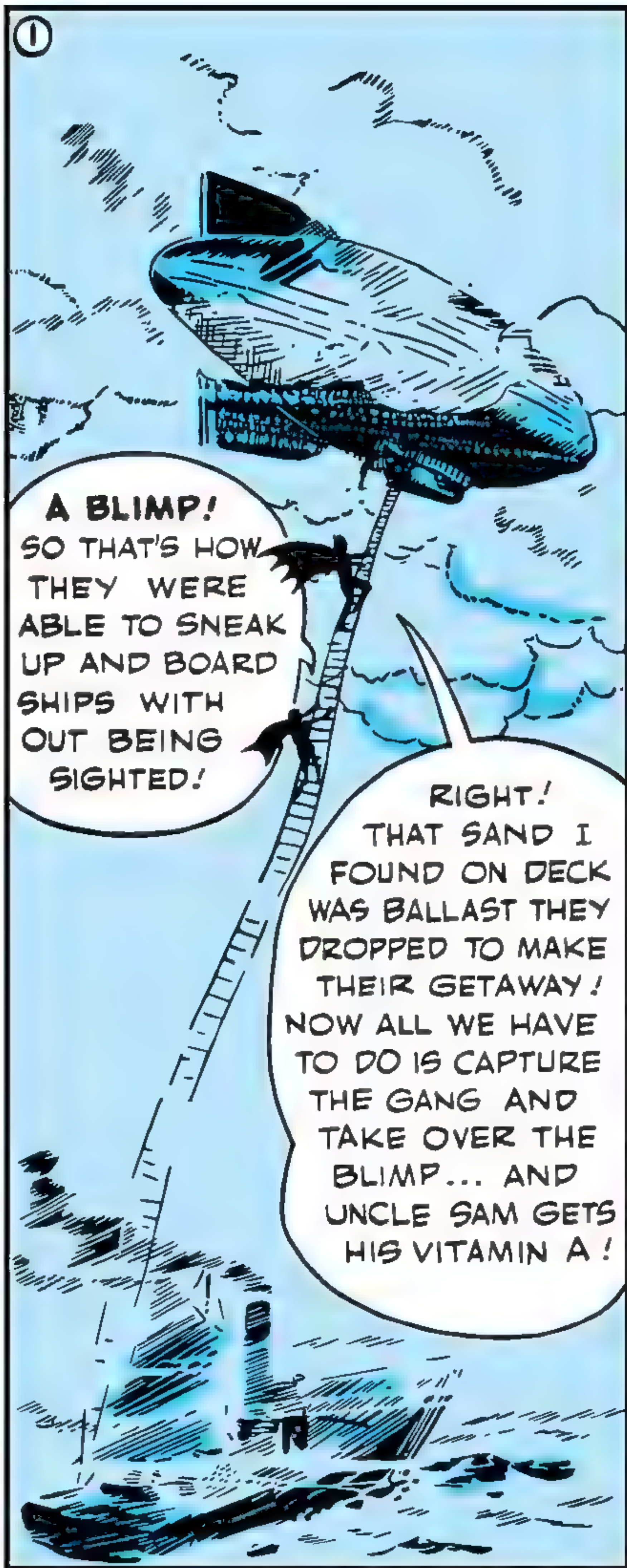
THAT'LL FIX YOU! ANYBODY ELSE GOT THE SAME IDEA?



JUST THEN... A SWIFT SWITCH IN THE LEE OF A LIFEBOAT. AND THAT TORNADO TEAM -- BATMAN AND ROBIN -- LAUNCHES A VIOLENT COUNTERATTACK!







SUDDENLY, THE SHATTERED GANG MAKES A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE THE WHIRLWIND FISTS...

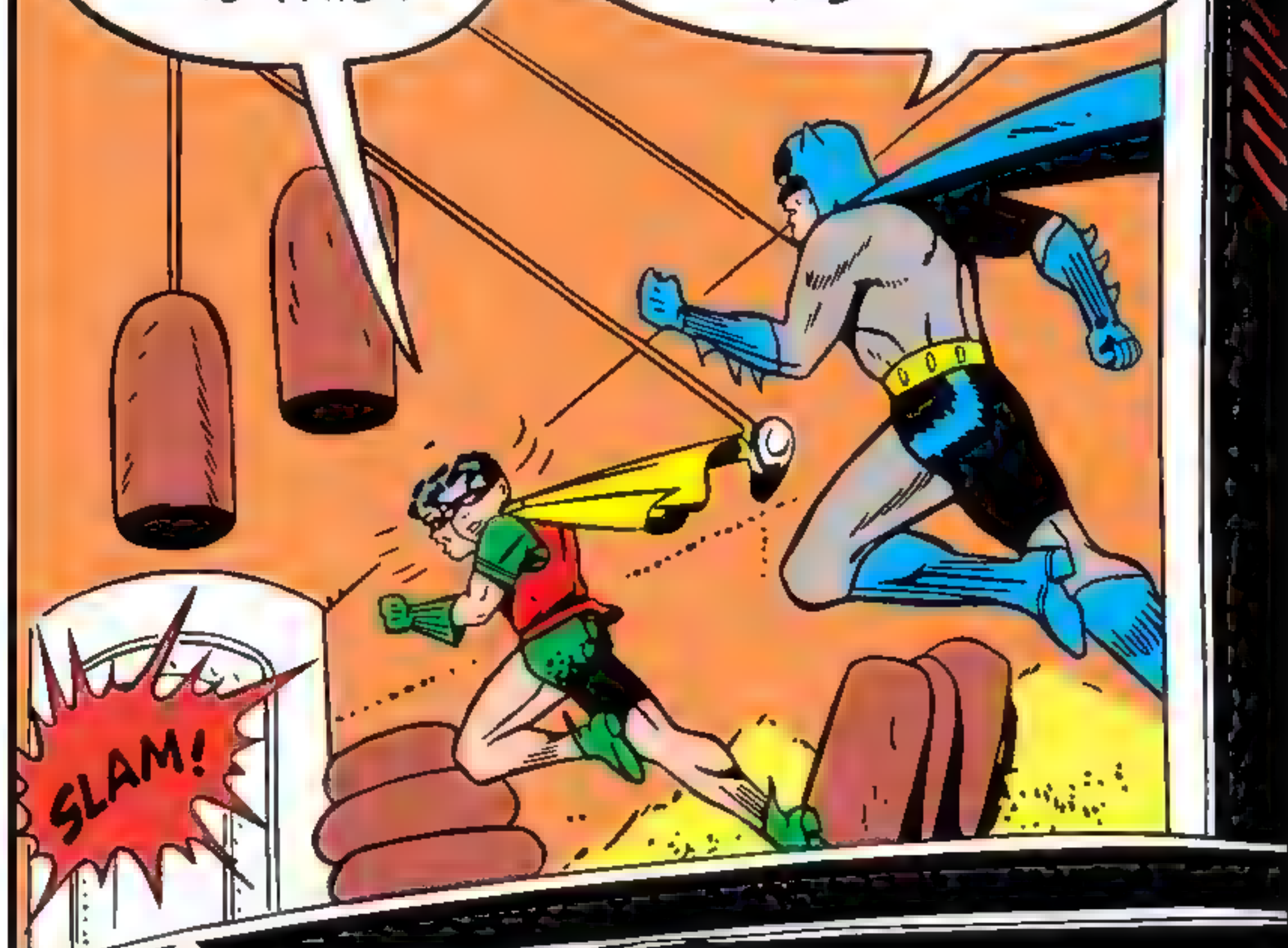


WHAT'S THE GOOD OF RUNNING AWAY, MUGGS? YOU CAN'T GET OUT OF OUR CLUTCHES WITHOUT JUMPING OVERBOARD!

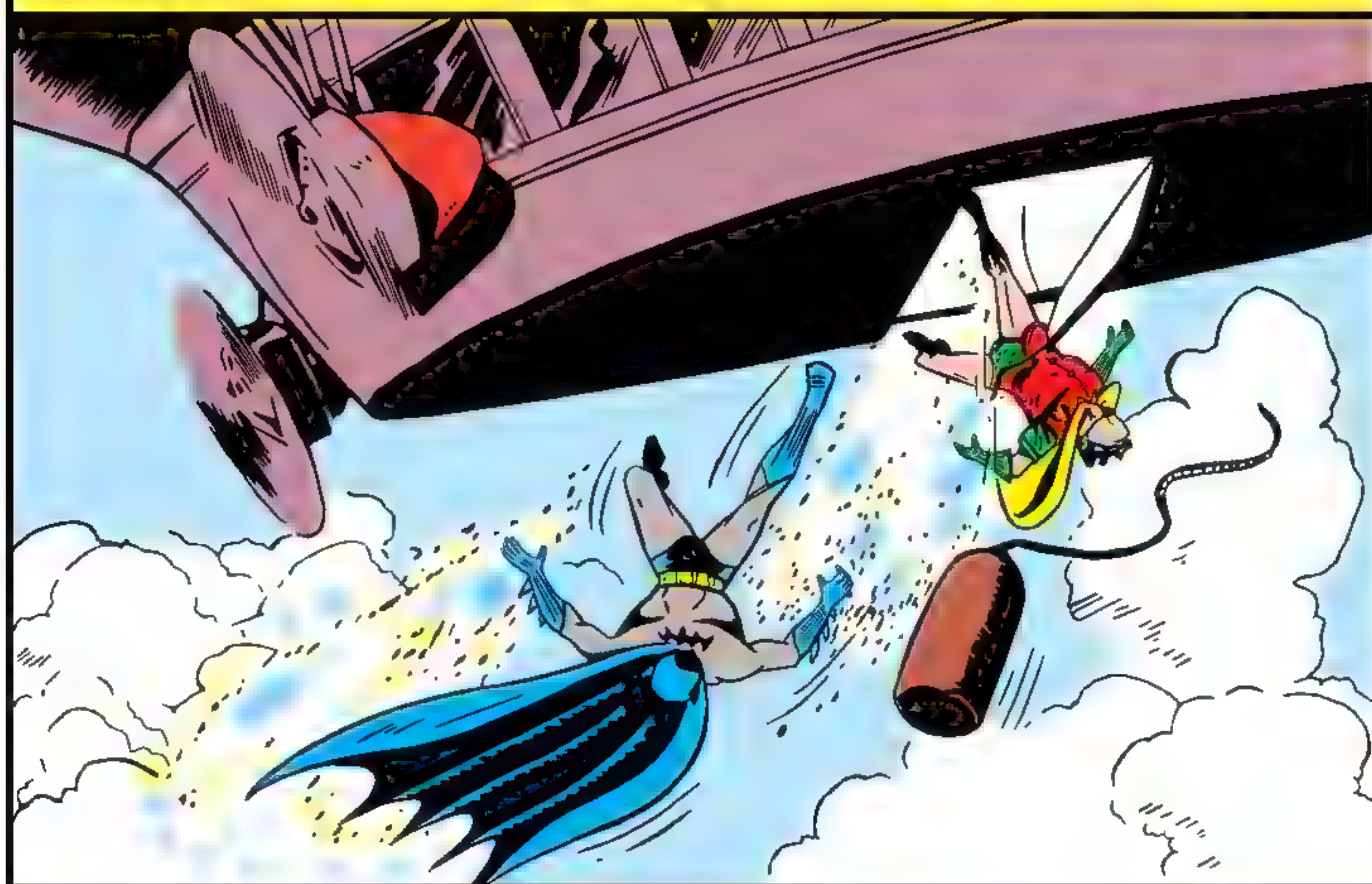
MAYBE IT'S YOU WHO'LL DO THE JUMPING, WISE GUY!

HUH? WHAT KIND OF A PLACE IS THIS?

THE BALLAST ROOM! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE IT'S ---



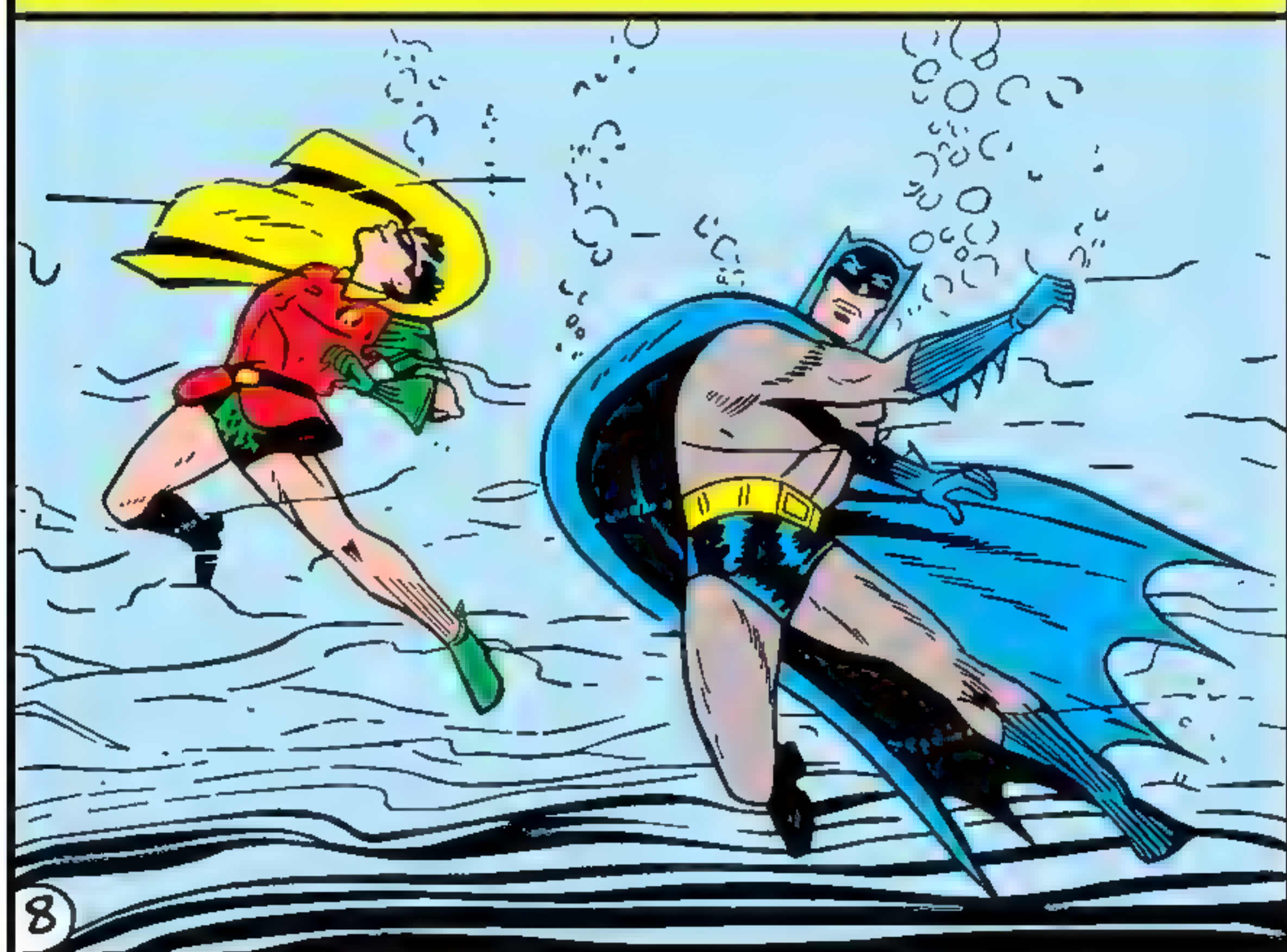
TOO LATE! FOR SOMEWHERE A LEVER IS THROWN-- AND THE TRAPDOOR FLOOR SPRINGS OPEN BENEATH THE TWO!



THROUGH EMPTY SPACE HURTLE THE HELPLESS PAIR UNTIL, WITH AN EAR-SPLITTING SPLASH, THEY STRIKE THE WATER FAR BELOW!

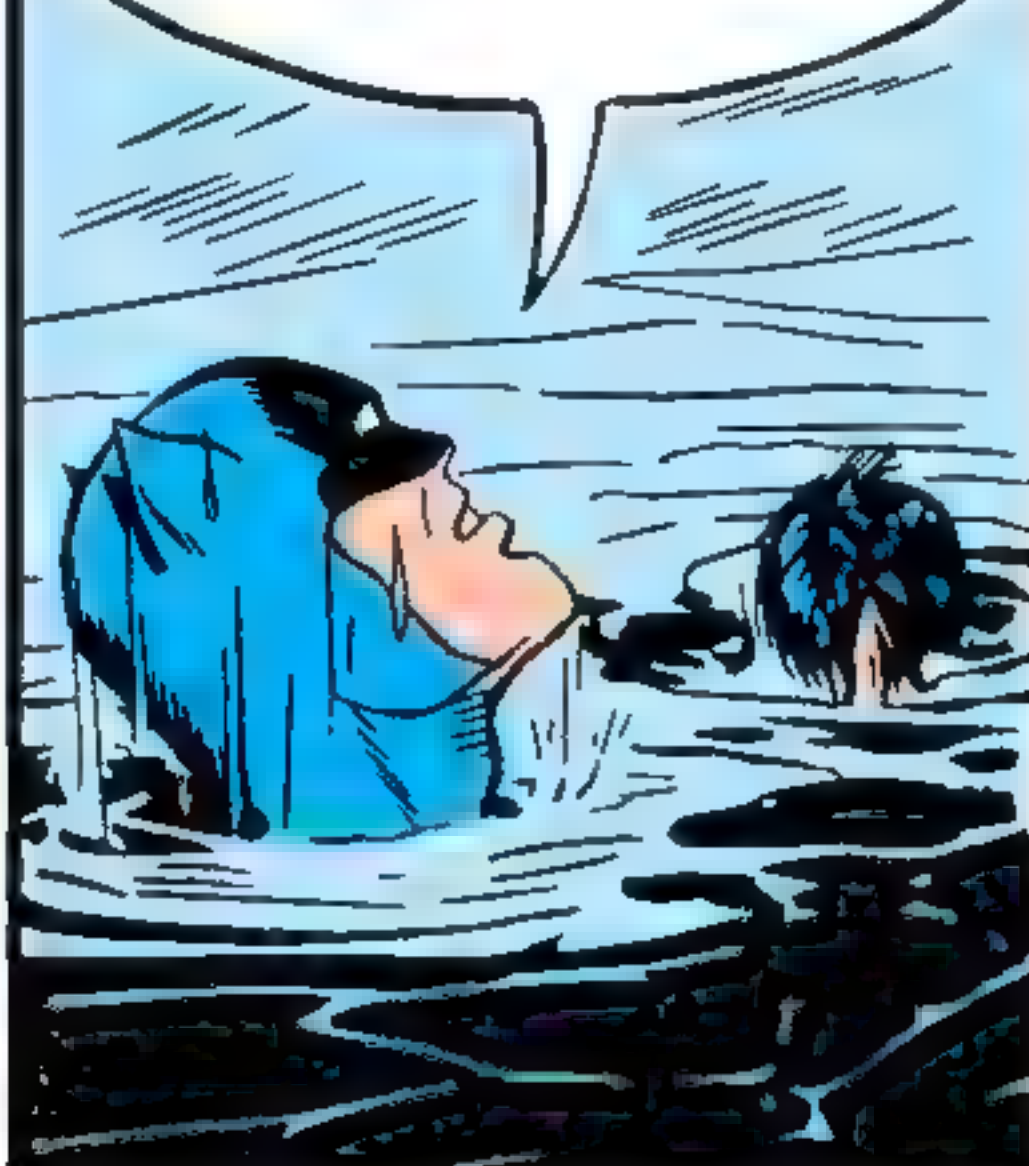


DOWN, DOWN BENEATH THE COLD, BLACK SURFACE THEY PLUNGE... THEN UP AND UP, LUNGS STRAINING FOR PRECIOUS OXYGEN...



AND, FINALLY, AIR!

WHEE - HEW! I THOUGHT I'D NEVER REACH THE SURFACE!... GREAT SCOTT! THERE'S **ROBIN!** HE'S-- HE'S ---



THANK GOODNESS, HE'S ONLY UNCONSCIOUS!... OH-OH! MORE TROUBLE! THAT SHARK'S ON THE TRAIL OF FOOD--AND WE'RE IT!



LUCKILY... **BATMAN** SPOTS A FLOATING PIECE OF DRIFT-WOOD....

THIS IS A BREAK - AT LEAST I WILL HAVE **ROBIN** OFF MY HANDS!



SWIFTLY - THE **BATMAN** DRAWS A KNIFE FROM HIS UTILITY BELT... DIVES BENEATH THE MURKY WATERS... STRAIGHT INTO THE GAPING JAWS OF THE MAN-EATING MONSTER...

HERE GOES NOTHING!



LONG MINUTES AFTER, **ROBIN** SLOWLY REVIVES...

THERE BENEATH THE VEIL OF THE TREACHEROUS SEA - THE ACE CRIME-FIGHTER IS LOCKED IN MORTAL COMBAT WITH THE DREADED UNDER-WATER KILLER...

...C-CAN'T STAY UNDER MUCH LONGER... LUNGS ARE BURSTING....



BUT THE AGILE **BATMAN** PROVES FATAL TO EVEN SUCH A FOE... AS HE LASHES FURIOUSLY INTO THE SHARK'S HIDE!

AN EERIE SUMMONS SWIFTLY BRINGS A SLIM PATROL SHIP RACING TO THE SCENE!

WE CAUGHT YOUR FLASH, **BATMAN**!

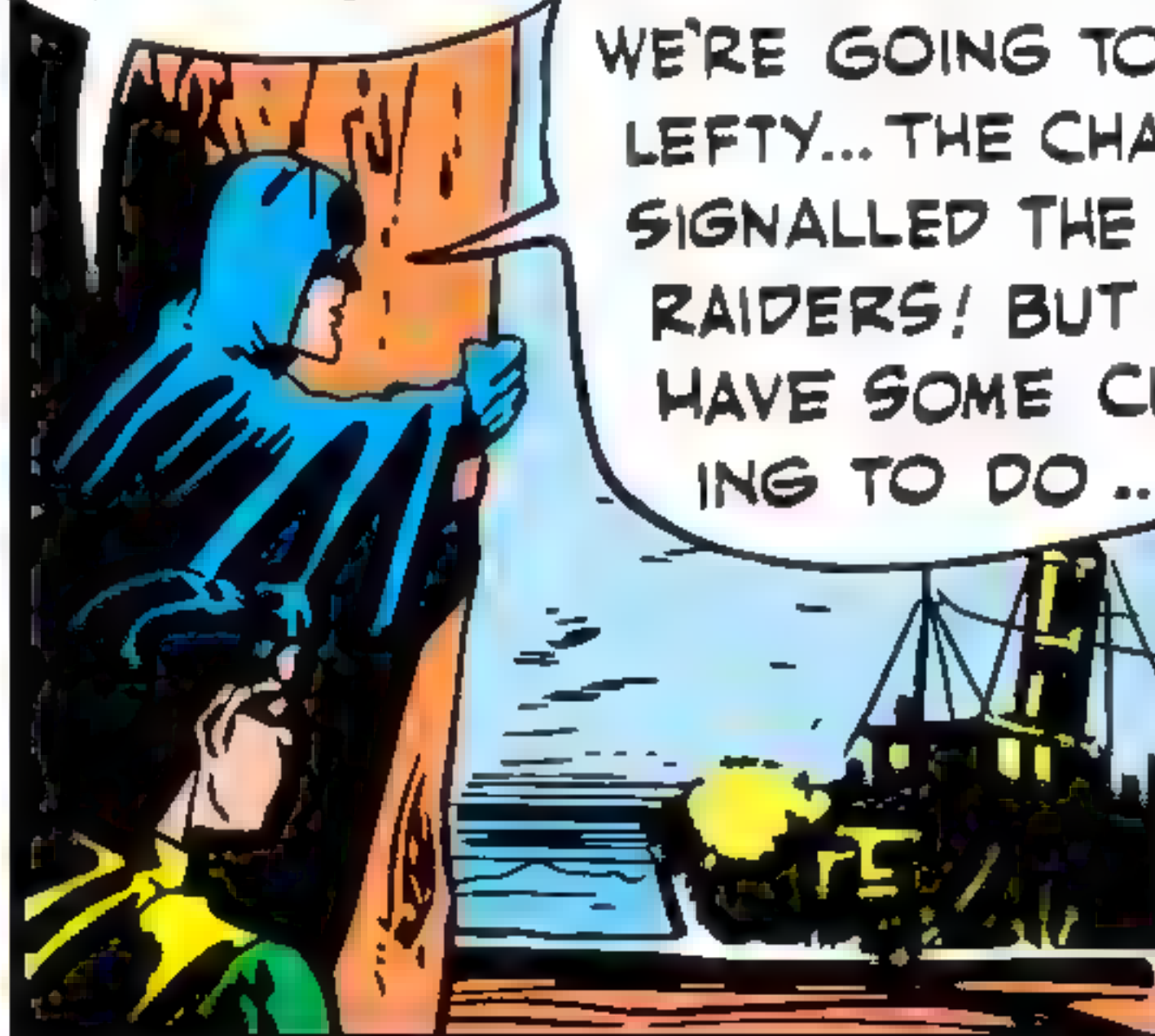
GOOD TO SEE YOU, BOYS - IT WAS GETTING KIND OF DAMP OUT HERE!



LATER, WHEN THE SPEEDY RESCUE CRAFT LANDS ITS GRATEFUL PASSENGERS..

WELL, WE BEAT THE **JENNY** INTO PORT! HERE SHE COMES! WHAT NOW?

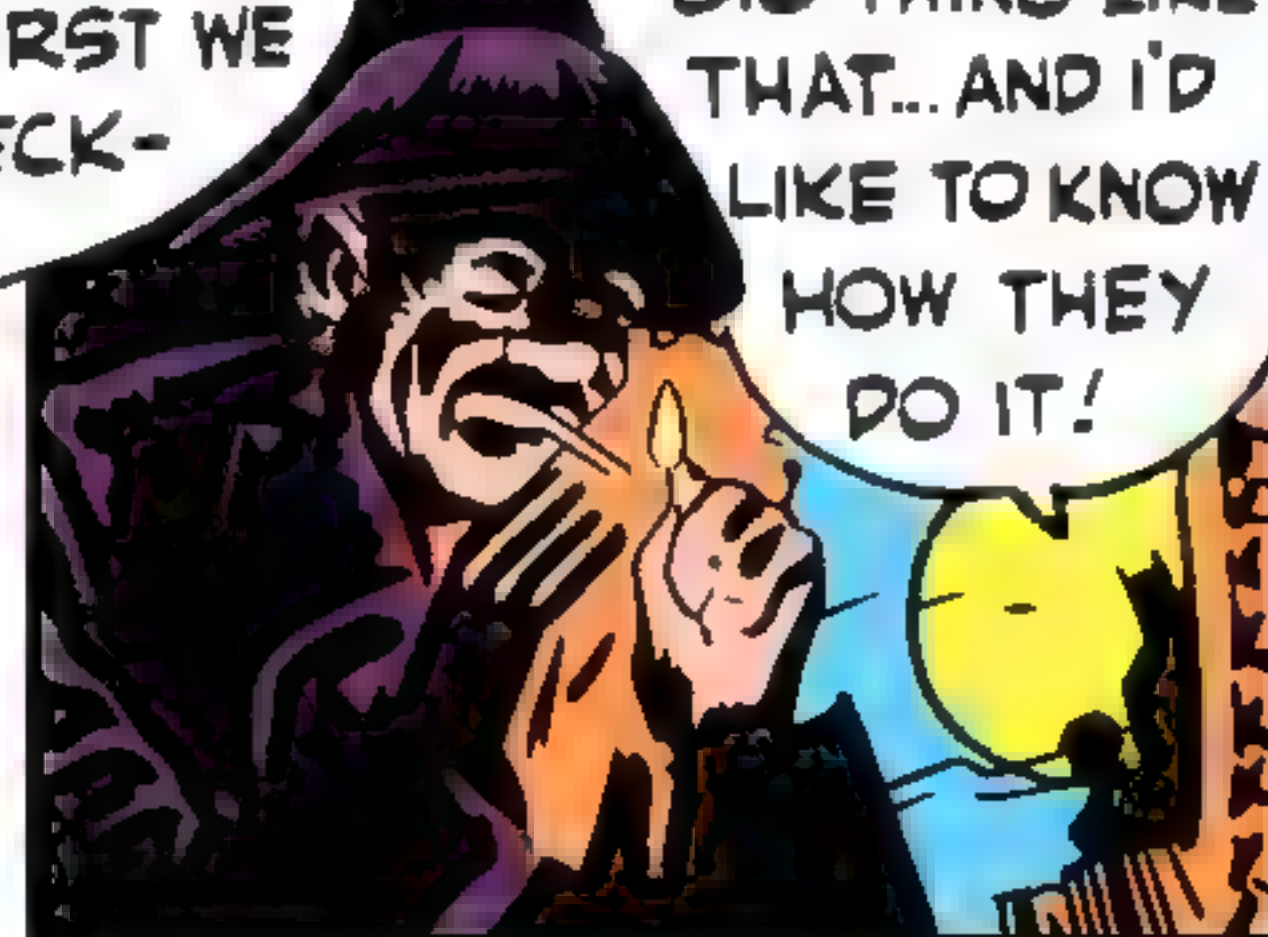
WE WANT TO FIND OUT WHERE THAT BLIMP IS HIDDEN DURING THE DAY! SO WE'RE GOING TO FOLLOW **LEFTY**... THE CHAP WHO SIGNALLED THE PHANTOM RAIDERS! BUT FIRST WE HAVE SOME CHECKING TO DO...



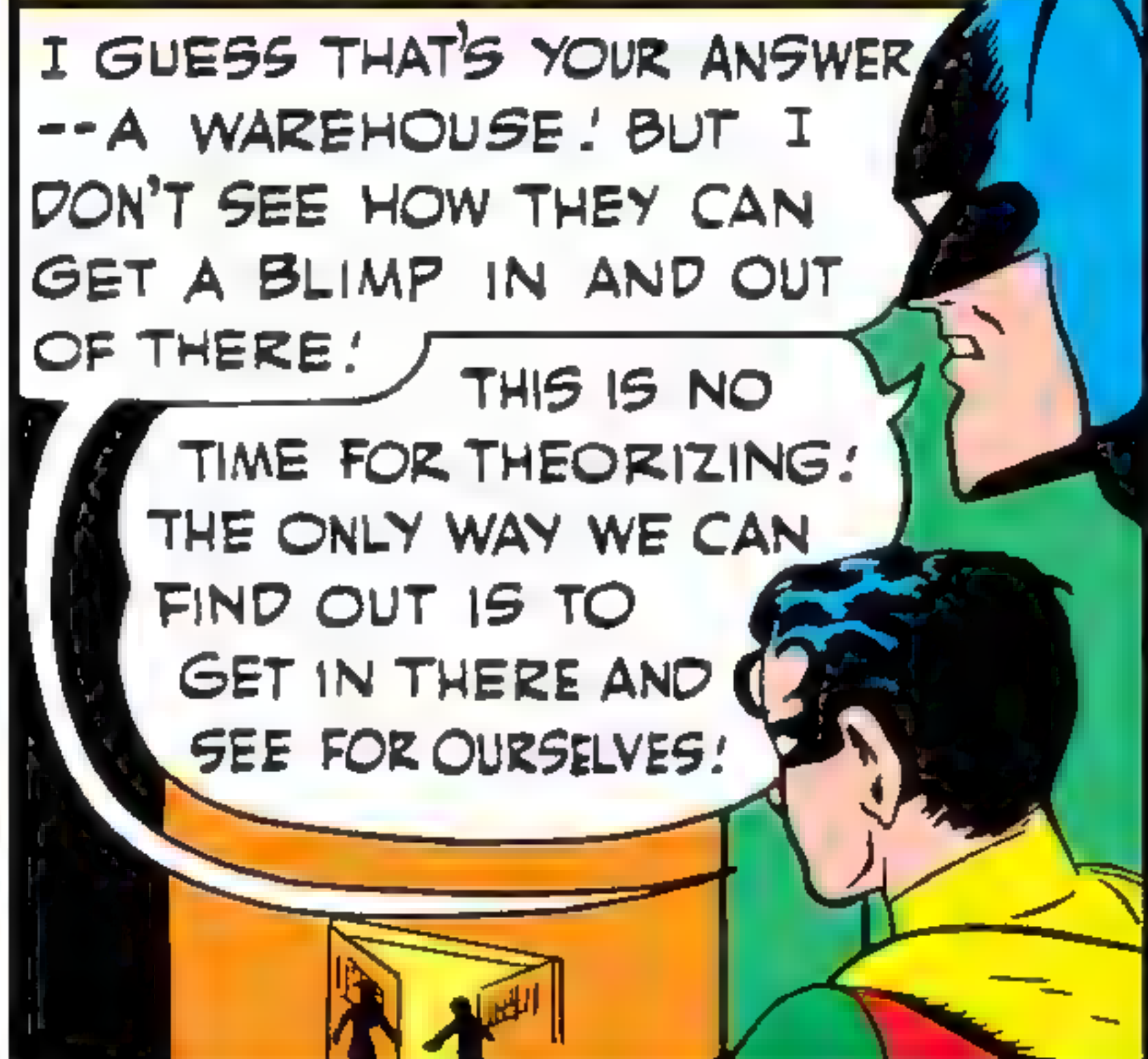
THAT NIGHT...

THERE'S **LEFTY** NOW!

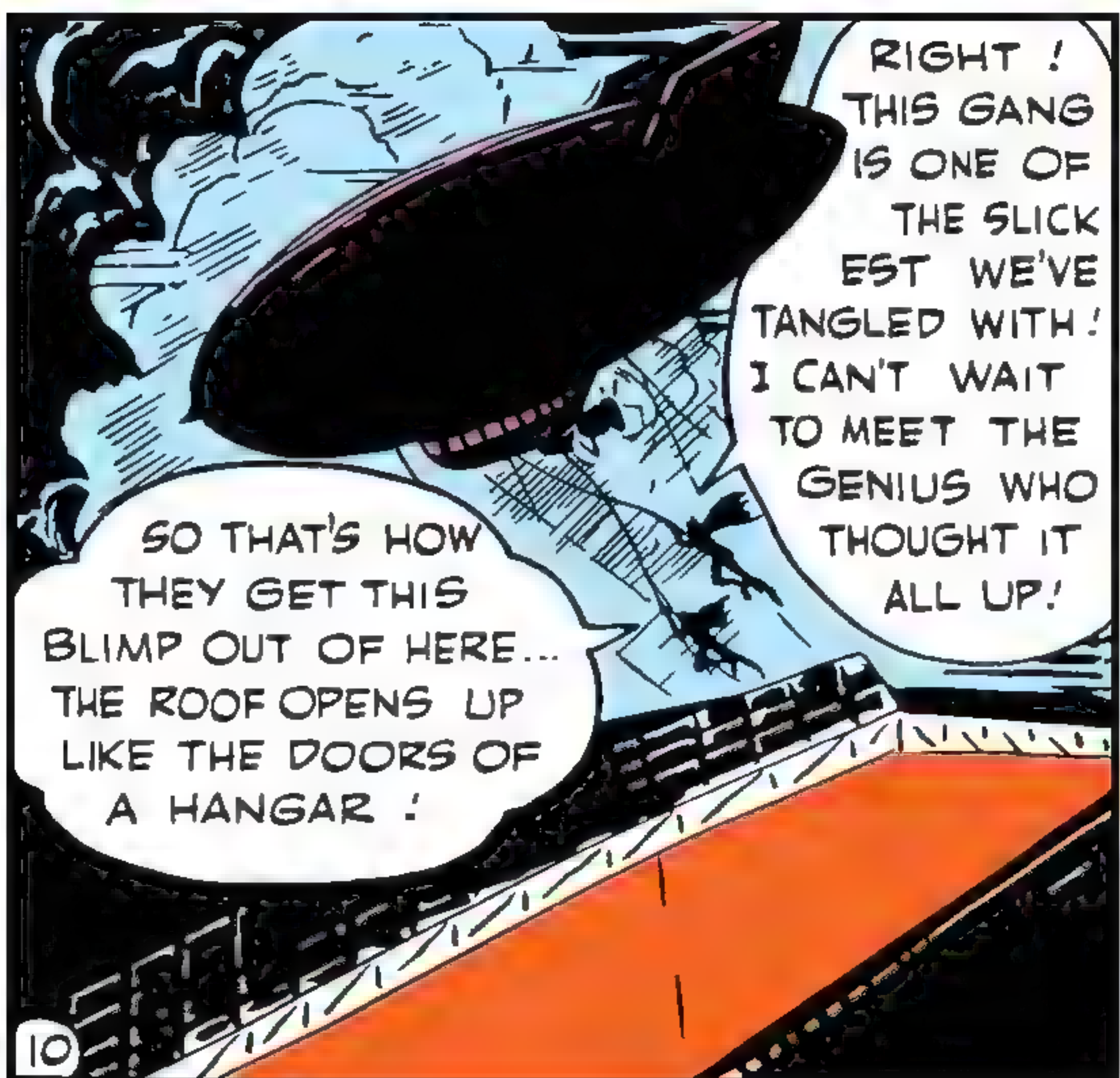
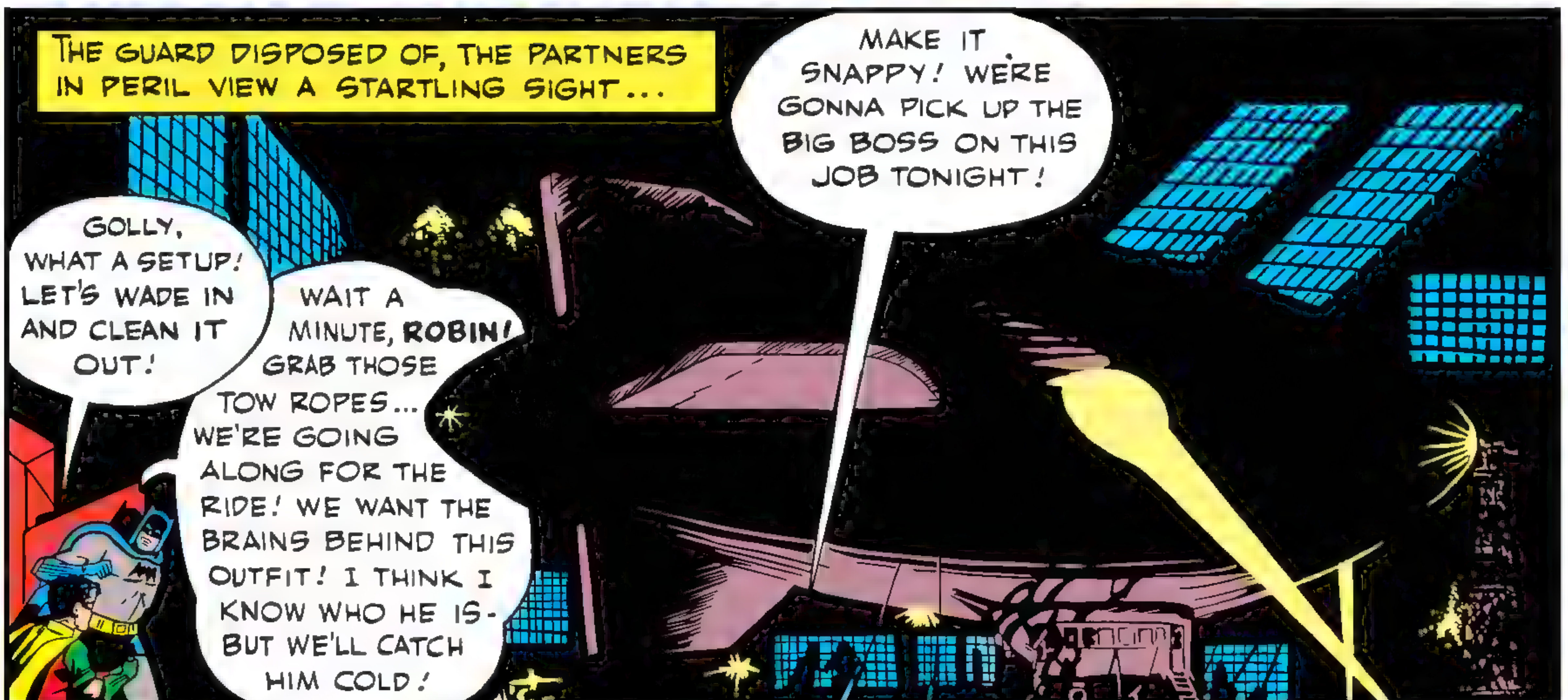
SWELL! HE OUGHT TO LEAD US DIRECTLY TO THE GANG! I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THAT BLIMP! THE PHANTOMS MUST BE PLENTY SMART TO CONCEAL A BIG THING LIKE THAT... AND I'D LIKE TO KNOW HOW THEY DO IT!



SILENT AS WRAITHS, THE CAPED COMRADES TRAIL THEIR UNSUSPECTING QUARRY THROUGH DIMMED-OUT WATER FRONT BACK ALLEYS... UNTIL...



BUT AS THEY APPROACH THE LAIR OF THE FOE...



BUT THE NEXT SECOND ...

THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! GET OFF THIS SHIP AT ONCE!

DON'T DEFY THEM, MR. GIBBONS! THEY'LL KILL YOU!

YEAH, SURE -- AND YER GOIN' WIT US! GRAB HIM, ONE O' YA! WE'LL GIVE HIM A GOIN' OVER THAT'LL LEARN HIM NOT TO OPEN HIS YAP TO THE PHANTOM RAIDERS!

IN THE MARAUDERS' BLIMP HIGH ABOVE THE HAPLESS SHIP...

LOOK! THEY'RE ROBBING THAT TRAWLER DOWN THERE! LET'S GET AT THE DIRTY RATS!

IN A FEW MINUTES! I'VE GOT A LITTLE JOB TO DO FIRST!

MOMENTS LATER, AVENGING TWIN HURRICANES STORM THE CRIME-GRIPPED TRAWLER!

DE BATMAN AN' ROBIN -- WE DIDN'T KILL 'EM, AFTER ALL!

DON'T YOU BELIEVE IT! WERE PHANTOMS.. JUST LIKE YOU!

IS THAT THE END OF THE ROUND OR THE BEGINNING?

IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING, M'LAD... ONLY THE BEGINNING!

BONG!

WHEN'RE YOU PHANTOM RAIDERS GOING TO DO SOME PHANTOM RAIDING? OR DO BATMAN AND I HAVE TO DO ALL THE HAUNTING?

ULP!

HEAVE HO, ME HEARTY!

BOUNDING, BOUNDING. OVER THE SAILING MEN...

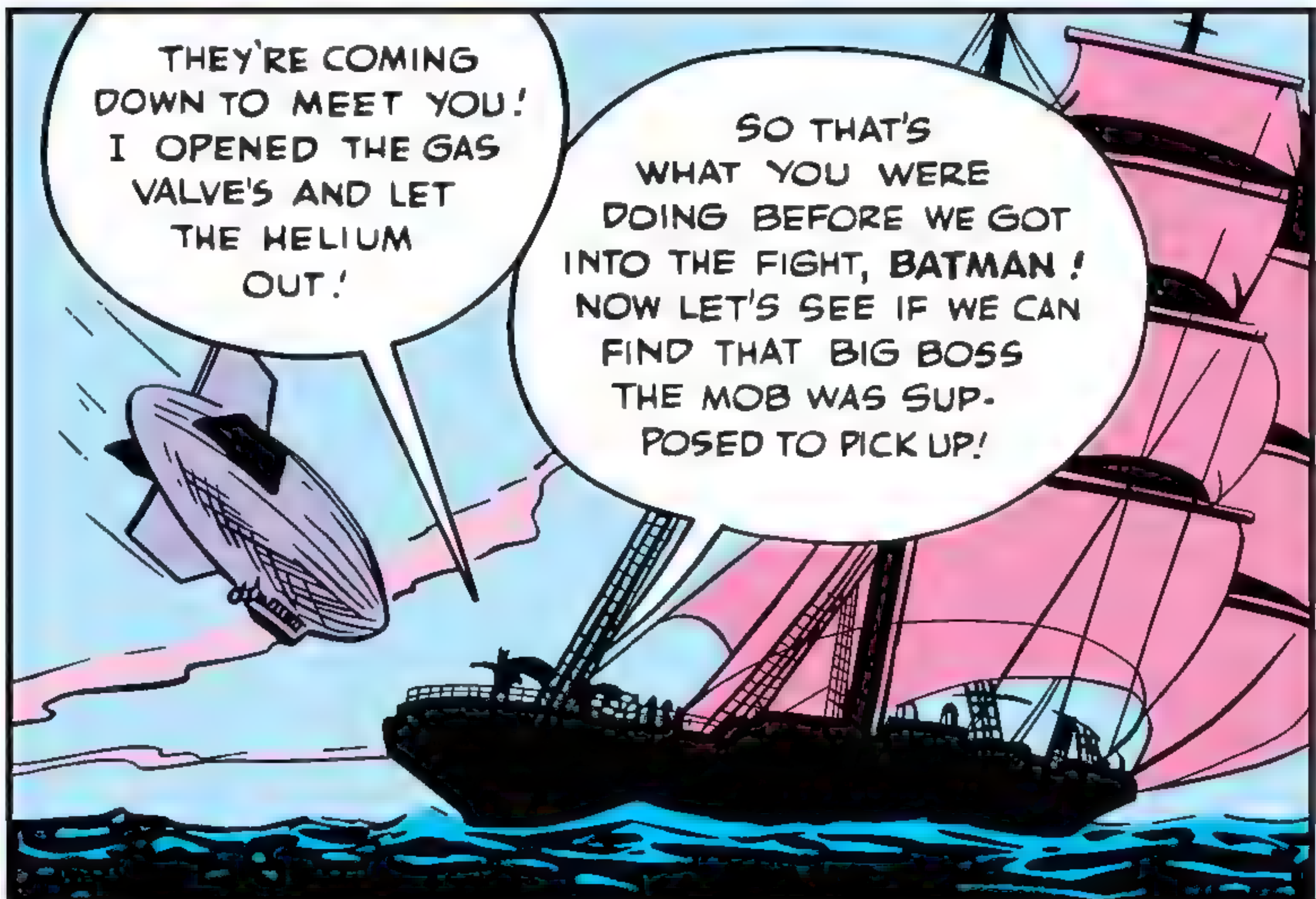
SUDDENLY, AN URGENT CALL FOR REINFORCEMENTS!



HURRY UP
AND GET DE REST
OF DE GUYS FROM
DE BLIMP!

YEAH!
WE SURE
NEED 'EM!

DON'T
BOTHER---

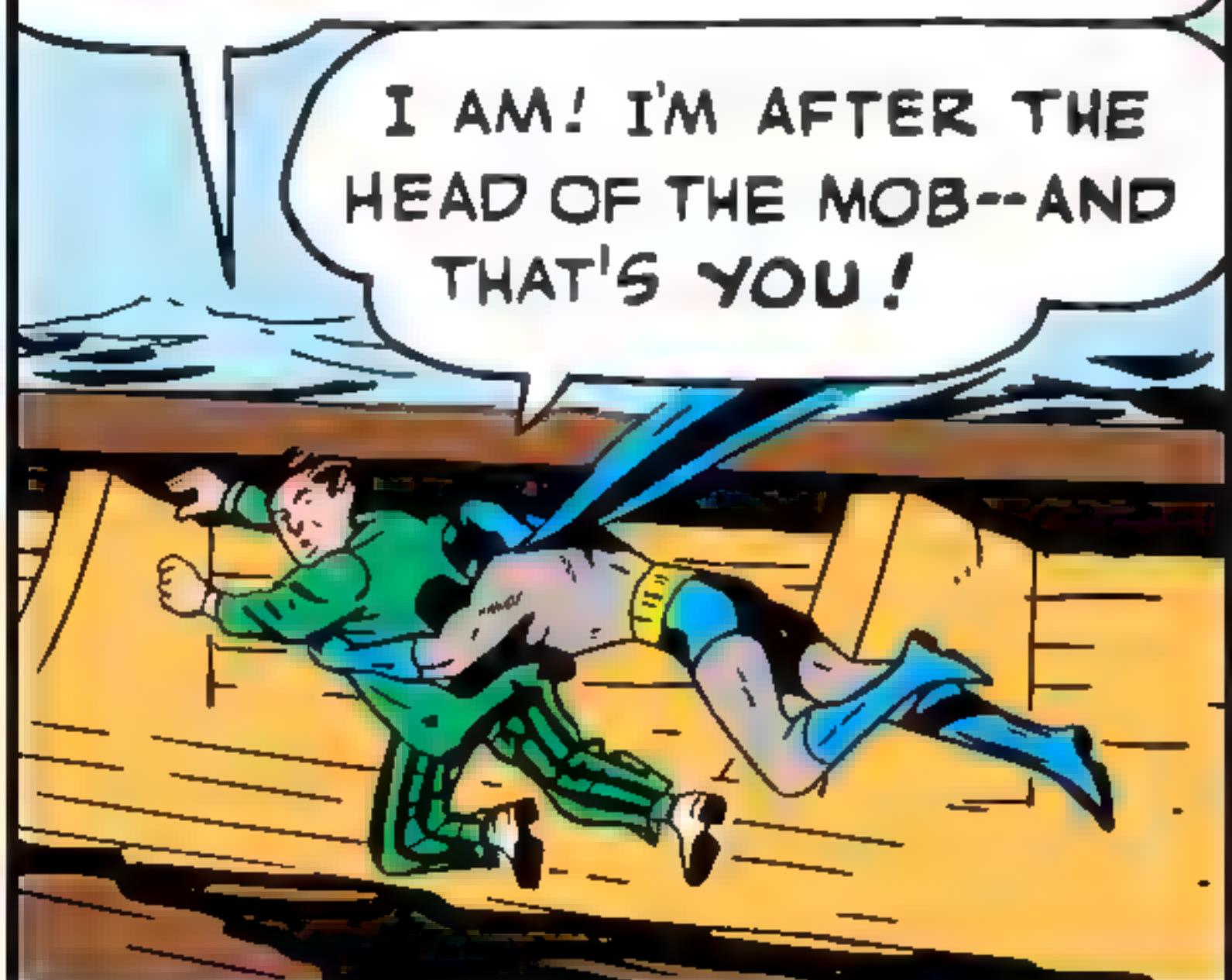


THEY'RE COMING
DOWN TO MEET YOU!
I OPENED THE GAS
VALVE'S AND LET
THE HELIUM
OUT!

SO THAT'S
WHAT YOU WERE
DOING BEFORE WE GOT
INTO THE FIGHT, BATMAN!
NOW LET'S SEE IF WE CAN
FIND THAT BIG BOSS
THE MOB WAS SUP-
POSED TO PICK UP!

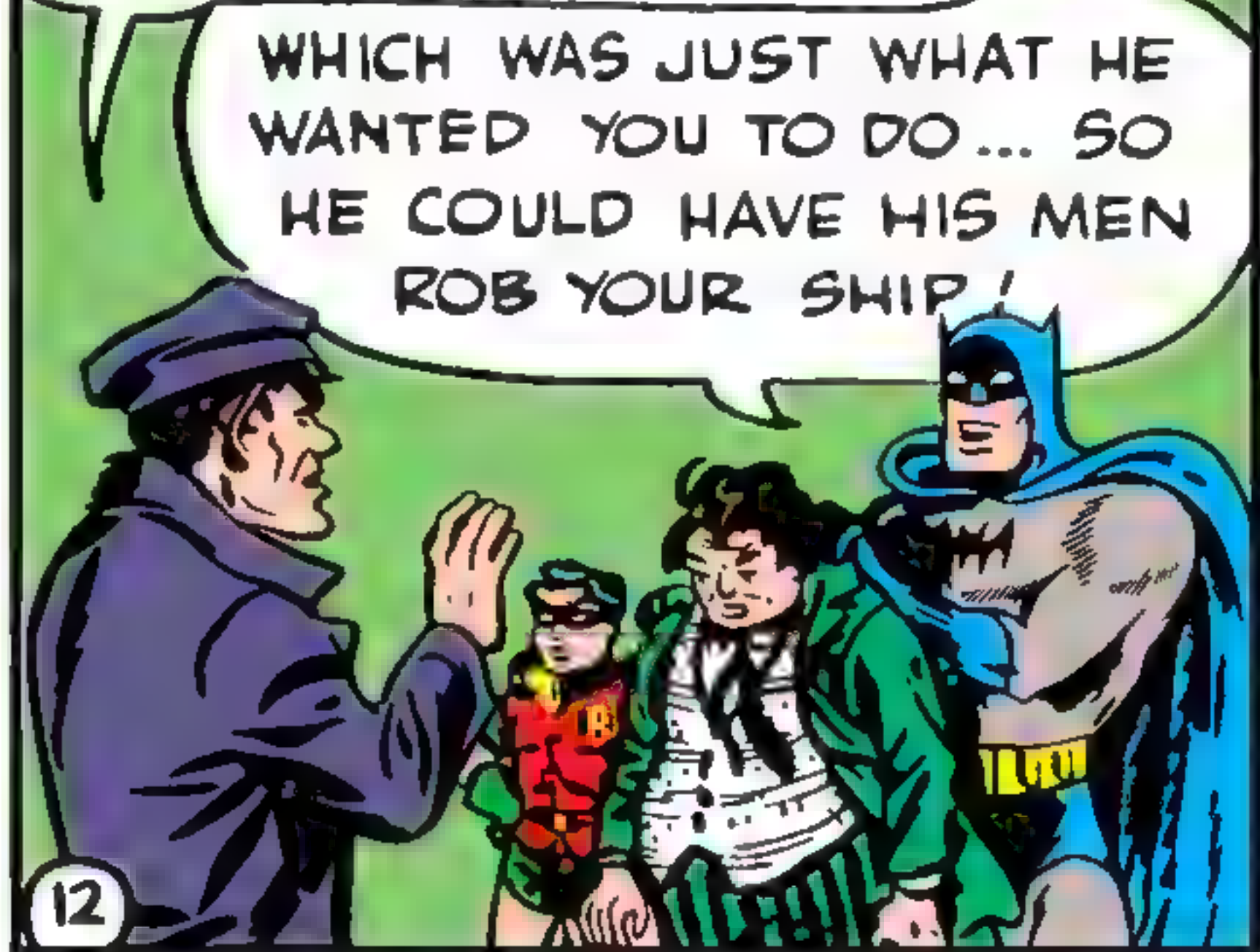
A FURTIVE MOVEMENT CATCHES BATMAN'S EYE AND, QUICK AS A COBRA, HE LANCES INTO ACTION!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHY DON'T YOU CONCENTRATE ON THOSE GANGSTERS?--OOF!



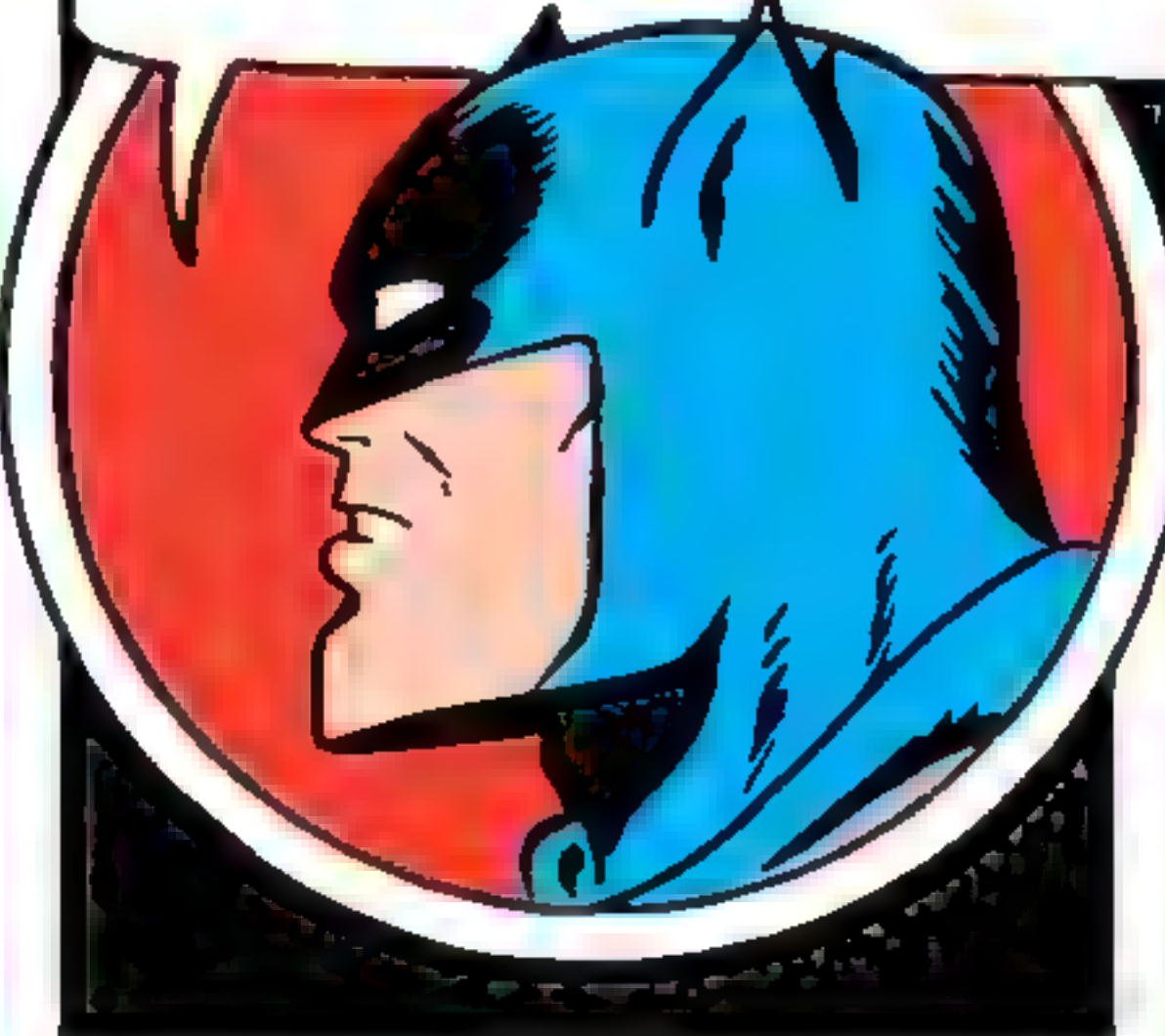
I AM! I'M AFTER THE
HEAD OF THE MOB--AND
THAT'S YOU!

YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE, **BATMAN!** MR GIBBONS CAN'T BE CONNECTED WITH THE GANG! WHY IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE OF HIS BONUS AND COMING ALONG TO HELP FIGHT THAT WE WENT OUT FISHING AT ALL!



WHICH WAS JUST WHAT HE
WANTED YOU TO DO... SO
HE COULD HAVE HIS MEN
ROB YOUR SHIP!

I CHECKED ON GIBBONS THIS AFTERNOON. HE WAS SELLING SHARK LIVERS THROUGH HIS REGULAR CHANNELS! BUT IF YOU FISHERMEN WERE BEING HIJACKED, WHERE DID HE GET THEM FROM? THE ANSWER IS... FROM HIS GANG OF VITAMIN VANDALS, THE PHANTOM RAIDERS!



THE FOLLOWING DAY...

GOSH, **BRUCE!** HOW CAN YOU BE SO LAZY WITH THINGS HAPPENING RIGHT OVER YOUR NOSE!

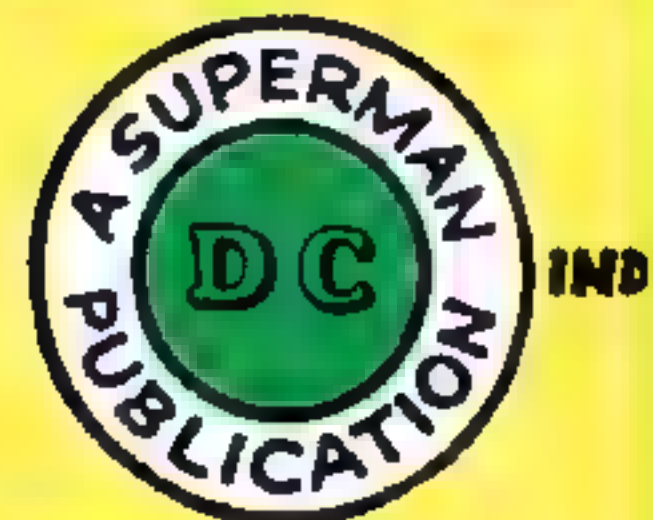
A NEW THEORY OF MINE... YOU'VE GOT TO SOAK UP ENERGY TO SOCK THE ENEMY! SO LIE DOWN AND TAKE IT EASY!



No.10

SUMMER ISSUE

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



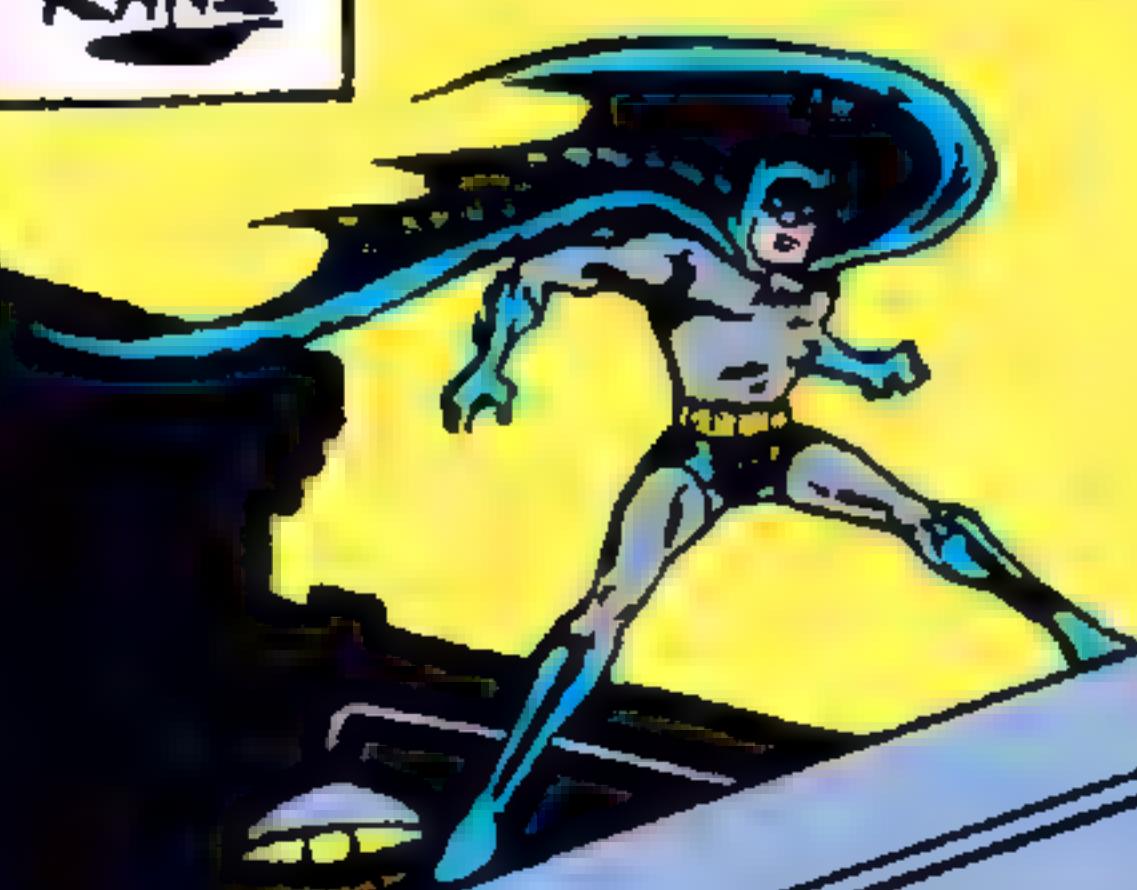
FEATURING THESE FAVORITES
SUPERMAN • BATMAN AND ROBIN
BOY COMMANDOS • GREEN ARROW
STAR SPANGLED KID • ZATARA
AND OTHERS!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

by
**BOB
KANE**



TODAY AT
THE GEM THEATER

"MAN WITH THE Camera EYES"



ROBBERY WITHOUT STEALING...
PRICELESS POSSESSIONS PI-
RATED, YET NOT GONE! THIS
IS THE BAFFLING CRIME PLOT
OF THE STRANGEST THIEF IN
THE WORLD! NO LAW CAN
TOUCH HIM NO PRISON
DOOR SHUT HIM AWAY FROM
A CITY HE HOLDS IN HELPLESS
BONDAGE! FOR HIS LOOT IS
PRECIOUS BUT INTANGIBLE,
AND IT IS PILFERED WITHOUT
BEING MISSED! IMMUNE TO
JUDGEMENT, HE JEERS AT
JUSTICE AND GRASPS GREED-
ILY AT HIS BOOTY -- UNTIL
THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**,
THOSE NIMBLE NEMESSES OF
KNAVERY, SLAM THE SHUTTER
OF RETRIBUTION!



AT GOTHAM CITY'S ORNATE GEM THEATER...

INTRODUCING OLIVER HUNT --
THE MAN WITH THE CAMERA EYES!
AS YOU CAN SEE, HE IS RAPIDLY
TURNING THE PAGES OF THE
CITY PHONE BOOK, AND
IN A MOMENT...

... MR. HUNT WILL RECITE BACK
THE NAMES, ADDRESSES AND
PHONE NUMBERS UNDER ANY
LETTER YOU ASK FOR!

START
WITH
"L"!

VERY WELL, LAAS, HENRY
115 UNION STREET GOTHAM 1993!
LABEN, ANTHONY 86 ESSEX
AVENUE GOTHAM 7246!
LABER ...

AMAZING!

THE SPECTACULAR PERFORMANCE
OVER, TWO FAMILIAR FIGURES
PREPARE TO LEAVE -- SOCIETY
PLAYBOY, **BRUCE WAYNE** AND HIS
YOUNG WARD, **DICK GRAYSON**...

GOLLY,
HE'S GOOD!
BUT IT'S
A FAKE,
ISN'T IT
BRUCE?

FAR FROM IT, **DICK!** OLIVER
HUNT'S INCREDIBLE MEM-
ORY HAS BEEN
FAMOUS EVER
SINCE HE WAS
A BOY...

"AT SCHOOL, HE STARTLED HIS TEACHERS BY MEMORIZING
HIS TEXT BOOKS WORD FOR WORD... THOUGH HE SPENT
LESS TIME STUDYING THAN ANY OF HIS CLASSMATES!"

ARTICLE 17, SECTION ONE,
THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
SHALL BE COMPOSED OF TWO
SENATORS FROM EACH STATE, ELECTED
BY THE PEOPLE THEREOF, FOR SIX
YEARS, AND EACH SENATOR
SHALL HAVE ONE
VOTE...

HEAVENS,
THE ENTIRE U.S.
CONSTITUTION
BY HEART!

"A CONCLAVE OF WORLD-FAMOUS SCIEN-
TISTS GATHERED TO ANALYZE THE LAD'S
PHENOMENAL MEMORY..."

PRENUMBRA, NOUN, PARTLY LIGHTED
SHADOW ON THE SKIRTS OF A TOTAL
SHADOW! PRENUMBRAE, ADJECTIVE! FROM
THE LATIN, PAENE - ALMOST, UMBRA - SHADE!
PENURY, NOUN, DESTITUTION, POVERTY;
LACK OF! PENURIOUS, ADJECTIVE...

ASTOUNDING! A SINGLE GLANCE
AT THE PAGES OF A DICTIONARY...

...AND HE MEMORIZES
EVERY WORD OF IT!

"FOR DAYS, THE EM-
INENT RESEARCHERS
PROBED AND ARGUED,
THEN RELEASED THEIR
VERDICT TO AN EAGER
PUBLIC..."

GOING THE GAZET

SCIENTISTS CLAIM
HUNT HAS PHOTO-
GRAPHIC MEMORY

"CAMERA EYES" ENABLE
BOY TO TAKE MENTAL
"PICTURES" FOR FUTURE
REFERENCE

THEN, WHEN HUNT GOT OUT OF
COLLEGE WITH EVERY POSSIBLE
KIND OF DEGREE, HE DECIDED
TO USE HIS AMAZING POWERS
TO MAKE A LIVING! SO HE
WENT INTO VAUDEVILLE!
NO -- HE'S NOT A FAKE... HE
HAS A GIFT THAT CAN BE
USED FOR **GREAT GOOD OR
GREAT EVIL!**

GOSH, I'D KNOW
HOW TO USE IT! WHAT
MARKS I COULD GET
IF I HAD A
MEMORY
LIKE
THAT!

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO SEES ITS POSSIBILITIES, DICK! FOR AT THAT MOMENT, IN HUNT'S DRESSING ROOM...



SO YOU'RE DUDE FAY AND YOU WANT ME TO JOIN YOUR GANG, EH? WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'D EVEN CONSIDER THE OFFER?

YOU'RE IN VAUDEVILLE ONLY FOR WHAT YOU CAN GET OUT OF IT-- BUT YOU'RE MAKING PEANUTS COMPARED WITH WHAT YOU COULD GET WORKING FOR US! ALSO...

... I KNOW YOUR TYPE! YOU HATE HAVING TO BE A FREAK TO MAKE A LIVING!

A SHREWD OBSERVATION, SIR! YES, I'VE ALWAYS RESENTED BEING A TRAINED SEAL FOR THE AMUSEMENT OF CURIOSITY SEEKERS! I WANT TO DEVOTE MYSELF TO PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH, BUT THAT TAKES CONSIDERABLE FUNDS! HMMM...



FATE HOLDS ITS BREATH AS THE MAN WITH THE CAMERA EYES PONDER'S HIS PROBLEM! AND THEN-- THE DIE IS CAST!

VERY WELL, I'LL JOIN YOU! BUT ONLY ON ONE CONDITION-- THAT THERE BE NO VIOLENCE! I WON'T TOLERATE HOMICIDE OR MAYHEM! IF YOU CAN SHOW HOW YOU CAN AVOID VIOLENCE, I SHALL COOPERATE FULLY WITH YOUR MOB!



SWELL! LISTEN TO THIS IDEA...

SOMETIME LATER, A VIOLENT ARGUMENT CREATES TURMOIL IN A MUSIC PUBLISHER'S OFFICE...

YOU HEARD ME, BUD! YOU'RE GONNA BUY A BUNCH OF SONGS FROM US, SEE? BUT WE WANT DOUGH FIRST-- LOTS OF IT!

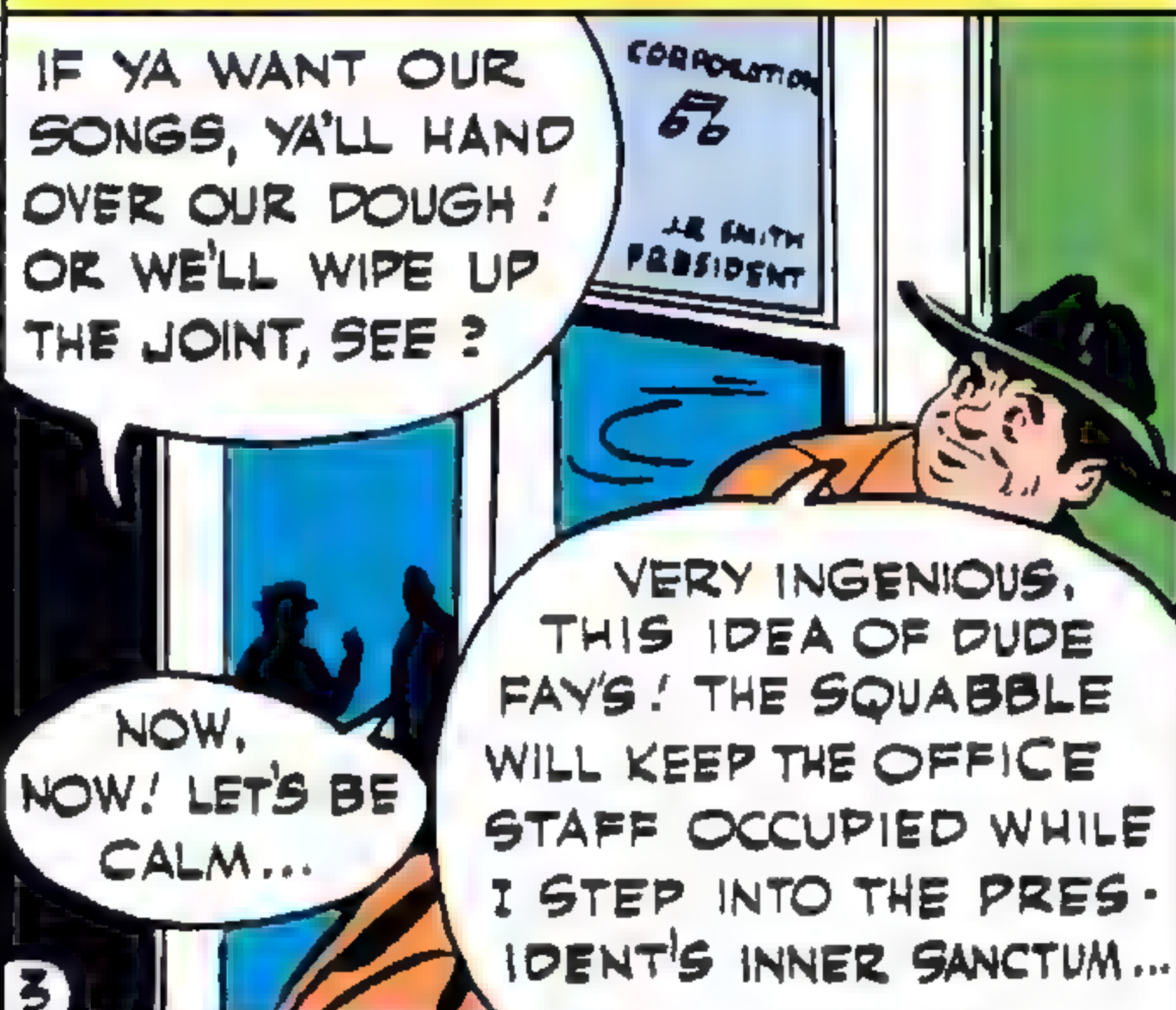
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WE'VE GOT TO HEAR THEM FIRST!



HERE, HERE! WHAT'S ALL THE DISTURBANCE?

MEANWHILE, A FURTIVE FIGURE TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE UPROAR-- OLIVER HUNT, THE MAN WITH THE CAMERA EYES!

IF YA WANT OUR SONGS, YA'LL HAND OVER OUR DOUGH! OR WE'LL WIPE UP THE JOINT, SEE?



NOW, NOW! LET'S BE CALM...

VERY INGENIOUS, THIS IDEA OF DUDE FAY'S! THE SQUABBLE WILL KEEP THE OFFICE STAFF OCCUPIED WHILE I STEP INTO THE PRESIDENT'S INNER SANCTUM...

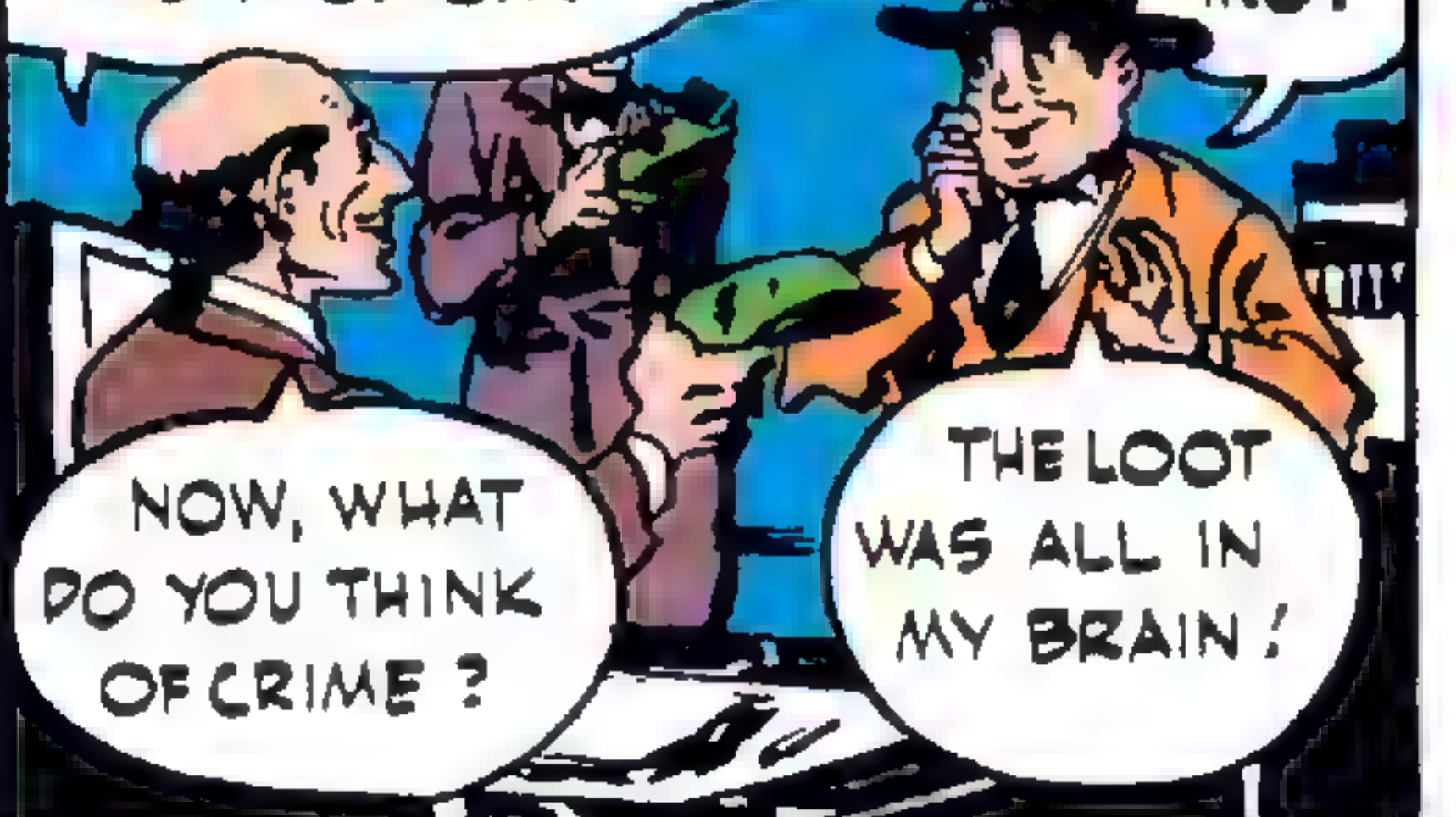
... AND MEMORIZE THESE FUTURE SMASH HITS WITH A SINGLE GLANCE! THERE, I'M FINISHED! SLIPPING OUT WILL BE A SIMPLE MATTER, AFTER WHICH THE BOYS WILL PRETEND TO BE CONVINCED THEY WERE WRONG AND LEAVE QUIETLY!



LATER, AT THE GANG'S HIDEOUT...

THERE YOU ARE, MORE MONEY FOR FIVE MINUTES' WORK THAN YOU COULD MAKE IN A MONTH OF VAUDEVILLING! PEDDLING THESE SONGS YOU MEMORIZED TO A RIVAL PUBLISHER WAS A CINCH!

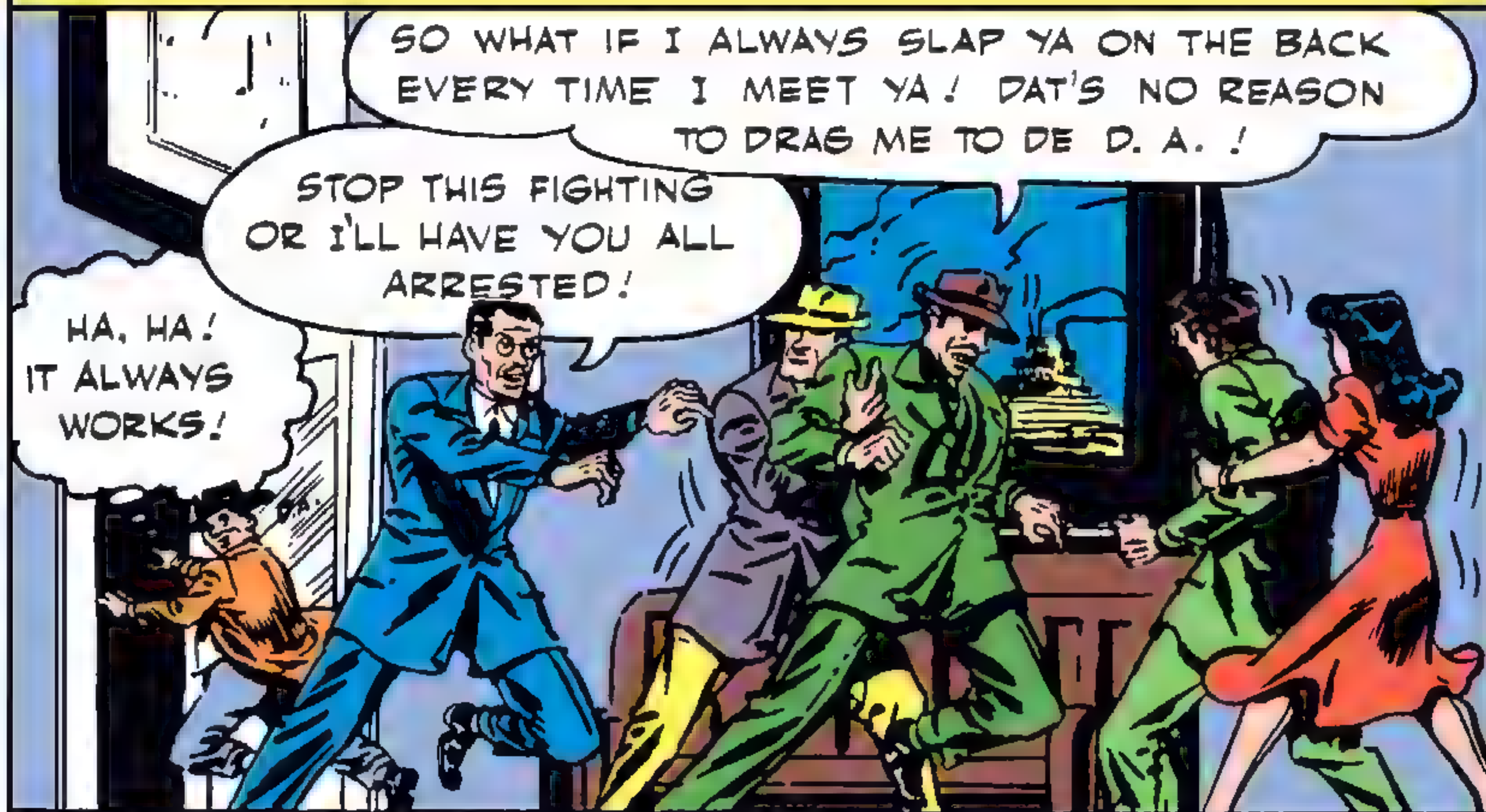
IT SEEMS TO PAY! AND JUST THINK-- EVEN IF I'D BEEN CAUGHT, NOBODY COULD PROVE I WAS STEALING!



NOW, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF CRIME?

THE LOOT WAS ALL IN MY BRAIN!

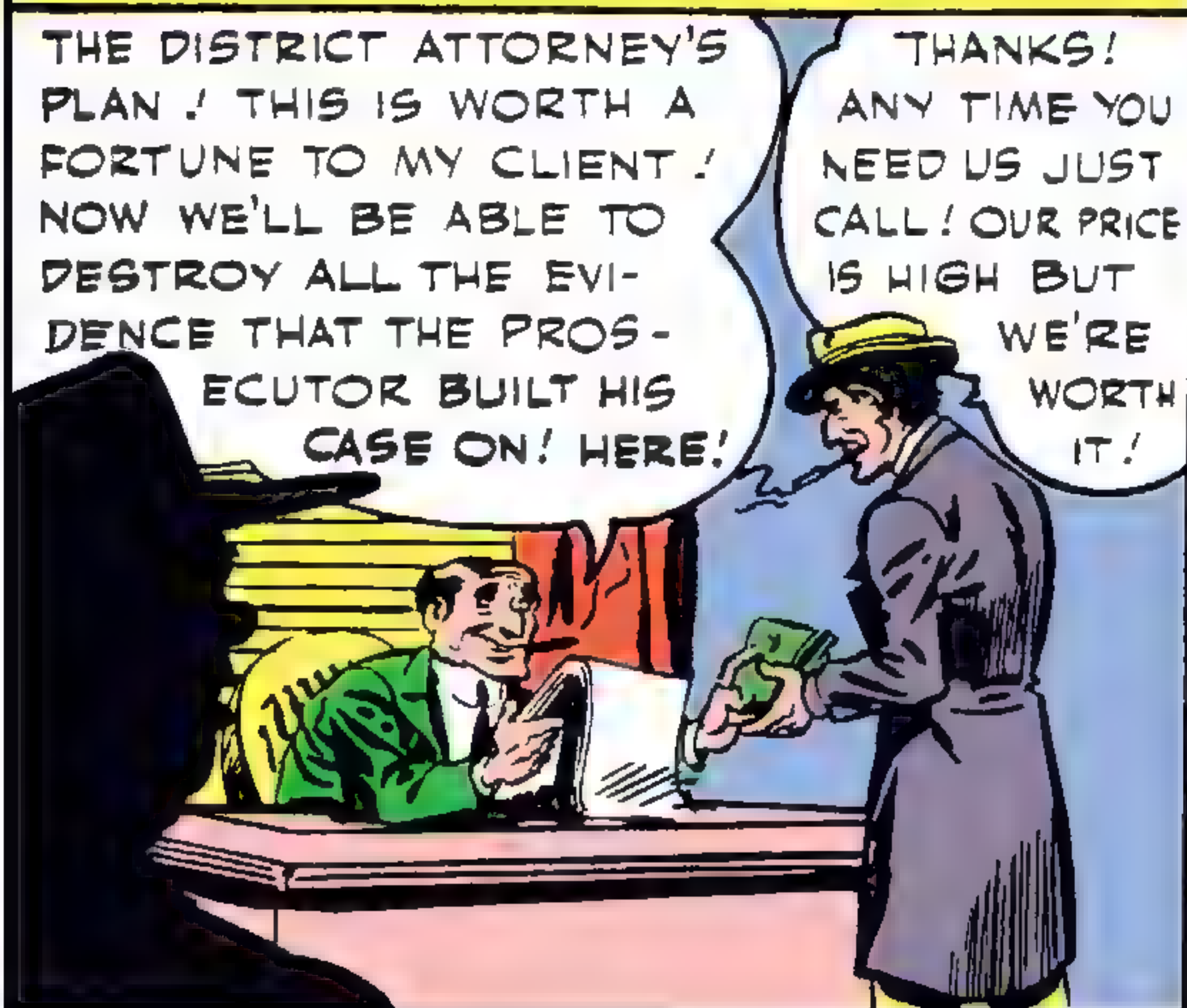
GOADED BY SUCCESS, THE MAN WITH THE CAMERA EYES BEGINS A SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS THEFTS! IN THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY...



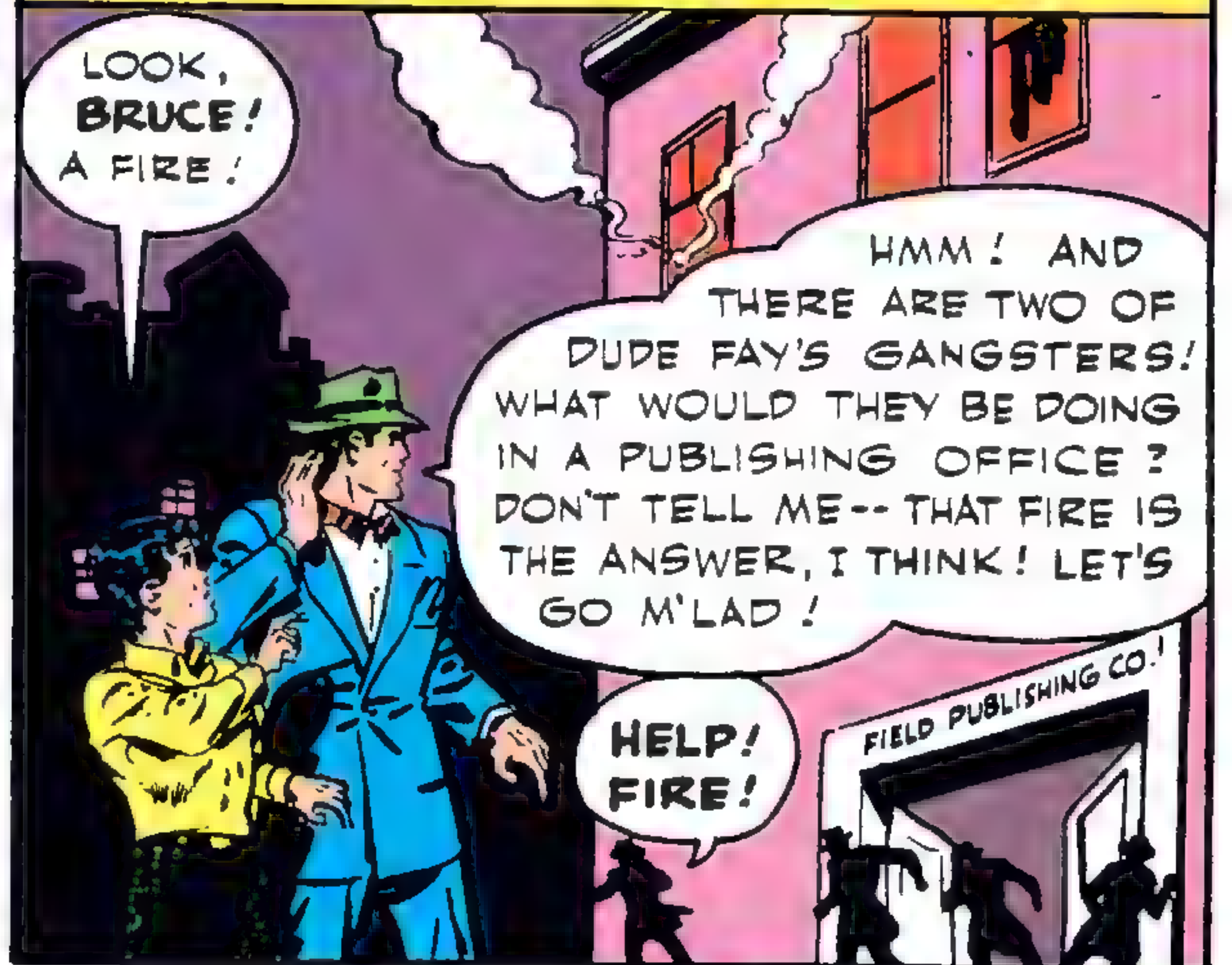
THE WHOLE PLAN OF PROSECUTION AGAINST ONE OF THE RICHEST SWINDLERS IN THE CITY -- AND ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SCAN THE BRIEF TO BREAK IT!



THEN A VISIT TO THE ATTORNEY DEFENDING THE NOTORIOUS SWINDLER!



THE WEEKS SPEED BY, UNTIL...



BUT AT THAT MOMENT...



BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK HE'S DONE, BRUCE?

I'M NOT SURE! BUT YOU READ ABOUT THOSE PLAGIARIZED SONGS AND BOOKS, AND THE WAY DEFENSE LAWYERS GOT HOLD OF THE PROSECUTOR'S SECRET DATA! WELL, THOSE WERE ALL **STOLEN IDEAS!** AND REMEMBER WHAT I SAID ABOUT HUNT'S GIFT BEING USED FOR **GREAT GOOD OR GREAT EVIL?**



SECONDS LATER...



THE MAN WITH THE MIRACULOUS MEMORY AND HIS CRIMINAL COMPANIONS SPEED TO THE GANG'S HIDEOUT, UNAWARE THAT THEY ARE BEING PURSUED!



SO THAT'S THEIR HIDEOUT ... A CARPENTER'S WORKSHOP! HERE, KEEP THE CHANGE!

GOSH. THANKS!

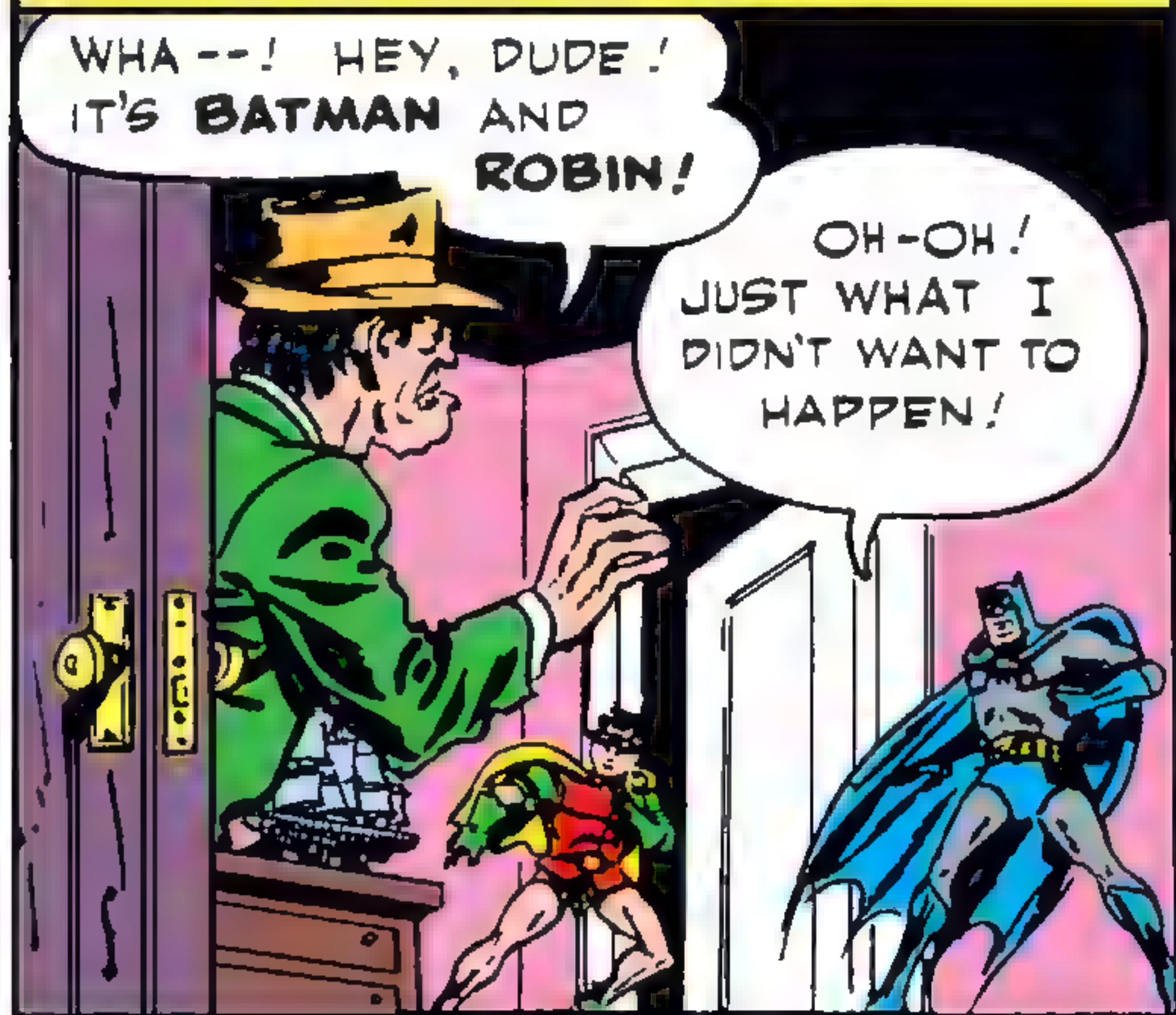
A LIGHTNING SWITCH BEHIND A DARK CORNER AND TWO FLITTING, SILENT SHADOWS INVADE THE LAIR--**BATMAN AND ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER!

MAYBE WE'LL FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT! I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT!

SH-H! THEY'RE PLANNING A NEW CRIME!

... TONIGHT AT ARTHUR MEDWICK'S OFFICE! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, OF COURSE-- YOU'VE DONE IT OFTEN ENOUGH! I HAVE SOME MANUFACTURERS LINED UP WHO'LL PAY PLENTY FOR A FEW OF THOSE IDEAS HE HAS CONTROL OF!

SUDDENLY, FOOTSTEPS APPROACH, AND BEFORE THE CAPED COMRADES CAN CONCEAL THEMSELVES...



WHA--! HEY, DUDE! IT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN!

OH-OH! JUST WHAT I DIDN'T WANT TO HAPPEN!

GOT YOU - UGH!



SORRY, MUG! I SAW YOU FIRST!

HUH? WHAT'S THE IDEA OF GIVIN' ME A PRISON HAIRCUT?



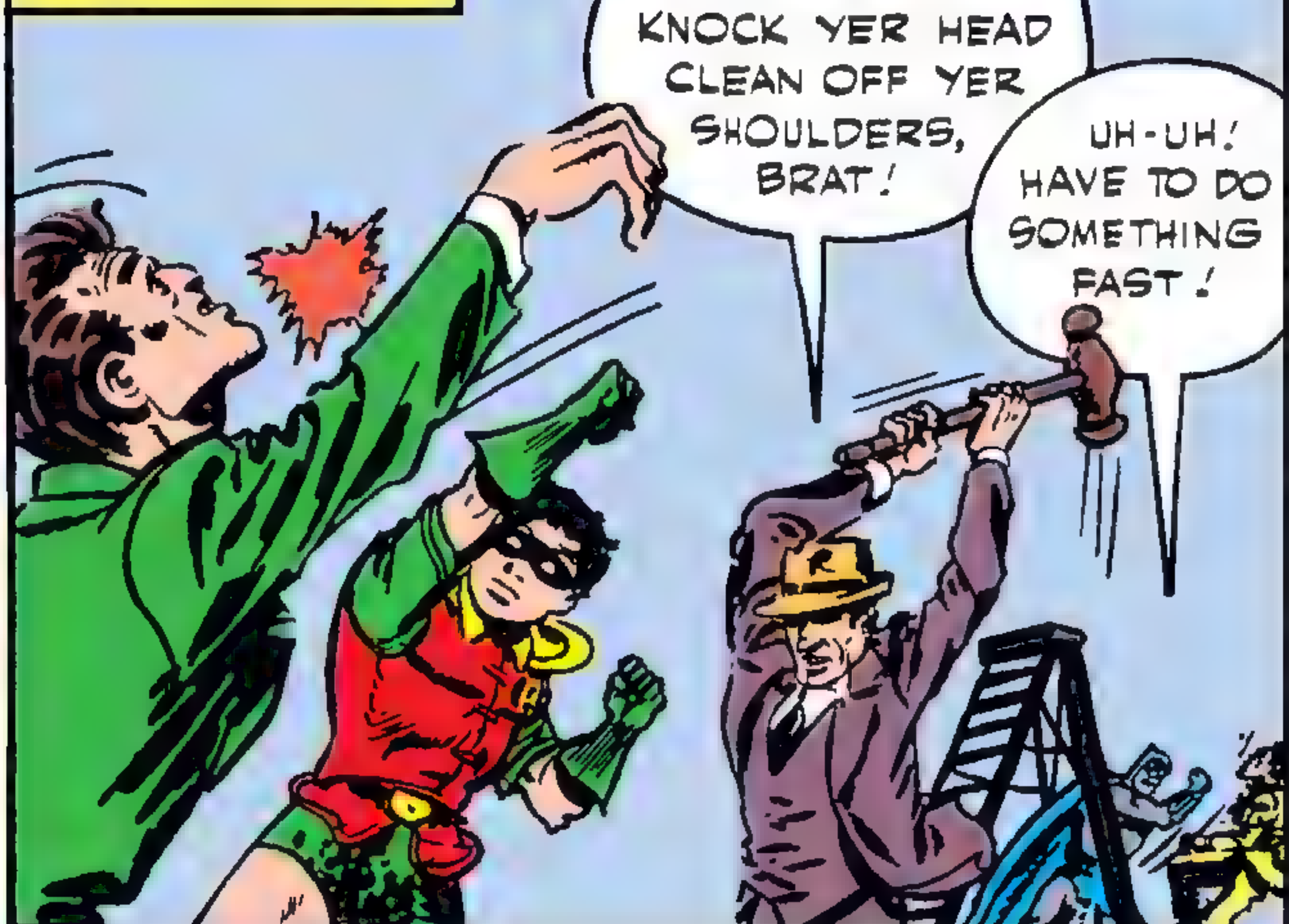
JUST THOUGHT I'D MAKE YOU FEEL AT HOME!



OW! I BEEN BIT!

THAT OUGHT TO DRILL SOME SENSE INTO YOU!

BUT ABRUPTLY...



I'M GONNA KNOCK YER HEAD CLEAN OFF YER SHOULDERS, BRAT!

UH-UH! HAVE TO DO SOMETHING FAST!

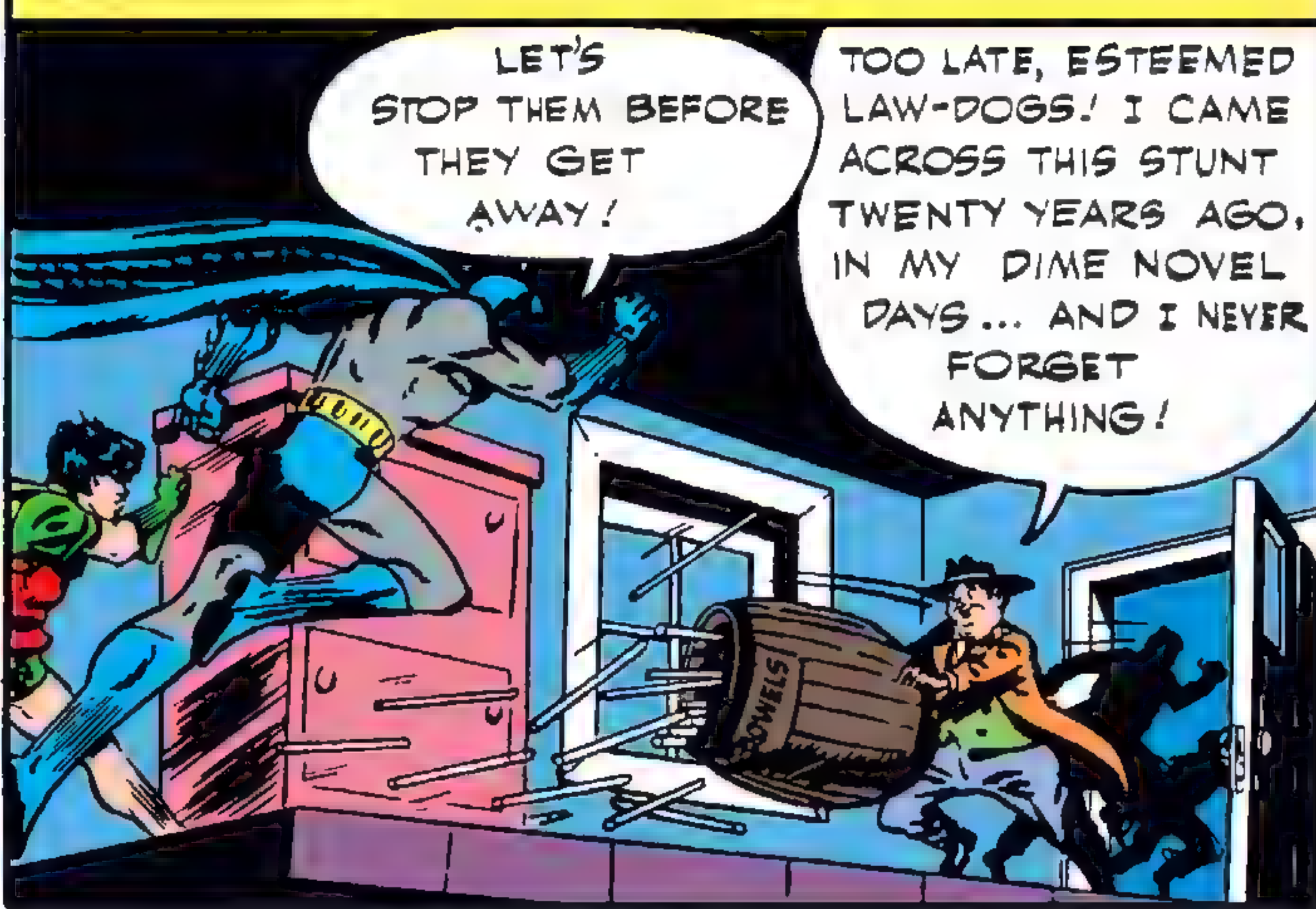
SWIFT STRATEGY ALONE ENABLES THE EMBATTLED BATMAN TO WARD OFF DANGER TO HIS YOUNG AIDE!



OOPS, I MUSTA SLIPPED!

YEAH, WHEN YOU DECIDED TO BECOME A CROOK! THAT WAS THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF YOUR LIFE-- AND I THINK I'LL PROVE IT!

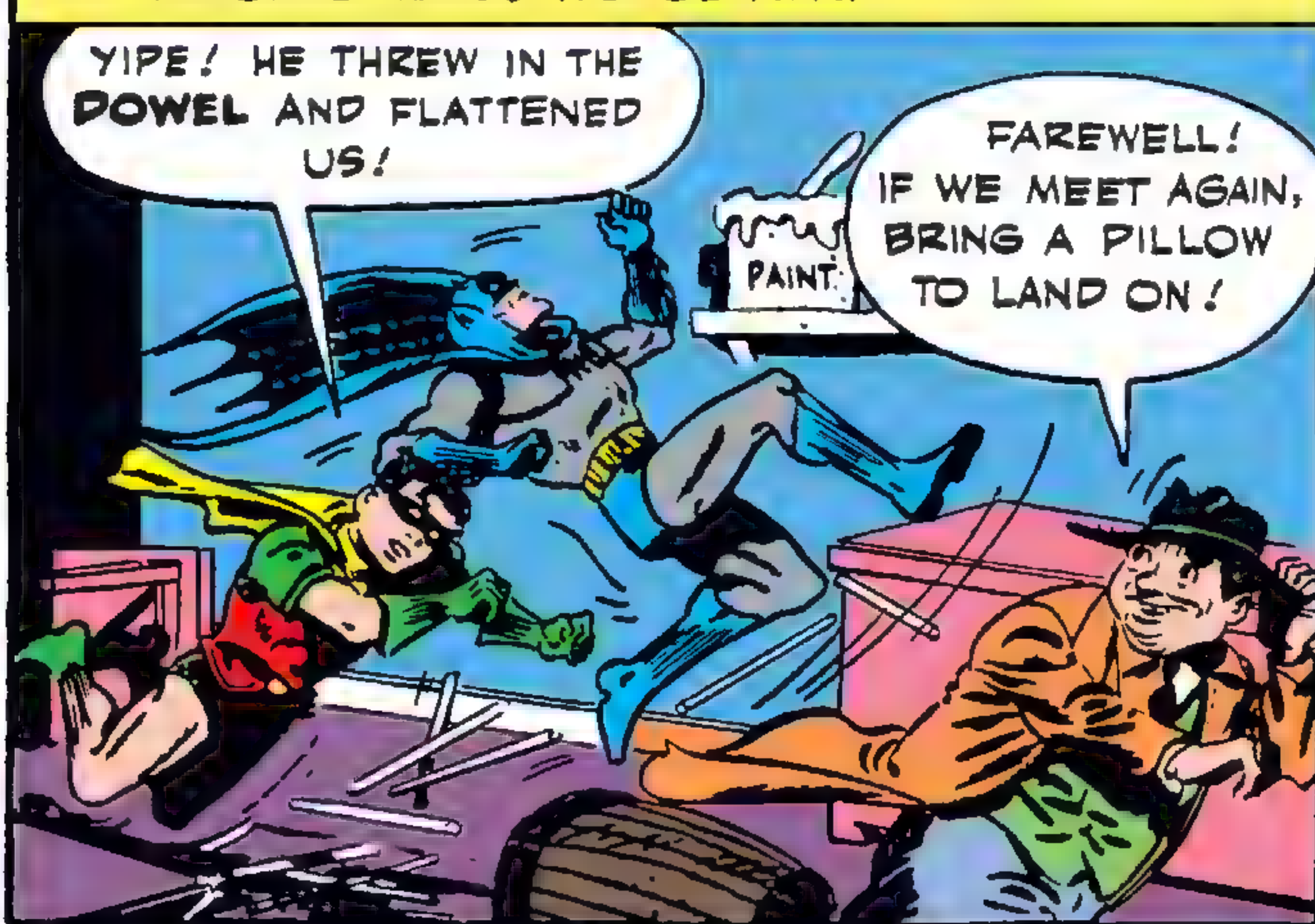
THEN, SUDDENLY, THE MEMORY MARVEL RALLIES HIS GANG!



LET'S STOP THEM BEFORE THEY GET AWAY!

TOO LATE, ESTEEMED LAW-DOGS! I CAME ACROSS THIS STUNT TWENTY YEARS AGO, IN MY DIME NOVEL DAYS... AND I NEVER FORGET ANYTHING!

AND DISASTER STRIKES DOWN THE PARTNERS IN PERIL AS THE GANG MAKES ITS GETAWAY!



YIPE! HE THREW IN THE POWEL AND FLATTENED US!

FAREWELL! IF WE MEET AGAIN, BRING A PILLOW TO LAND ON!

WELL, THEY GOT CLEAN AWAY! NOW WHAT?

WE'LL MEET THEM LATER! ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS LOOK UP THAT NAME THEY MENTIONED -- ARTHUR MEDWICK -- IN OUR PRIVATE FILES! THEY'RE ROBBING HIS PLACE TONIGHT!

AS DARKNESS GATHERS...

WELL, WE FOUND MEDWICK'S A PATENT ATTORNEY! AND THAT'S HIS OFFICE DOWN THERE! HE MUST BE WORKING LATE!

WE'LL DESCEND LOWER AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR HUNT AND HIS DEADLY LITTLE PLAY-MATES!

MEANWHILE...

OUR PAL HERE JUST HAD A SPELL AND PASSED OUT COLD! IS IT OKAY IF WE BRING HIM IN?

YES, YES, OF COURSE! PUT HIM ON THIS SOFA! I'LL GET HIM SOME WATER RIGHT AWAY!

WE'LL GO ALONG TO HELP YOU!

THE INSTANT THE DOOR CLOSES, THE "UNCONSCIOUS" MAN REVIVES WITH AMAZING SPEED!

THERE'S NOTHING TO THIS! THE BOYS WILL KEEP MEDWICK OCCUPIED UNTIL I'VE HAD TIME TO EXAMINE SOME OF HIS MORE PRICELESS PAPERS!

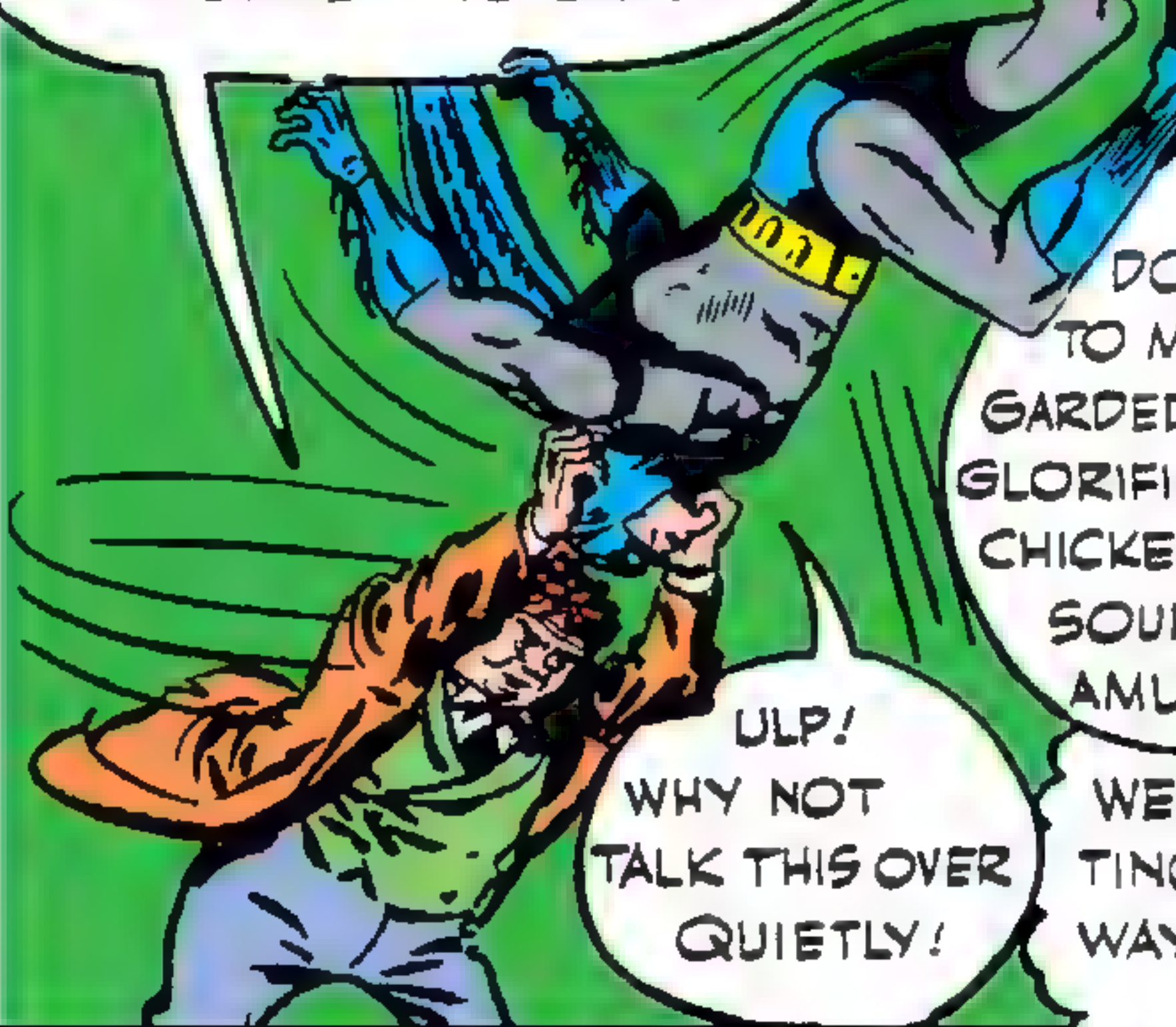


OUTSIDE, IN THE SILENTLY HOVERING BATPLANE ...

SO THAT'S HOW HE DOES IT! HE JUST HAS TO LOOK AT THOSE BLUEPRINTS TO PHOTOGRAPH THEM IN HIS MIND! THEN HE CAN SELL THEM TO MANUFACTURERS WHO THINK THEY'RE GETTING ORIGINAL INVENTIONS!

YES, CHUM! THIS IS HOW HE STEALS IDEAS WITHOUT TAKING THEM! IF WE COULD ONLY CONVINCE HIM HE'S DOING WRONG-- WELL, LET'S TRY!

THIS IS MY ANSWER TO YOUR SENTIMENTAL APPEAL-- A BIT OF ADVANCED JU-JITSU I MEMORIZED IN MY ADOLESCENCE! I OWE HUMANITY NOTHING BUT BITTERNESS FOR FORCING ME TO BECOME A FREAK IN ORDER TO EAT!



ULP! WHY NOT TALK THIS OVER QUIETLY!

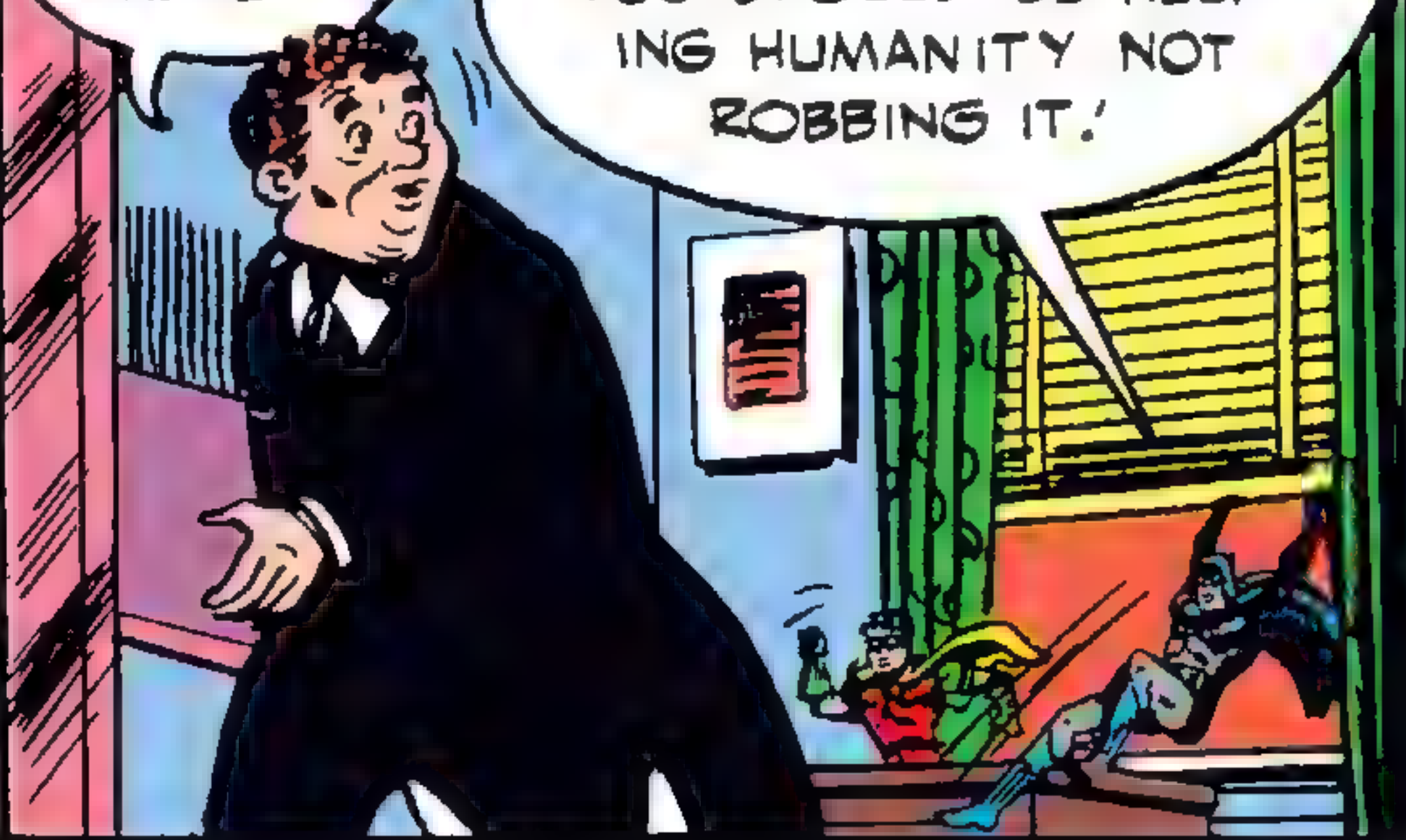
THEY DON'T APPLY TO ME! I'M REGARDED ONLY AS A GLORIFIED TWO-HEADED CHICKEN, A MERE SOURCE OF AMUSEMENT!

HMM! WE'RE RAPIDLY GETTING NOWHERE THIS WAY... THIS CALLS FOR STRATEGY!

AN INSTANT LATER, A PAIR OF NOTED DEBATERS LAUNCH A FLYING CONTROVERSY!

YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

TRYING TO TALK YOU OUT OF THIS RACKET YOU'RE IN! WITH YOUR GREAT GIFT, YOU SHOULD BE HELPING HUMANITY NOT ROBBING IT!



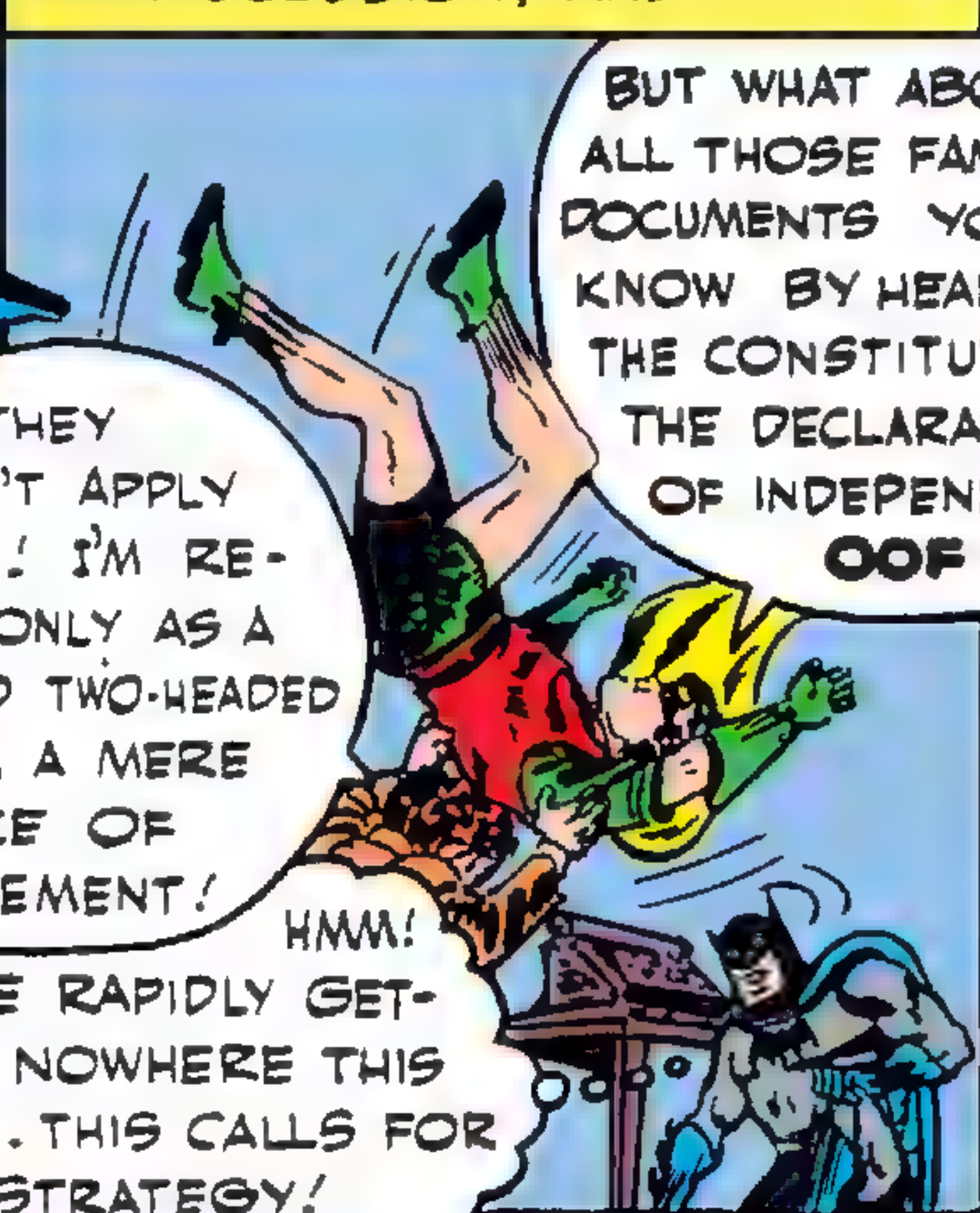
THE BOY WONDER ENTERS INTO THE DISCUSSION, AND ...

LIKE A FLASH OF FLAME, BATMAN LEAPS INTO ACTION!

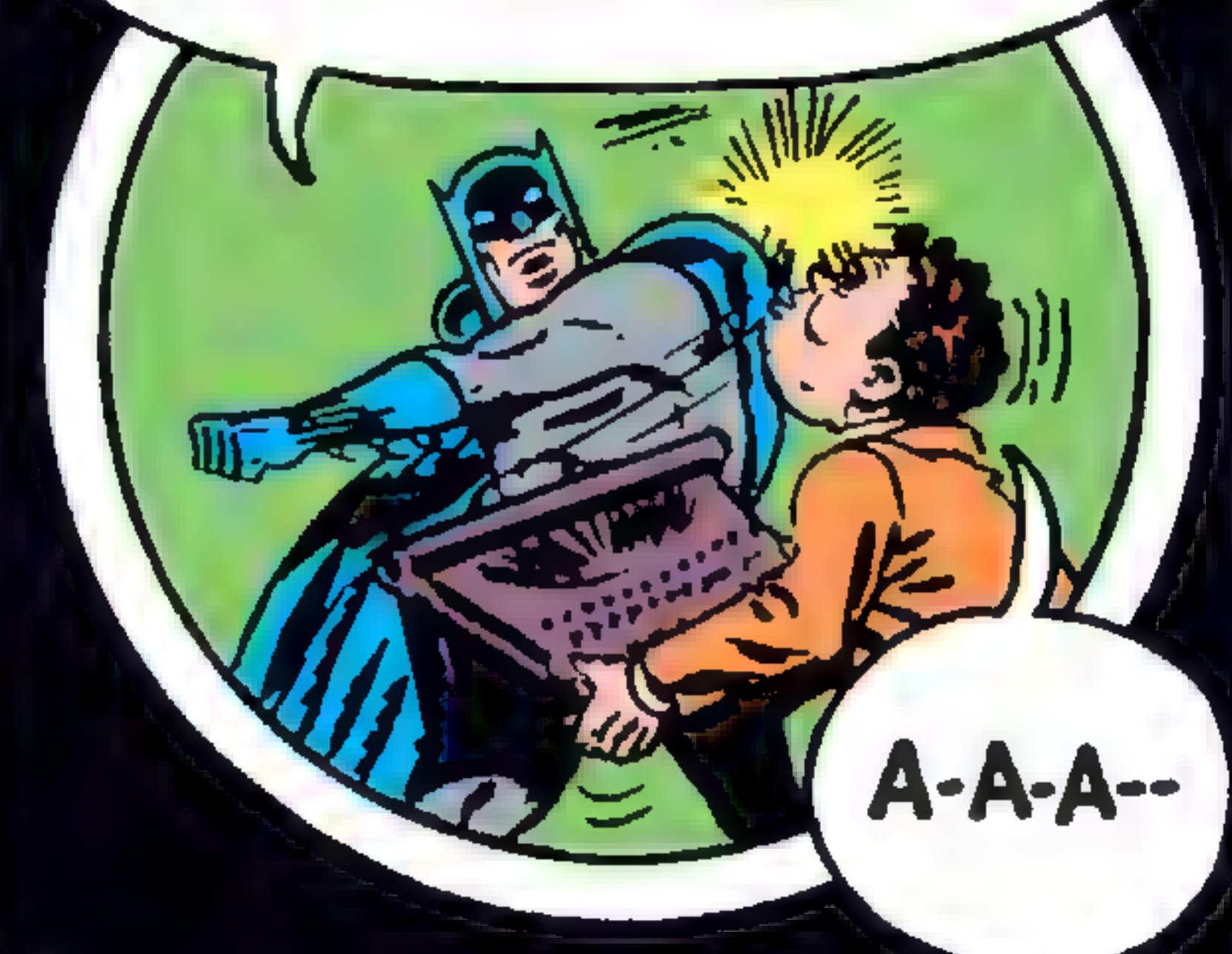
BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE FAMOUS DOCUMENTS YOU KNOW BY HEART-- THE CONSTITUTION, THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE? OOF!

HERE'S SOMETHING TO PRACTICE JU-JITSU ON! CATCH!

YI-I! I CAN'T FATHOM YOUR PURPOSE-- I'VE NEVER ENCOUNTERED THIS STRATAGEM BEFORE!



VERY SIMPLE! IF YOU DROP THE TYPEWRITER TO GET A HOLD ON ME, YOU'LL SMASH YOUR TOES! AND IF YOU DON'T, YOU GET A SWAT ON THE JAW! LIKE THIS!



A-A-A--

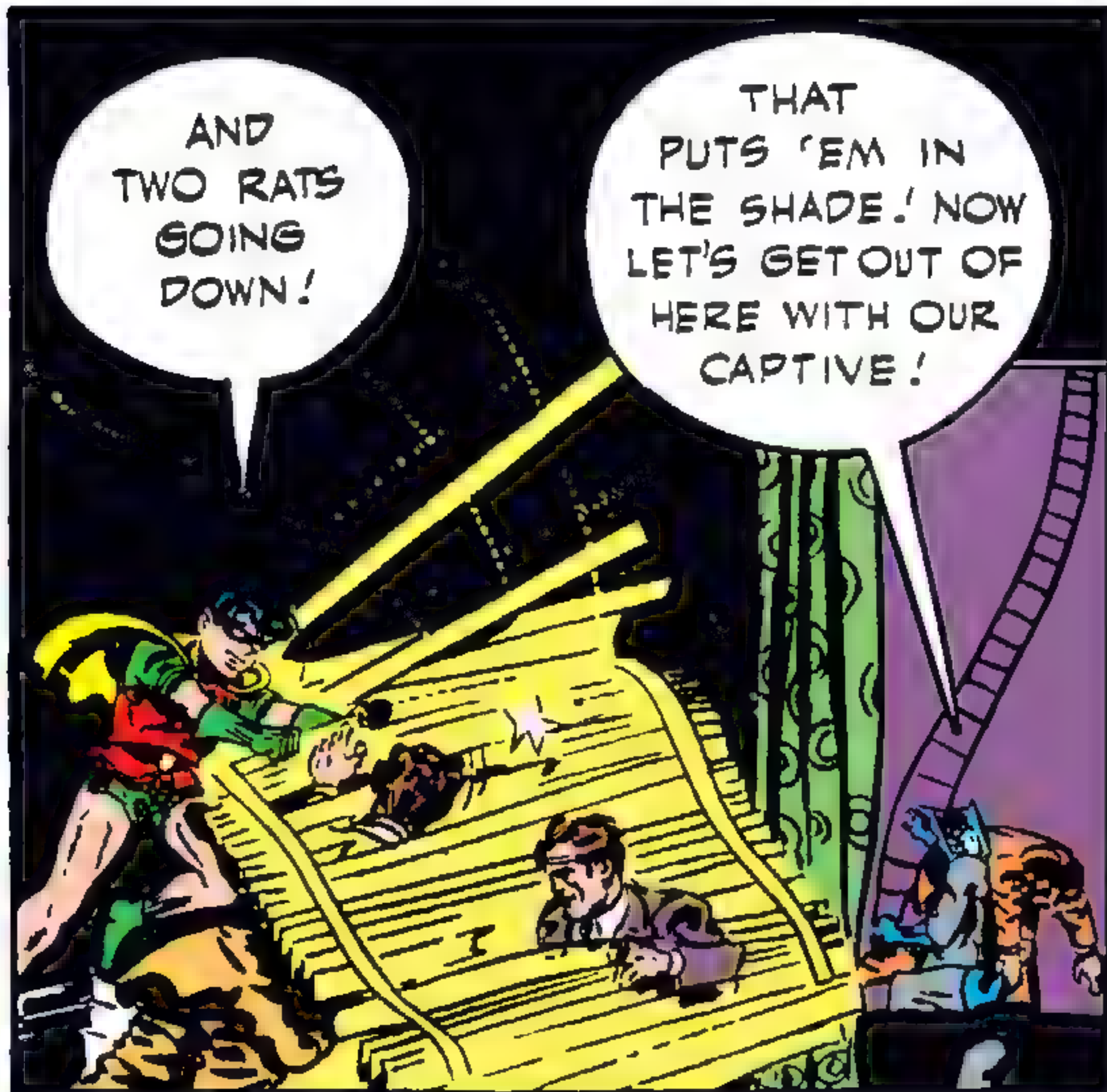
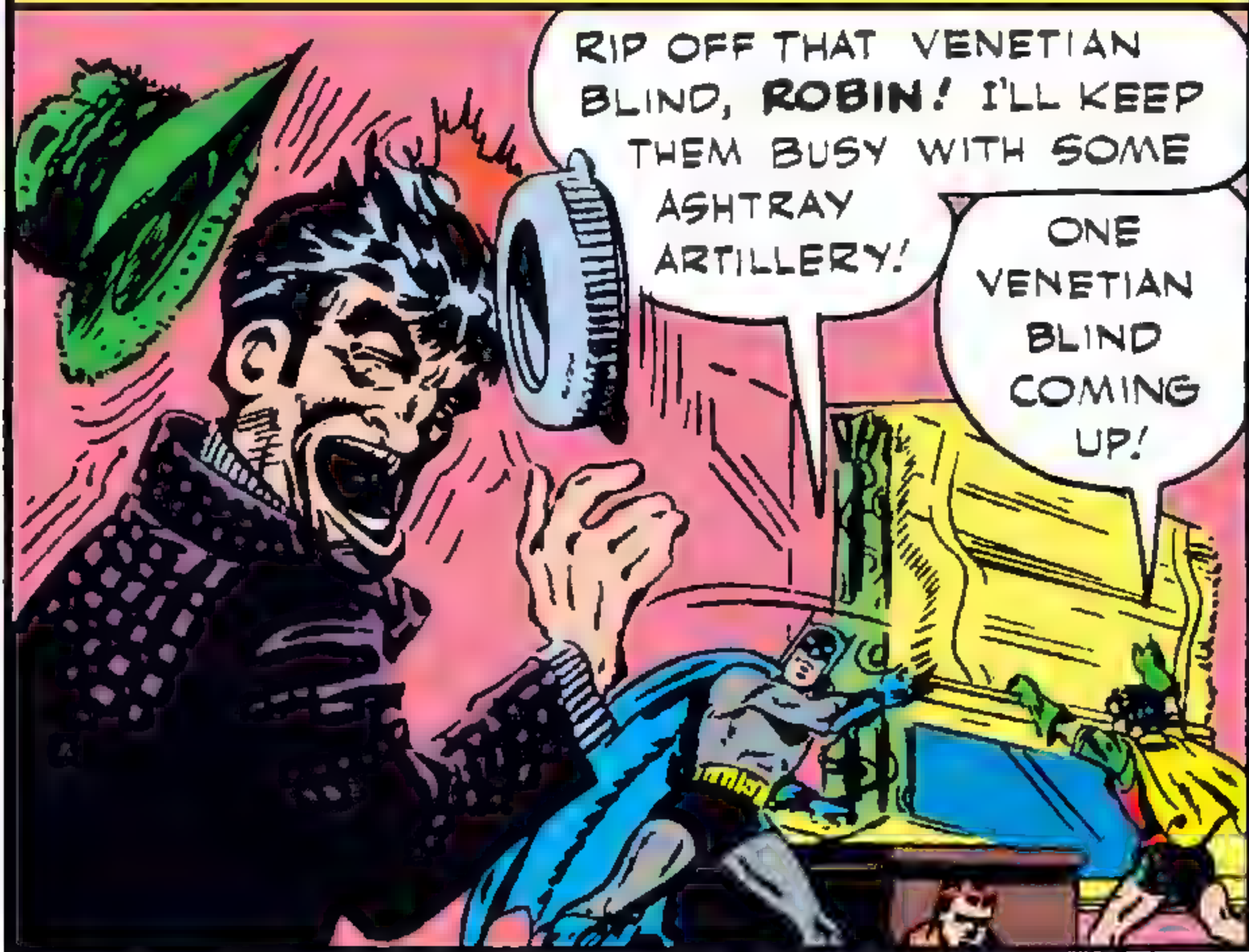
BUT AS THE MONUMENTAL MEMORIST TOPPLES ...

DON'T YOU MUGGS KNOW ENOUGH TO KNOCK BEFORE YOU COME IN?

NAH! WE KNOCK AFTER WE'RE IN-- ONLY WE USE HOT LEAD!



BUT BATMAN'S WITS ARE SWIFTER THAN TRIGGERS AND...



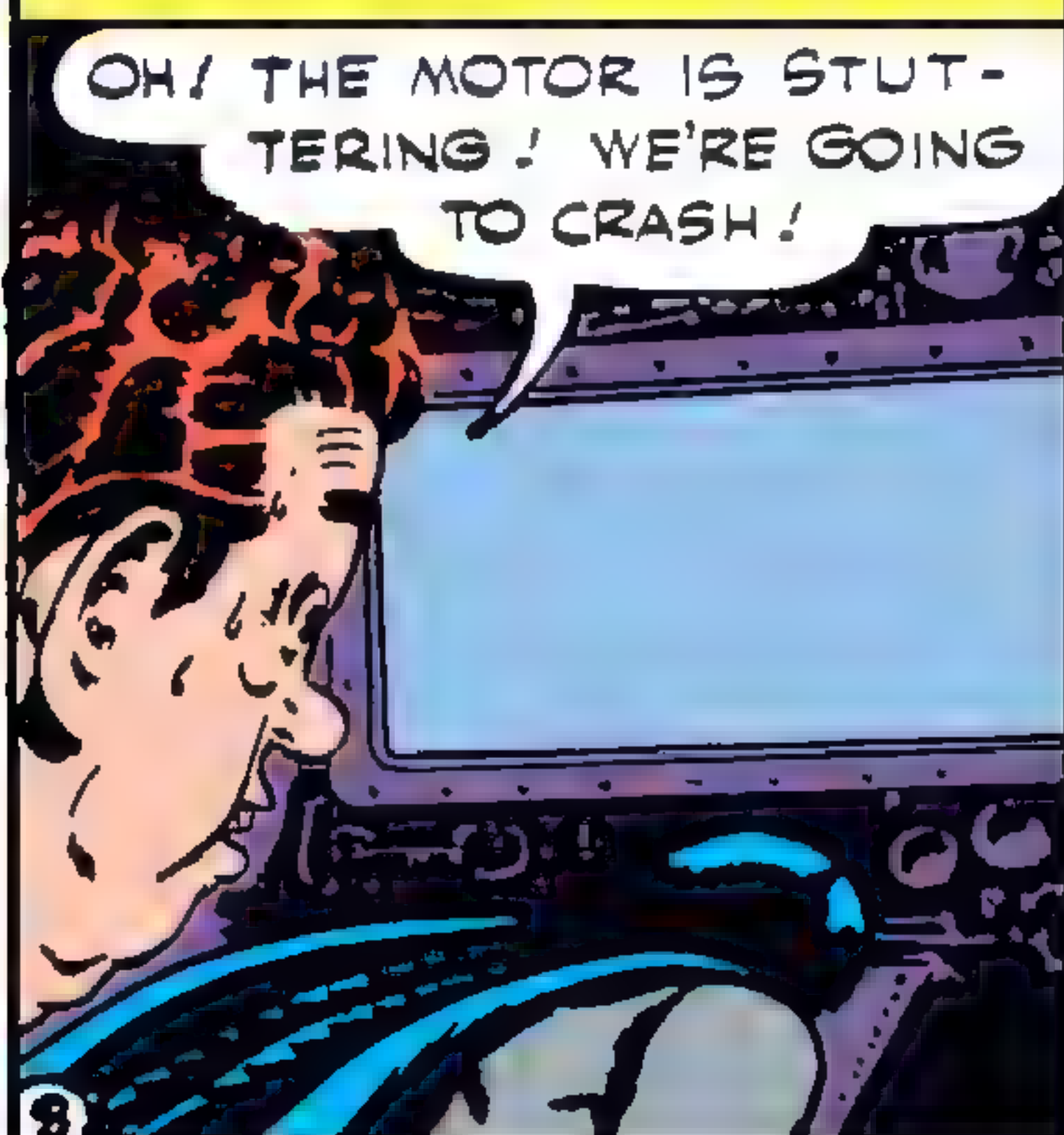
HELICOPTERS HUM A SUPER-CHARGED SIGH OF SPEED AS THE BATPLANE FLASHES UPWARD, THEN LEVELS OFF TO STREAK ACROSS THE SLUMBERING CITY! AND THEN...



BUT AN OLD ANATOMY BOOK I SKIMMED THROUGH YEARS AGO MENTIONED THIS DEVICE! PRESSURE ON A CERTAIN NERVE AT THE BASE OF THE SKULL CAUSES INSTANTANEOUS UNCONSCIOUSNESS! NOW TO PUSH THEM ASIDE AND TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS... MY READINGS IN AERONAUTICS SHOULD ENABLE ME TO FLY IT!..

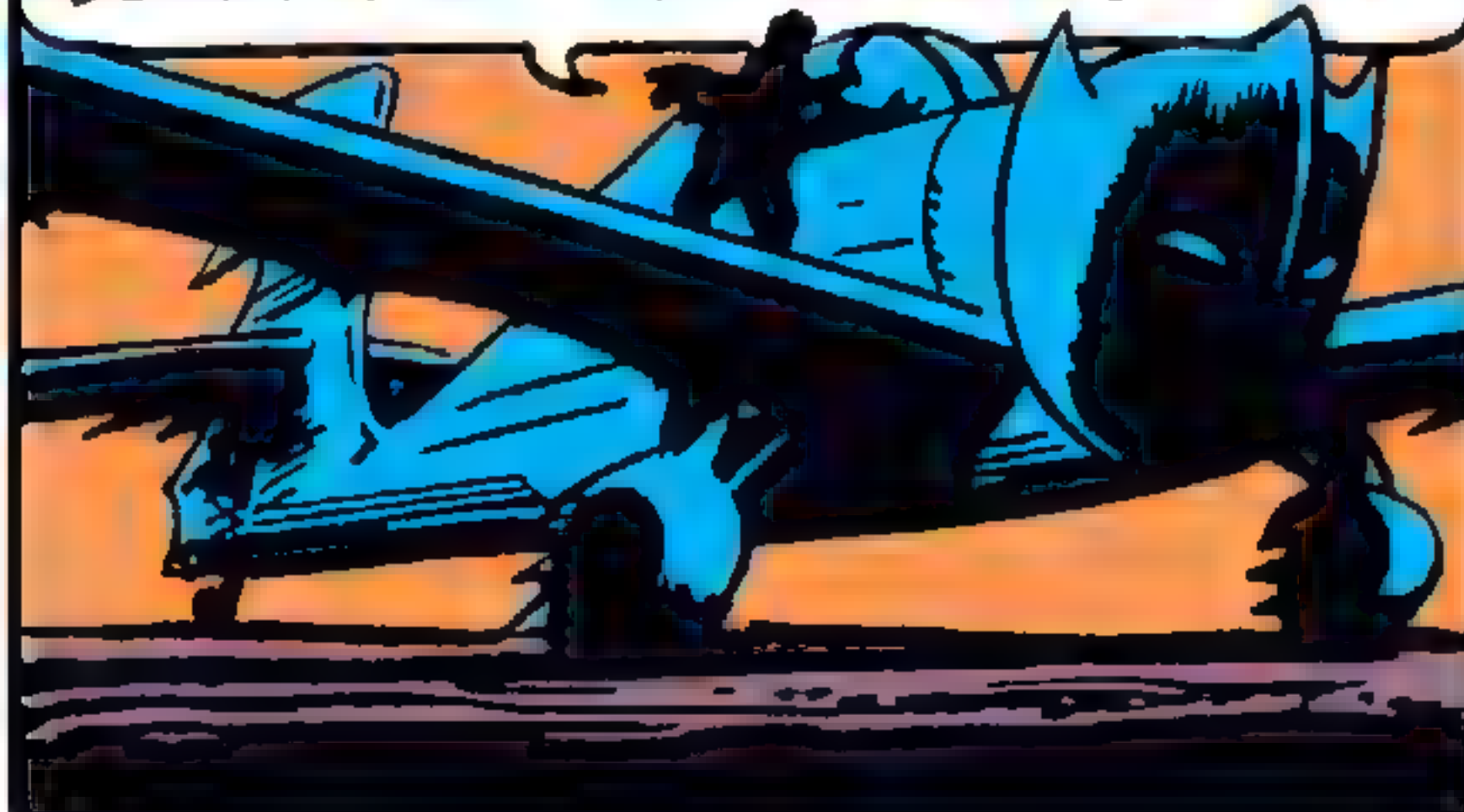


BUT BATMAN'S HEAD FALLS FORWARD, STRIKING THE CONTROL PANEL-- AND SMASHING THE GASOLINE FEED LINE!



SWIFTLY, THOUGH, THE FOOLPROOF AUTOMATIC PILOT SWITCHES IN THE BATTERIES... THE HURTLING FALL IS CHECKED... AND THE GIANT PLANE EASES TO A GENTLE LANDING...

THEY'LL BE REVIVING IN TWENTY MINUTES OR SO! NO TIME TO REPAIR THE DAMAGED FEED LINE AND PURLOIN THE CRAFT! BUT THERE IS SOMETHING I CAN DO IMMEDIATELY--



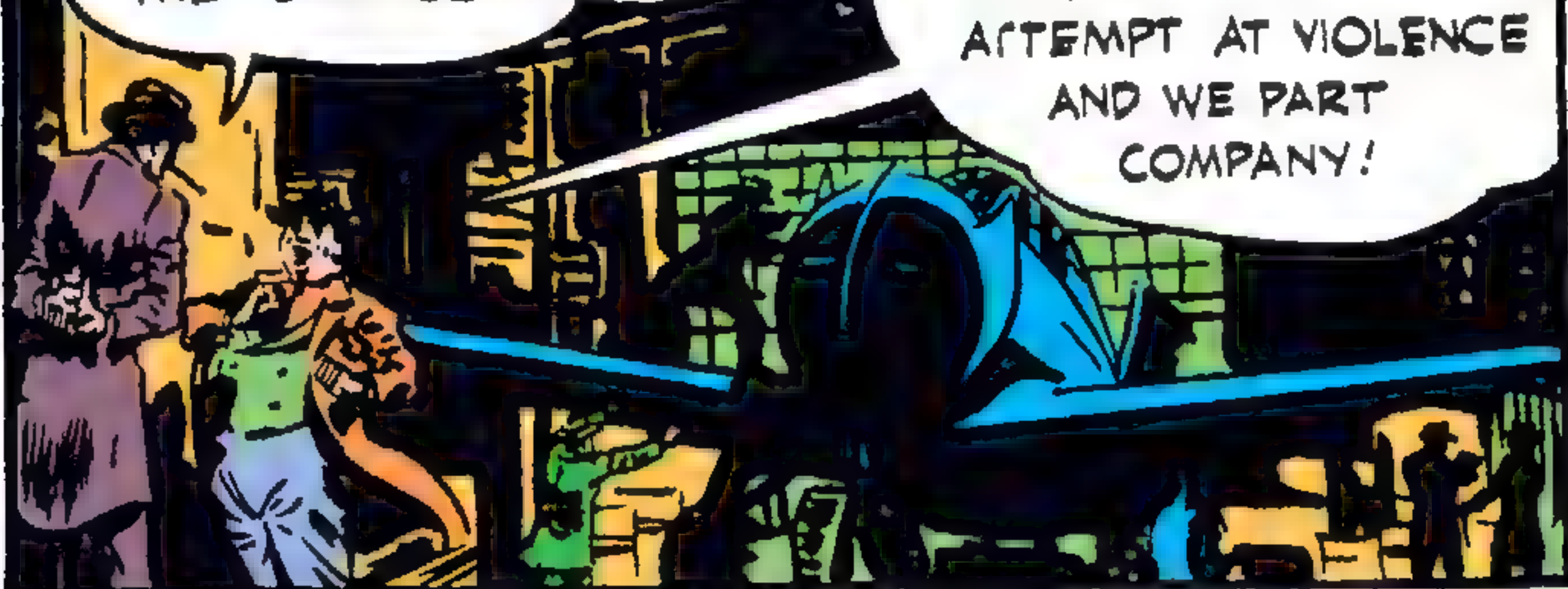
-- I CAN MEMORIZE EVERY DETAIL OF THE FAMOUS BATPLANE! IT IS POSITIVELY AMAZING... SUCH INGENUITY OF DESIGN... SUCH SUPER-POWER CONCENTRATED IN SO SMALL A SPACE! BUT MY TIME IS UP NOW! I MUST ESCAPE BEFORE THEY COME TO!



AND, PRESENTLY, THERE TAKES SHAPE THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON EVER CLUTCHED IN CRIMINAL HANDS -- A DUPLICATE OF THE **BATPLANE** -- TO USE AGAINST HELPLESS SOCIETY!

GOOD WORK, HUNT, GETTING THE DESIGN OF THE **BATPLANE**! IT'S A TERRIFIC SHIP!... BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY DIDN'T YOU KILL **BATMAN** AND THAT BRAT WHILE YOU HAD THE CHANCE?

BECAUSE I REFUSE TO COUNTENANCE BLOOD-SHED! I MAY BE CROOKED, BUT I AM NOT A MURDERER! REMEMBER THAT, DUDE! THE FIRST ATTEMPT AT VIOLENCE AND WE PART COMPANY!



THAT NIGHT...

LOWER AWAY! THAT'S HENRI LONGVIEUX'S PENTHOUSE DOWN BELOW! HE'S THE FAMOUS DRESS DESIGNER, HUNT!

AND WE'RE GOING TO ROB HIS ORIGINAL DESIGNS? GOOD! THEY'RE WORTH A FORTUNE!



A MOMENT LATER...

OKAY, HE'S OUTA DE WAY! TELL HUNT HE CAN COME IN NOW!

BOY, DIS ROBBERY BUSINESS IS A CINCH WID HUNT AND DIS HERE **BATPLANE** OF OURS!

VERY WELL, ESTEEMED COLLEAGUES! I HAVE COMMITTED THE DESIGNS TO MEMORY! AND VERY LOVELY ONES THEY ARE, TOO!

ANYT'ING DAT BRINGS IN DE DOUGH IS BEE-YOOTIFUL TO ME! LET'S BLOW!



BACK AGAIN AT THE SECRET HANGAR, A FURTIVE CONFAB TAKES PLACE AS SOON AS HUNT IS OUT OF EAR-SHOT...

HUNT THINKS THIS IS THE SAME AS THE **BATPLANE**, ONLY I PUT IN SOME IMPROVEMENTS! LIKE THOSE CONCEALED MACHINE GUNS! TOMORROW, WE'RE GOING TO BLAST **BATMAN** OUT OF THE SKY!



NEXT DAY AT THE GOLD-REFINING PLANT OUTSIDE THE CITY...

DIS HOITS ME PRIDE, POIPOSELY SETTIN' OFF A BOIGLAR ALARM! PEOPLE'LL T'INK I'M A AMACHOOR!

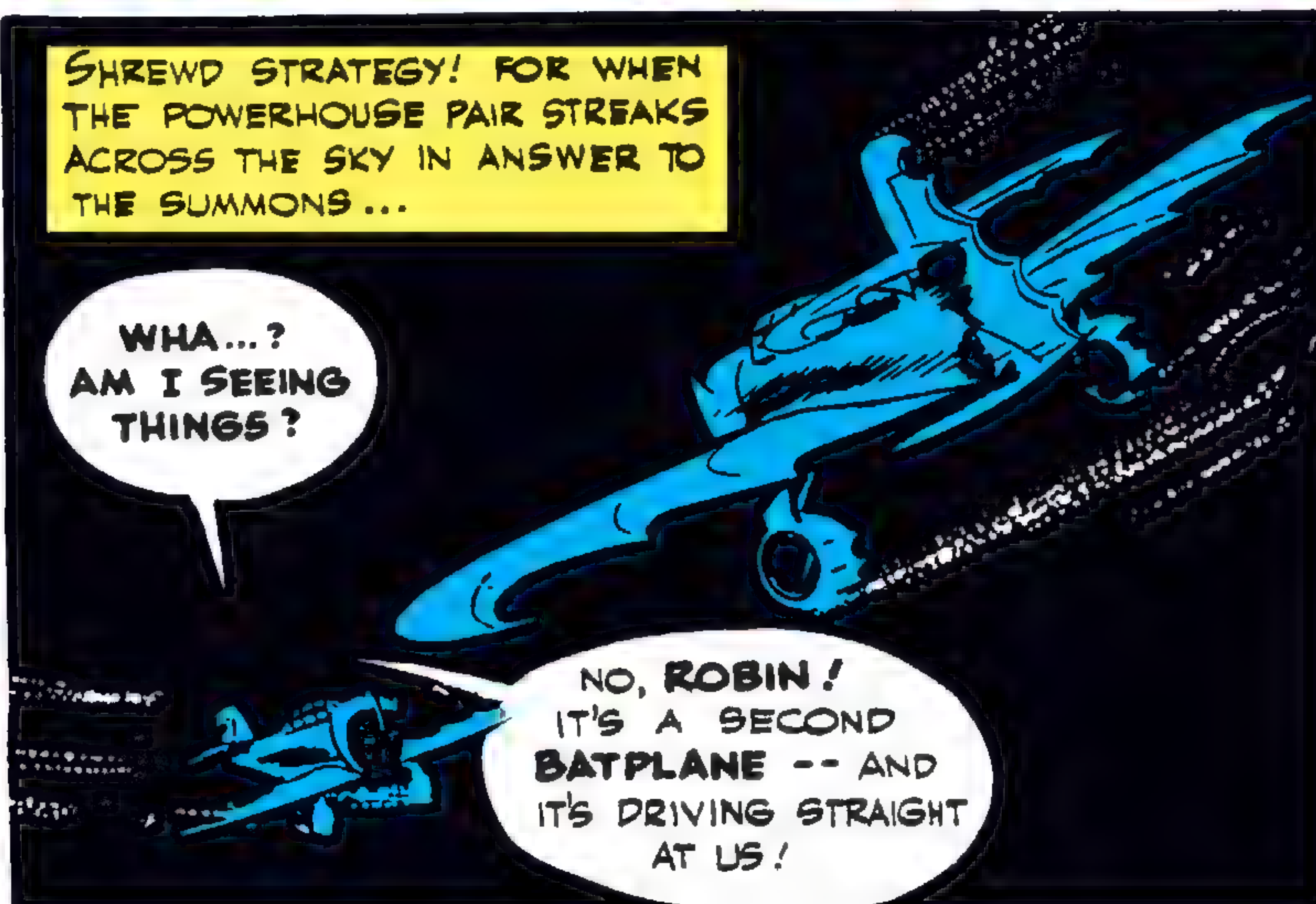
YEAH, DAT'S HOW I FEEL! BUT DUDE SAYS WE GOTTA TOIN IT ON SO DE **BATMAN**'LL GET ON OUR TRAIL! AND DEN...

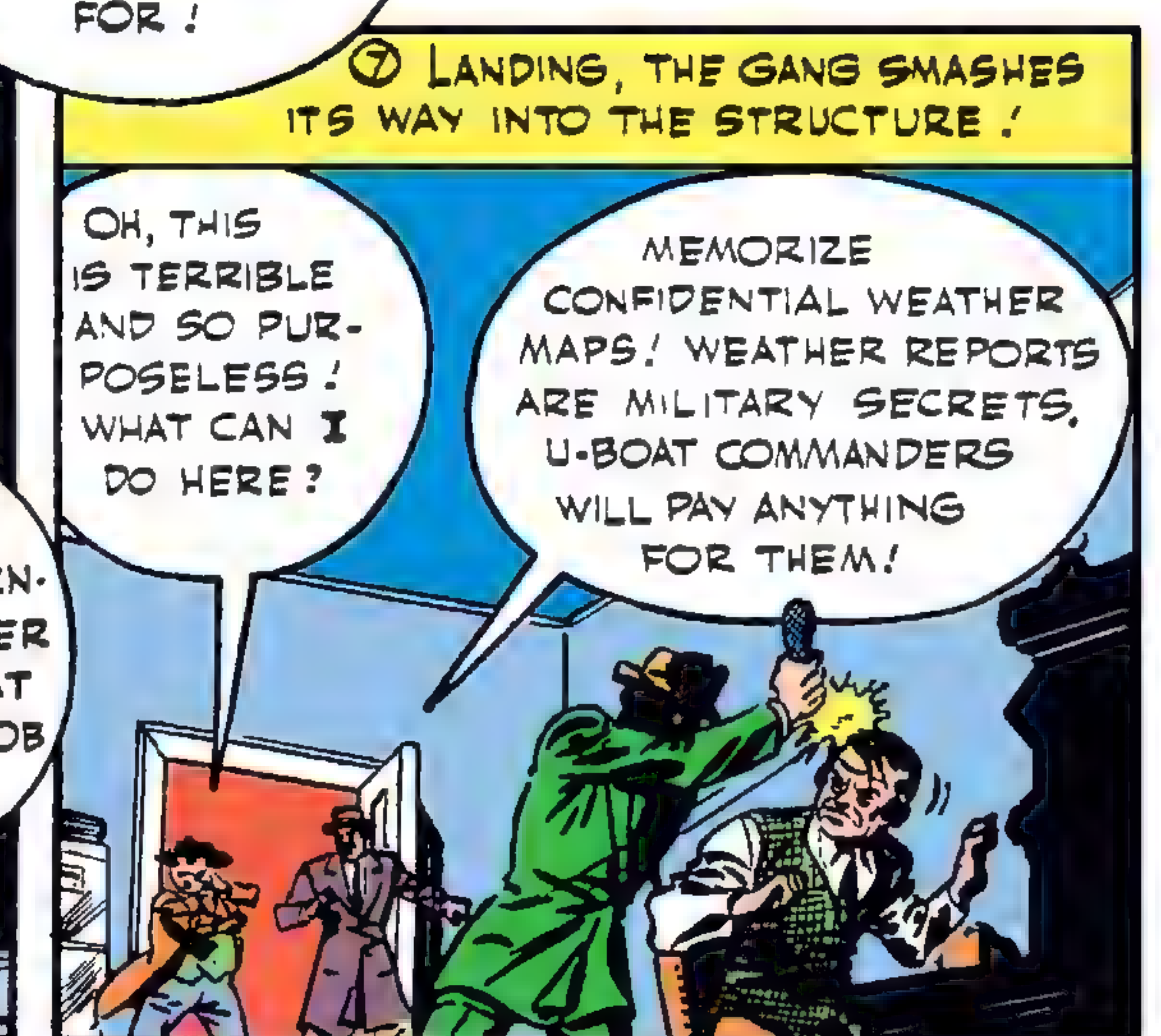
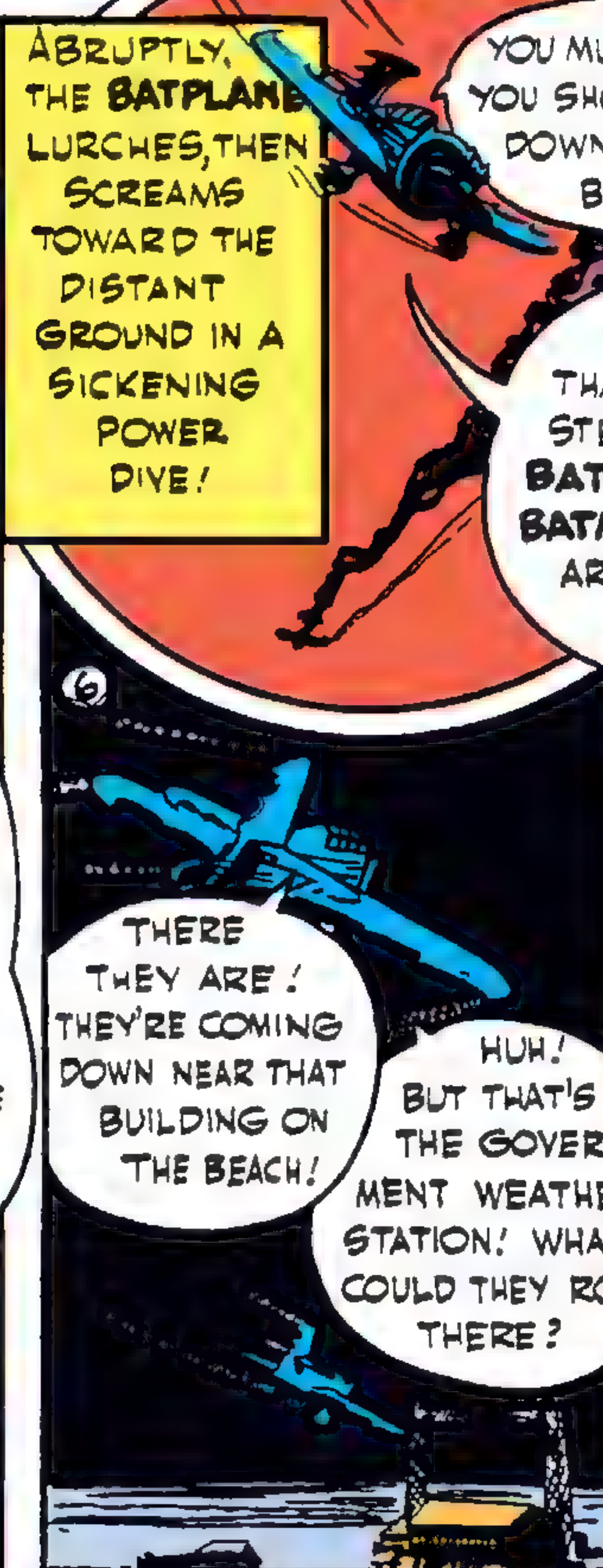
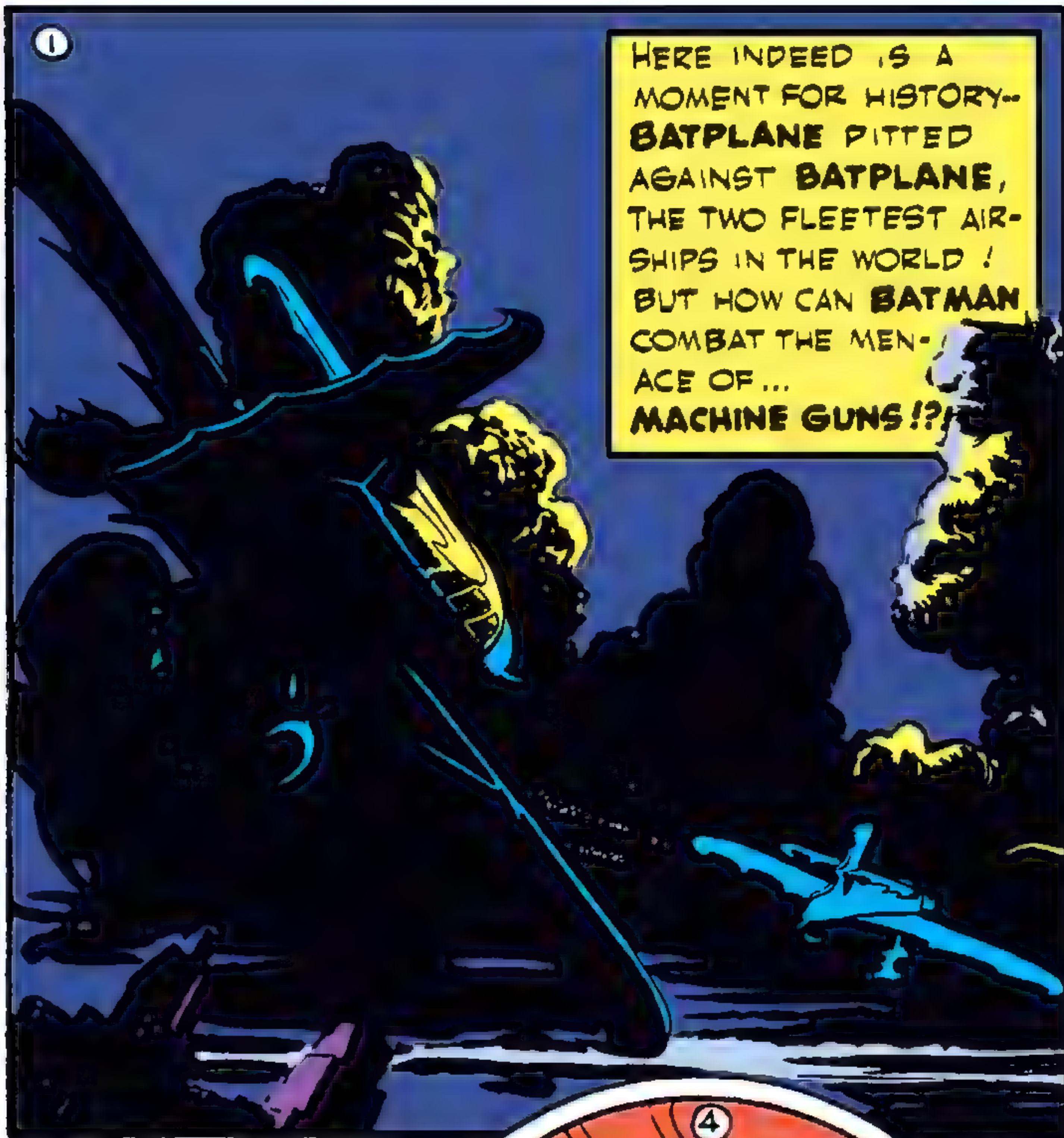


SHREWD STRATEGY! FOR WHEN THE POWERHOUSE PAIR STREAKS ACROSS THE SKY IN ANSWER TO THE SUMMONS...

WHA...? AM I SEEING THINGS?

NO, ROBIN! IT'S A SECOND **BATPLANE** -- AND IT'S DRIVING STRAIGHT AT US!





1

HERE INDEED IS A
MOMENT FOR HISTORY--
BATPLANE PITTED
AGAINST **BATPLANE**,
THE TWO FLEETEST AIR-
SHIPS IN THE WORLD !
BUT HOW CAN **BATMAN**
COMBAT THE MEN-
ACE OF ...
MACHINE GUNS !?

2 THE ANSWER COMES SWIFTLY...

THIS
SMOKE SCREEN
WILL KEEP THEM
BUSY FOR
A WHILE !

CURSE
THEM ! THIS
IS WORSE THAN
FOG !

5 BUT THE SUAVE
KILLER GLOATS
TOO SOON ! FOR
THE INSTANT THE
CRIME CRAFT WINGS
AWAY...

WE COULDN'T
DO ANYTHING
AGAINST THEIR
MACHINE GUNS !
SO I WANTED
THEM TO THINK
WE WERE FINISHED !
NOW WE'LL GAIN
ALTITUDE AND
GIVE CHASE...

WHEW, AM I GLAD
YOU FINALLY
PULLED US OUT
OF THAT DIVE ! I
THOUGHT WE WERE
DONE FOR ' WHAT
WAS THE IDEA ?

YOU MURDERERS !
YOU SHOT THEM
DOWN IN COLD
BLOOD !

RIGHT, HUNT !
THANKS TO YOUR
STEALING THE
BATPLANE DESIGN,
BATMAN AND **ROBIN**
ARE FINALLY DONE
FOR !

7 LANDING, THE GANG SMASHES
ITS WAY INTO THE STRUCTURE !

OH, THIS
IS TERRIBLE
AND SO PUR-
POSELESS !
WHAT CAN I
DO HERE ?

MEMORIZE
CONFIDENTIAL WEATHER
MAPS ! WEATHER REPORTS
ARE MILITARY SECRETS,
U-BOAT COMMANDERS
WILL PAY ANYTHING
FOR THEM !

THERE
THEY ARE !
THEY'RE COMING
DOWN NEAR THAT
BUILDING ON
THE BEACH !

HUH !
BUT THAT'S
THE GOVERN-
MENT WEATHER
STATION ! WHAT
COULD THEY ROB
THERE ?

WE
CAN'T SEEM
TO SHAKE
THEM,
BATMAN !

I
KNOW !
THEIR SHIP
IS JUST
AS GOOD
AS OURS--
AND THEY
HAVE MACHINE
GUNS ! IT'S
NO USE...

U-BOATS? THAT'S ESPIONAGE... TREASON! YOU'LL NEVER GET ME TO DO IT! NEVER! A-A-A-G-G-H-H..!

I CAN'T, EH? I'LL BEAT THE LIFE OUT OF YOU IF I HAVE TO! BUT YOU'RE GOING TO MEMORIZE THOSE MAPS!

ABRUPTLY TWIN TORNADOES STRIKE WITH SUDDEN FURY!

SO THAT'S THE GAG!-MEMORIZING WEATHER MAPS! WELL, I KNOW YOURS BY HEART... SO I THINK IT'S TIME SOMEONE CHANGED THEM!

OOOOF!

AMMUNITION IS SCARCE, BUT IT'S NO WASTE OF LEAD TO SHOOT DOWN THAT CONFOUNDED MEDDLER!

BUT THE BOY WONDER LASHES OUT WITH DAZZLING SPEED!

PULL IN YOUR EARS, YOU'RE RUNNING INTO A BLOW!

MEANWHILE, IN THE FRINGES OF THE FRAY...

MURDER AND TREASON! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN WHERE A CAREER OF CRIME WOULD LEAD ME! BUT IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REDEEM MYSELF... AT LEAST IN MY OWN EYES!

MINUTES LATER... THE CRIMINALS FLEE TO THEIR PLANE!

THEY'RE ESCAPING!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM BEFORE THEY GET INTO THE AIR!

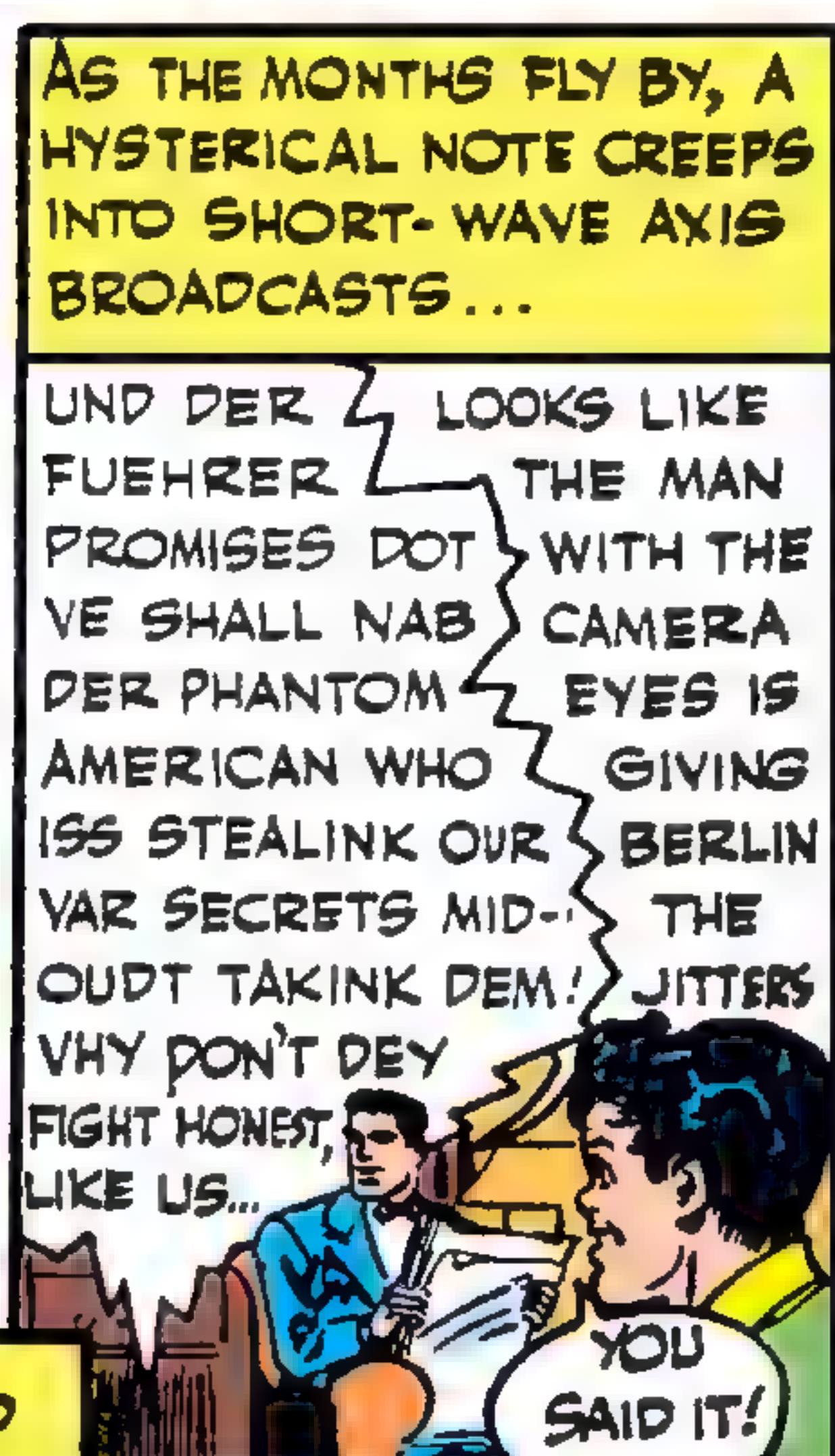
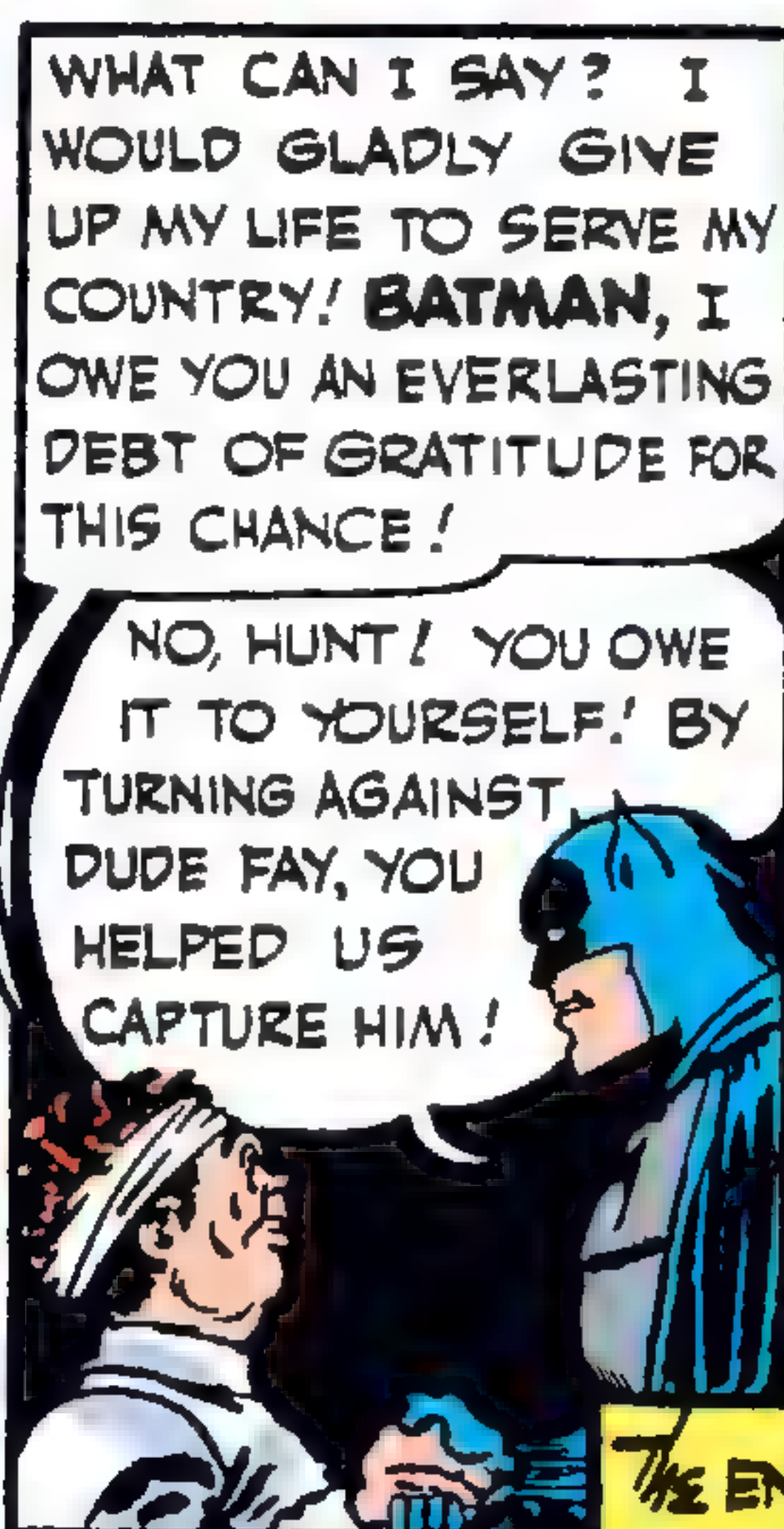
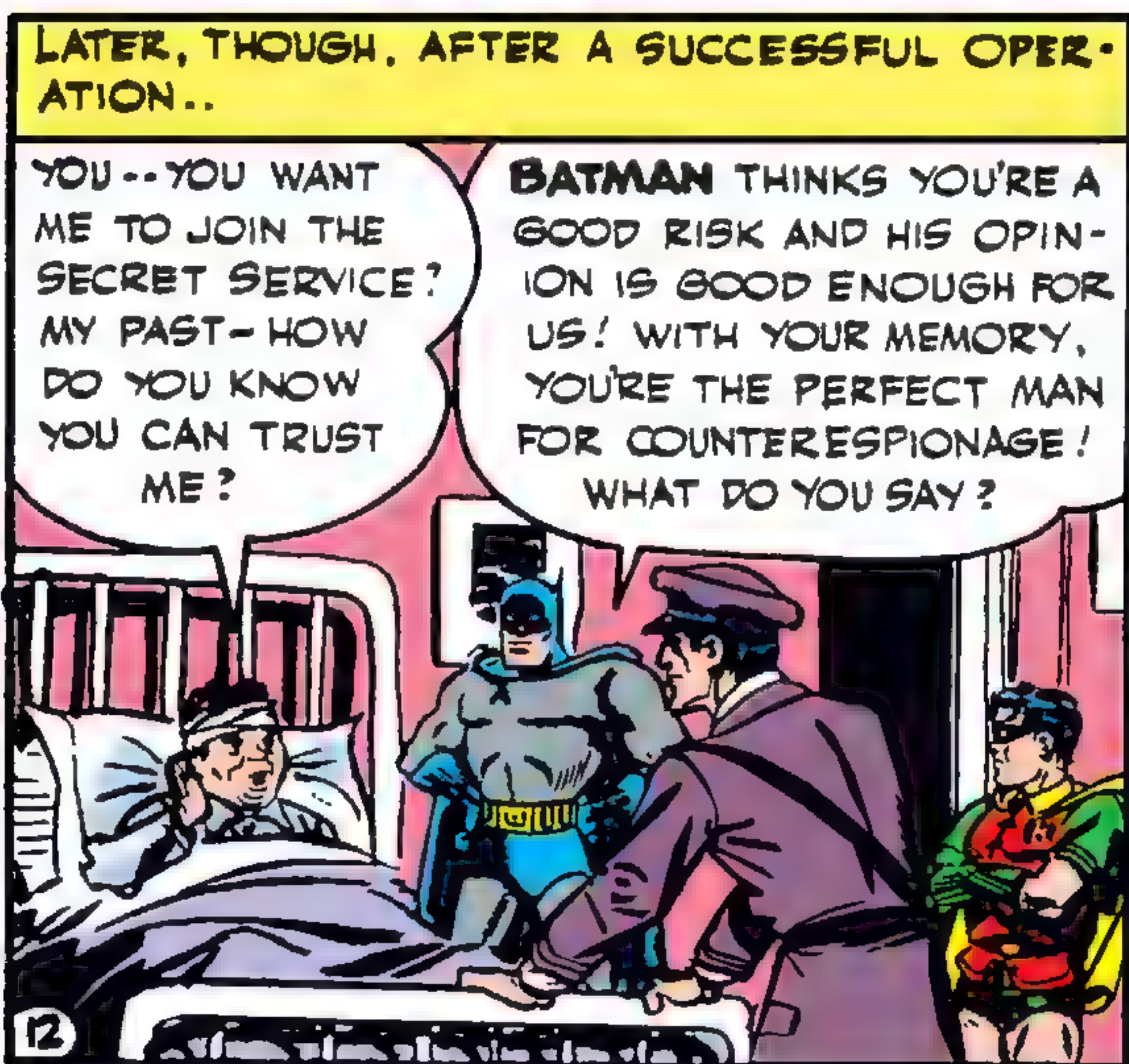
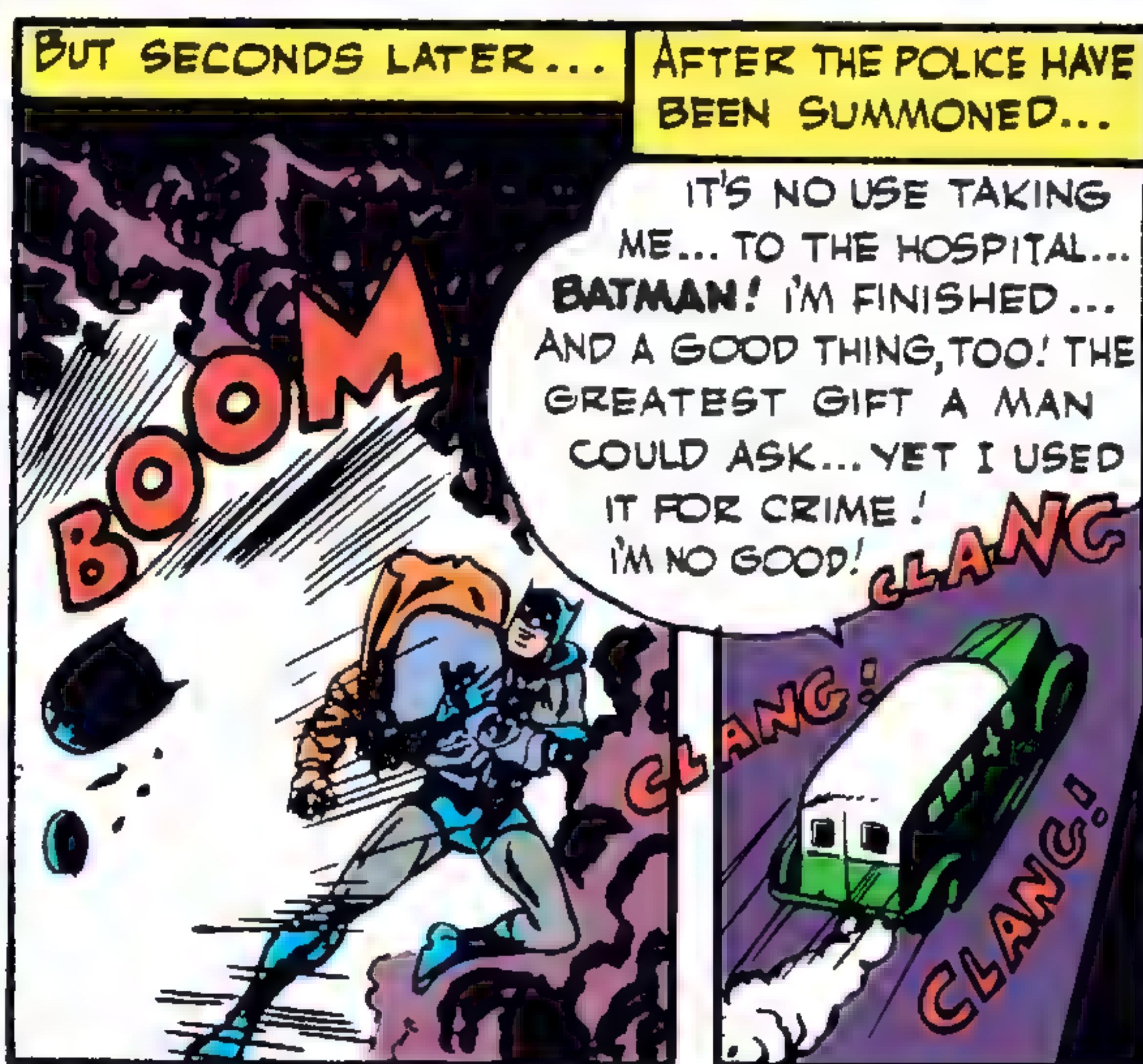
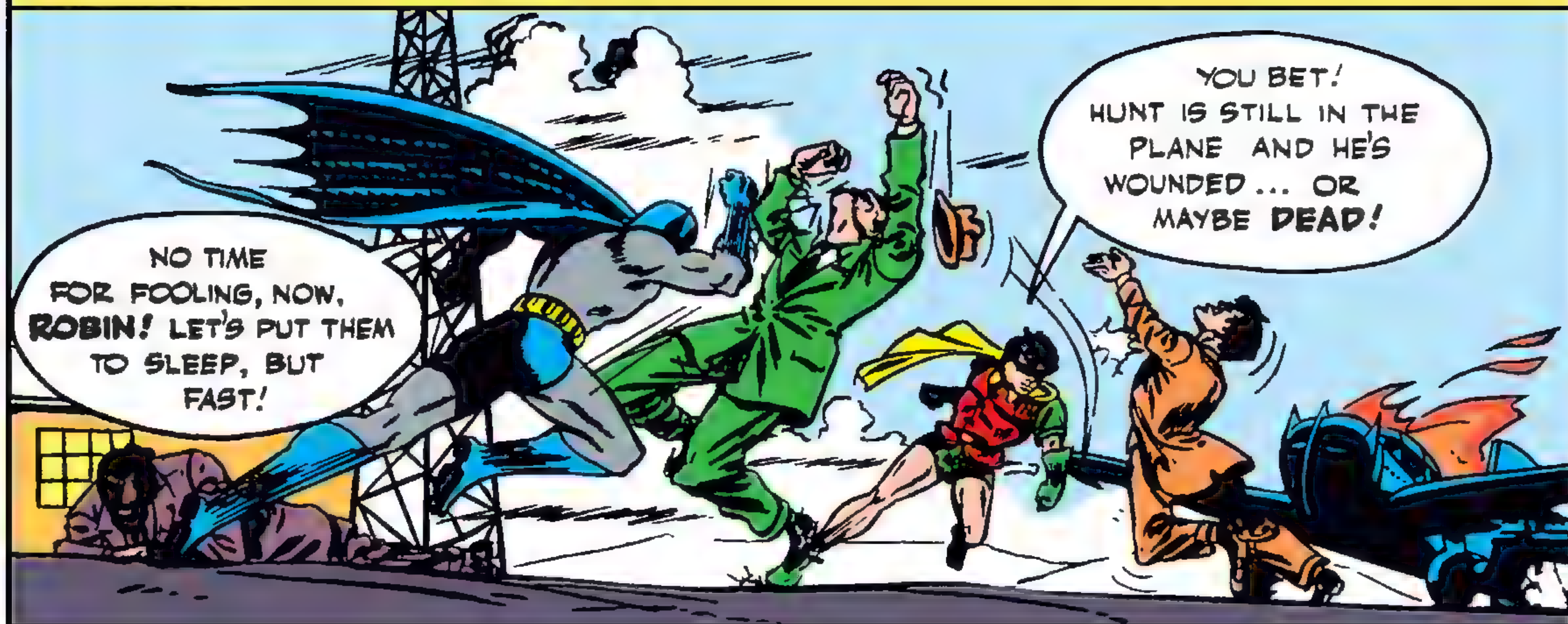
SOMEBODY ELSE HAS TAKEN CARE OF THAT, BATMAN!

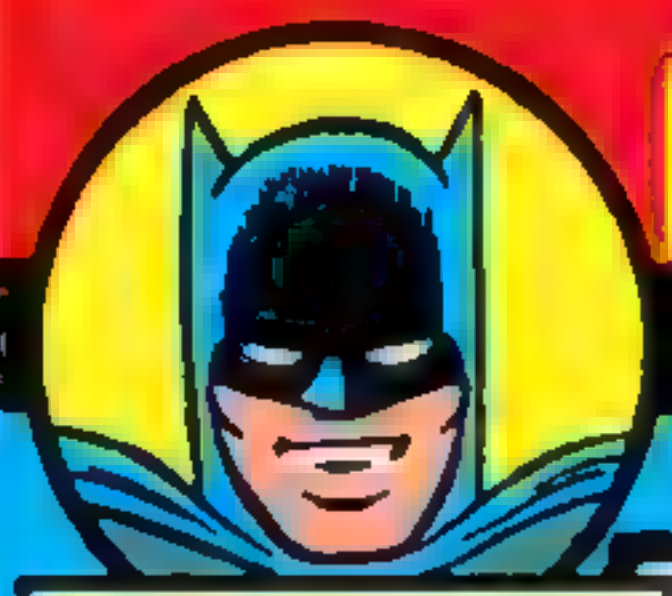
HA, HA! I'VE BROKEN THE FEED LINE AND SET FIRE TO THE GAS! YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY NOW, AND YOU WON'T HAVE THE BATPLANE TO USE AGAINST YOUR OWN COUNTRY! UGGH...

YOU DOUBLE-CROSSER!

BANG!

IN PANIC, THE THUGS RACE FROM THE BURNING SHIP -- AND STRAIGHT INTO THE ARMS OF THE CAPED COMRADES!





No. 77

EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION!
BOY COMMANDOS



The **BATMAN**

Detective COMICS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

JULY

VISIT THE
"CRIME CLINIC"
WITH
BATMAN & ROBIN



BATMAN

WITH

ROBIN

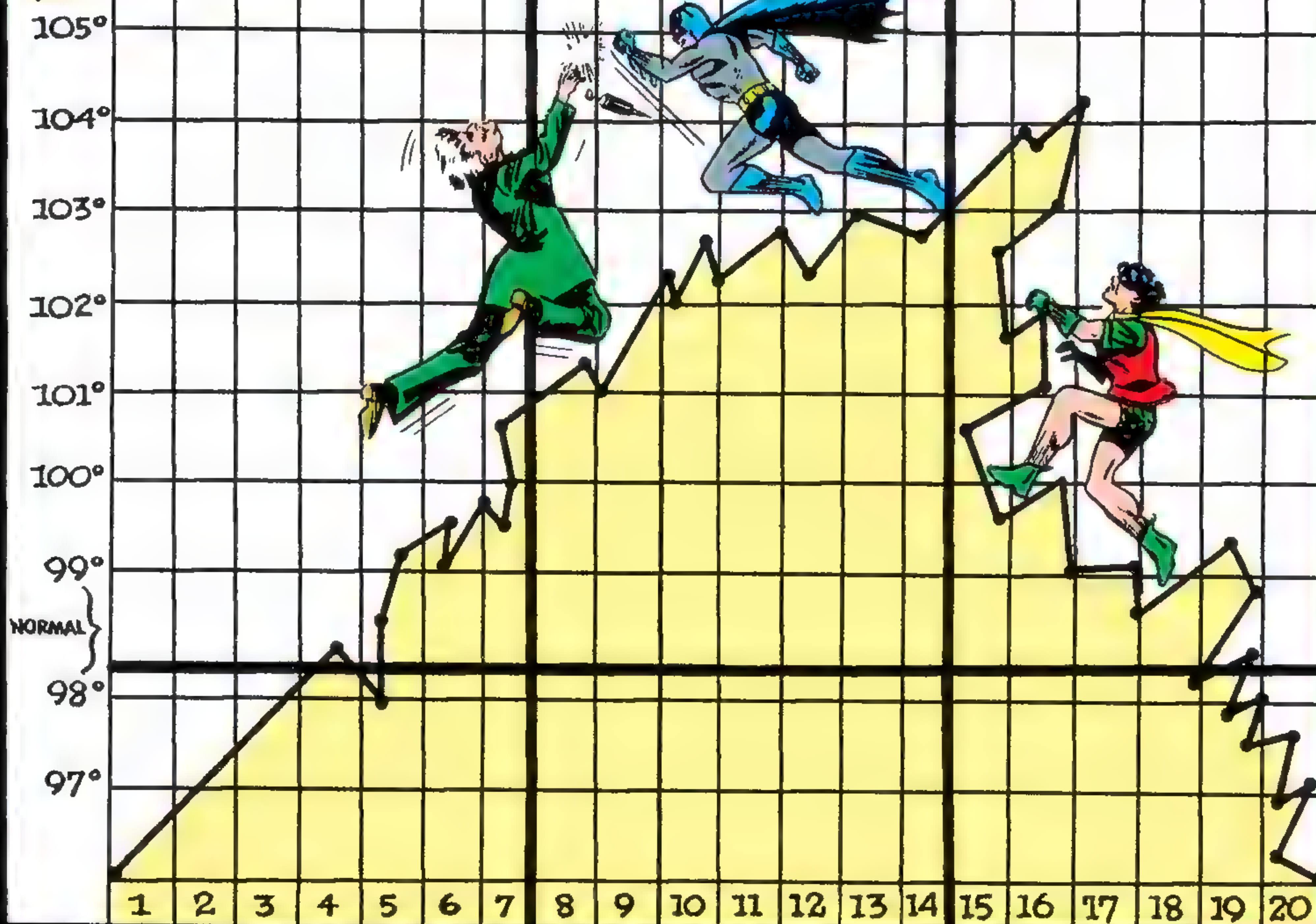
THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

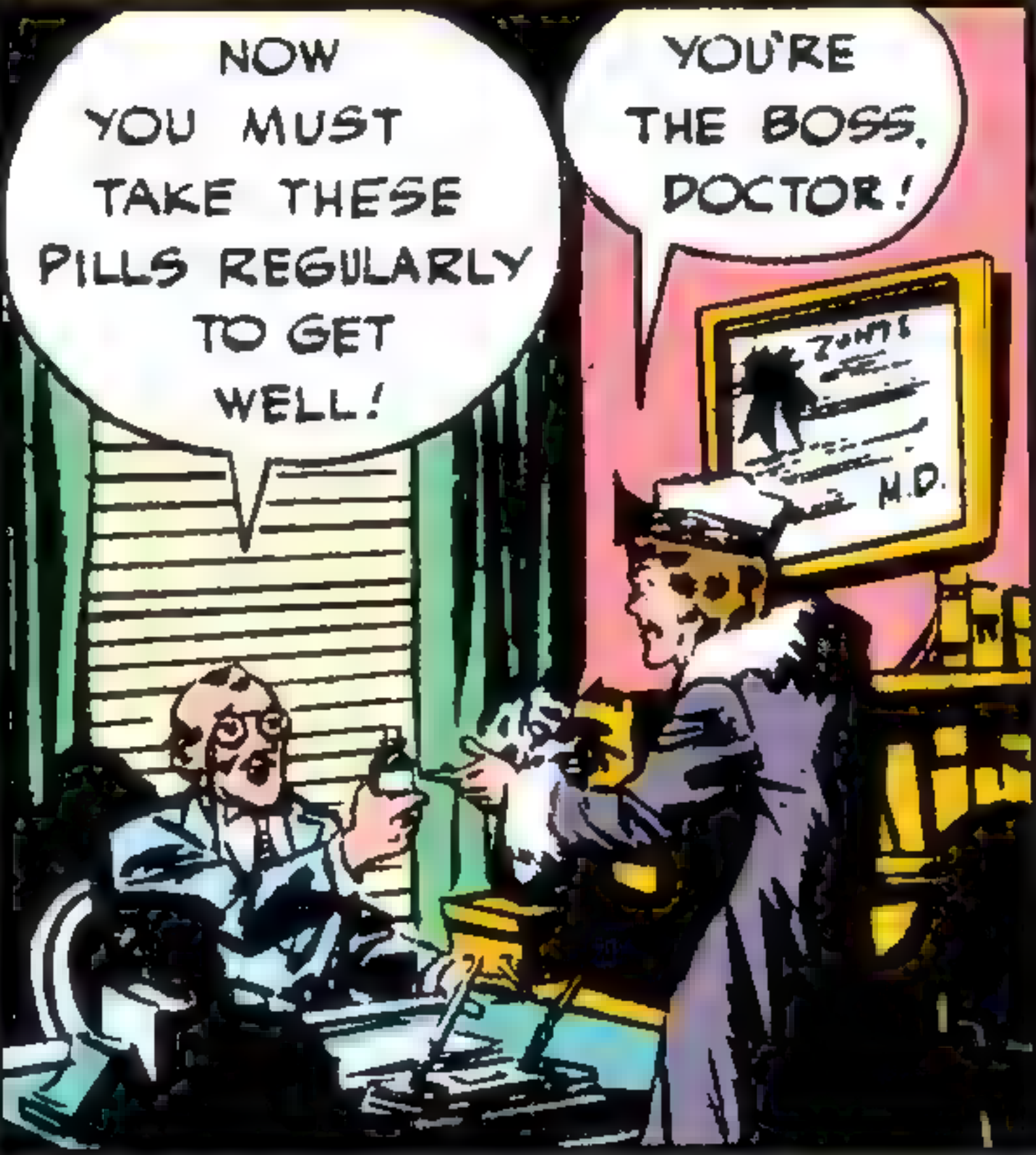
"THE CRIME CLINIC!"

SAY, HAVE YOU GOT FEVER? WELL, IF YOU HAVEN'T YOU SOON WILL HAVE! 'CAUSE HERE IS A STORY THAT'S CRAMMED WITH FEVER-PITCH EXCITEMENT! OF COURSE, IF WHEN YOU FINISH THIS STORY YOU DO HAVE FEVER... GO TO A DOCTOR... BUT DON'T GO TO THE DOCTOR THE BATMAN AND ROBIN RAN INTO! IF YOU DO, YOU'LL BE SORRY! YOU SEE, HE'S NOT ONLY A DOCTOR OF MEDICINE... HE'S ALSO A DOCTOR OF CRIME!! AND HE'S A QUEER CHAP... TAKE IT FROM BATMAN AND ROBIN! AND HE... BUT WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU MORE? IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, AND BRAVE ENOUGH... YOU CAN VISIT HIM IN...

CRIME
FEVER CHART



WHEN A MAN BECOMES A DOCTOR
HE BECOMES **MANY MEN**! -- A
HEALER ...



-- A FRIEND AND CONFIDANT ...



-- A PUBLIC SERVANT ...



-- MANY TIMES HE IS EVEN A
GOOD SAMARITAN ...

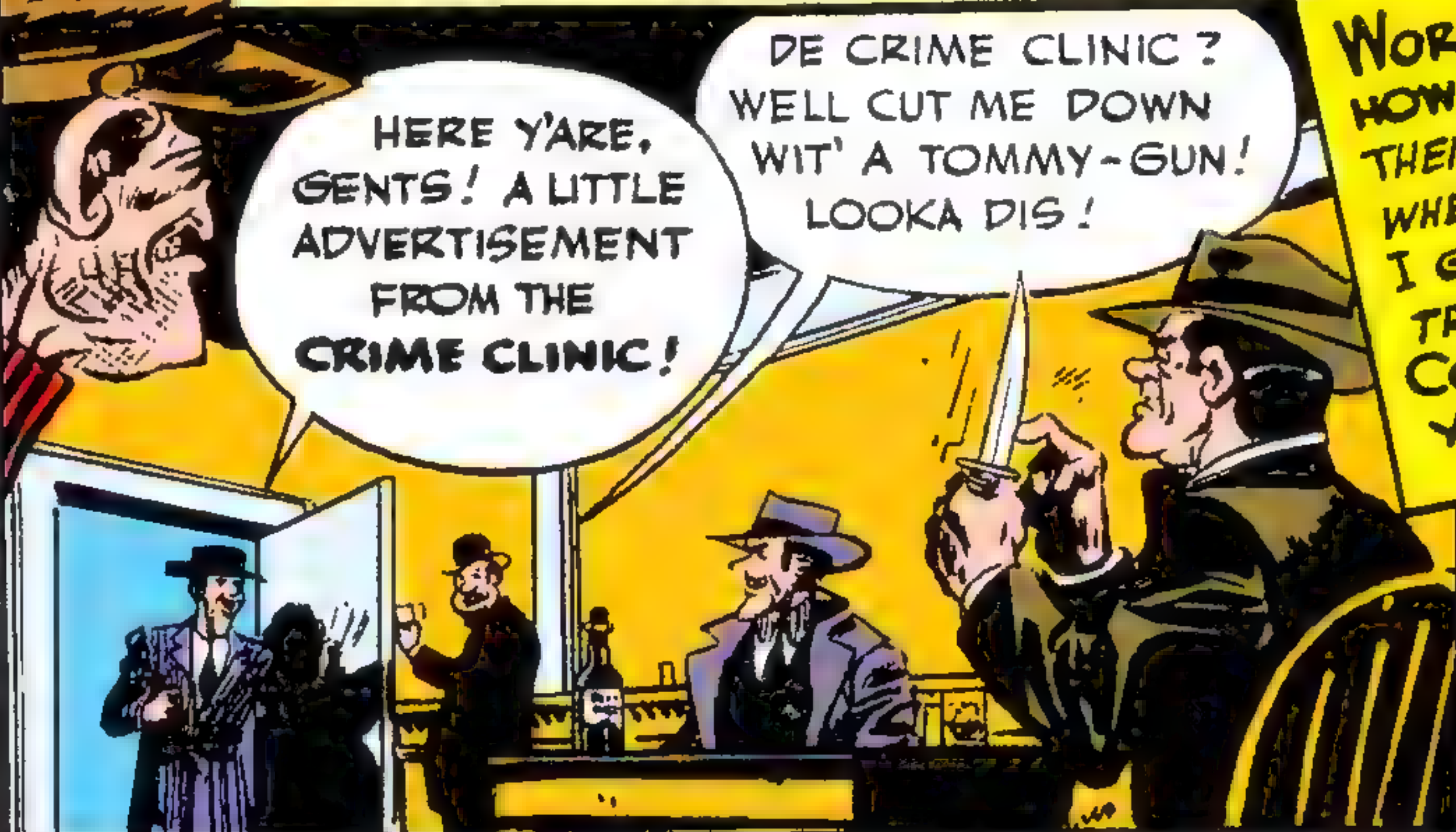


-- AND THERE ARE TIMES WHEN HE IS A MAN WHO
CAN WORK STRANGE MIRACLES!



BUT
AMONG
ALL
MEN
THERE IS
ALWAYS
A MAN
OF
EVIL...
A
RENEGADE!
THIS
STORY
IS ABOUT
SUCH
A
MAN!

THIS CASE ACTUALLY HAD
ITS BEGINNING IN A
GANGSTER HIDEOUT DEEP IN THE HEART OF
THE UNDERWORLD...



WORRYING YOURSELF SICK OVER
HOW TO OPERATE A CERTAIN CRIME?
THEN COME TO THE CRIME CLINIC
WHERE YOUR ILLS CAN BE CURED!
I GUARANTEE TO DOCTOR YOUR
TROUBLE WITH EXPERT TREATMENT!
COME TO THE CRIME CLINIC FOR
YOUR CRIME OPERATION!!

HEY, BUD, IF DIS IS ON DE LEVEL I COULD USE DOPE ON A SOITIN JOB I GOT IN MIND! I'M PIGGY PINTO!

OKAY, PINTO... BUT FIRST I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOUR FINGERPRINTS!

ME FINGER-PRINTS! WHAT'S DE IDEA?

THE DOC DON'T TAKE NO CHANCES! YOU MIGHT BE A COPPER IN DISGUISE, TRYIN' TO COLLAR 'IM!

ON A CERTAIN FASHIONABLE AVENUE IN GOTHAM CITY IS THE RESIDENCE OF THE BRILLIANT SURGEON, DOCTOR MATTHEW THORNE...

DOCTOR, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE! I WAS A DOOMED WOMAN.... DOOMED, I TELL YOU!

YOU CERTAINLY LOOK HEALTHY ENOUGH NOW!

LATER... ANOTHER VISITOR... AND DOCTOR THORNE'S USUALLY MILD EYES NOW FLAME WITH SUDDEN EXCITEMENT!

WELL.. WHAT SUCCESS, ALBERT?

SOME MUGG, NAMED PIGGY PINTO! HERE'S HIS PRINTS!

THE DOCTOR'S SLIM FINGERS TUG OPEN A FILE IN WHICH REPOSE HUNDREDS OF CARDS... CARDS NOT CONTAINING CASE HISTORIES -- BUT FINGERPRINTS!

DOC, THAT FILE O' WELL-KNOWN CRIMINALS CERTAINLY MAKES IT EASY FOR YA TO CHECK UP ON A GUY!

PIGGY PINTO... BANK ROBBER! THE PRINTS MATCH! IT WILL BE SAFE TO BRING HIM HERE, ALBERT!

THE NEXT DAY... THE FIRST "PATIENT" INITIATES THE OPENING OF THE CRIME CLINIC!

...GO YOU SEE, DOC, WE CAN CRACK DAT BANK. BUT WE CAN'T FIGURE OUT DAT ONE ANGLE!

HMM-MM! MY DIAGNOSIS INDICATES AN ACUTE SENSE OF OVERSIGHT! HMM-MM!

HERE IS MY PRESCRIPTION TO REMEDY YOUR TROUBLE! MY FEE IS 25% OF THE LOOT!

Rx SNIP VEIN OF BURGLAR ALARM WIRE NEAR RIGHT WALL FOR E.K.A. PROTECT N

YES... THIS IS DOCTOR MATTHEW THORNE... DOCTOR OF MEDICINE... AND DOCTOR OF CRIME!!

DAYS PASS... AND SOON THROUGH THE UNDERWORLD GRAPEVINE THE NEWS SWEEPS LIKE WILDFIRE!



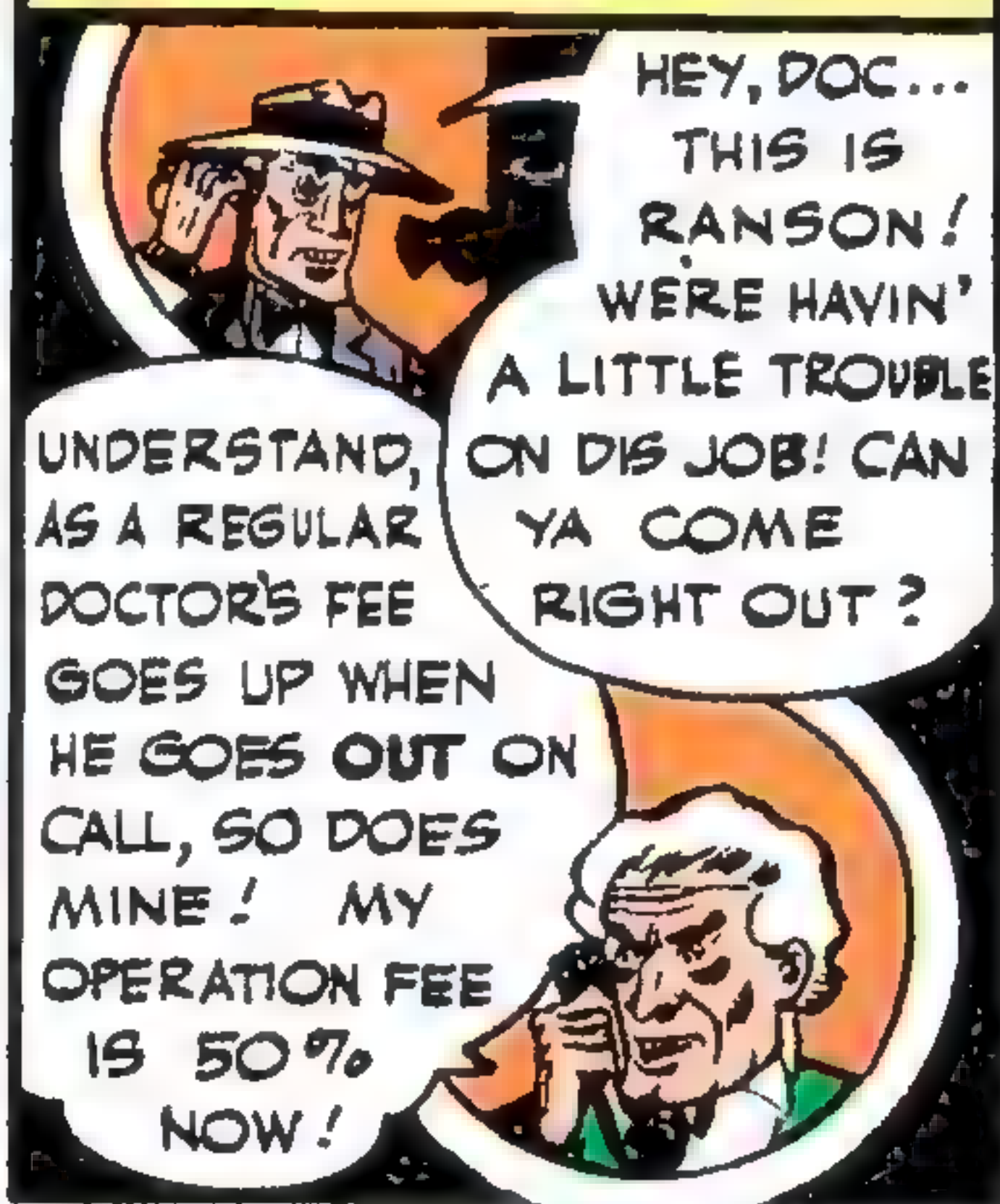
YEAH...
THE CRIME
CLINIC!

SEE THE DOC! HE'LL
TELL YA HOW TO
OPERATE!

THE
CRIME
CLINIC!

THE
CRIME
CLINIC!

AND MANY A TIME THE DOCTOR OF CRIME MUST OPERATE PERSONALLY! WITNESS A MEMORABLE NIGHT...



HEY, DOC...
THIS IS
RANSON!
WE'RE HAVIN'
A LITTLE TROUBLE
ON DIS JOB! CAN
YA COME
RIGHT OUT?

UNDERSTAND,
AS A REGULAR
DOCTOR'S FEE
GOES UP WHEN
HE GOES OUT ON
CALL, SO DOES
MINE! MY
OPERATION FEE
IS 50%
NOW!

LATER... A VEHICLE SHUDDERS TO A STOP BEFORE A WAREHOUSE! A MAN IN WHITE LEAPS TO THE STREET!

RUBBER WAREHOUSE

CRIPES! IS
DAT YOU, DOC? WHY
DE AMBULANCE AND
DAT GET-UP?

THE AM-
BULANCE IS
FOR A QUICK GET-
AWAY! NO POLICE-
MAN WOULD THINK
OF STOPPING AN
AMBULANCE...

MY SURGICAL
SMOCK IS TO
PREVENT TELL-TALE
STAINS AND
DUST FROM SOIL-
ING MY CLOTHES...
THE RUBBER GLOVES
PREVENT FINGER-
PRINTS AND MY
SURGICAL MASK IS

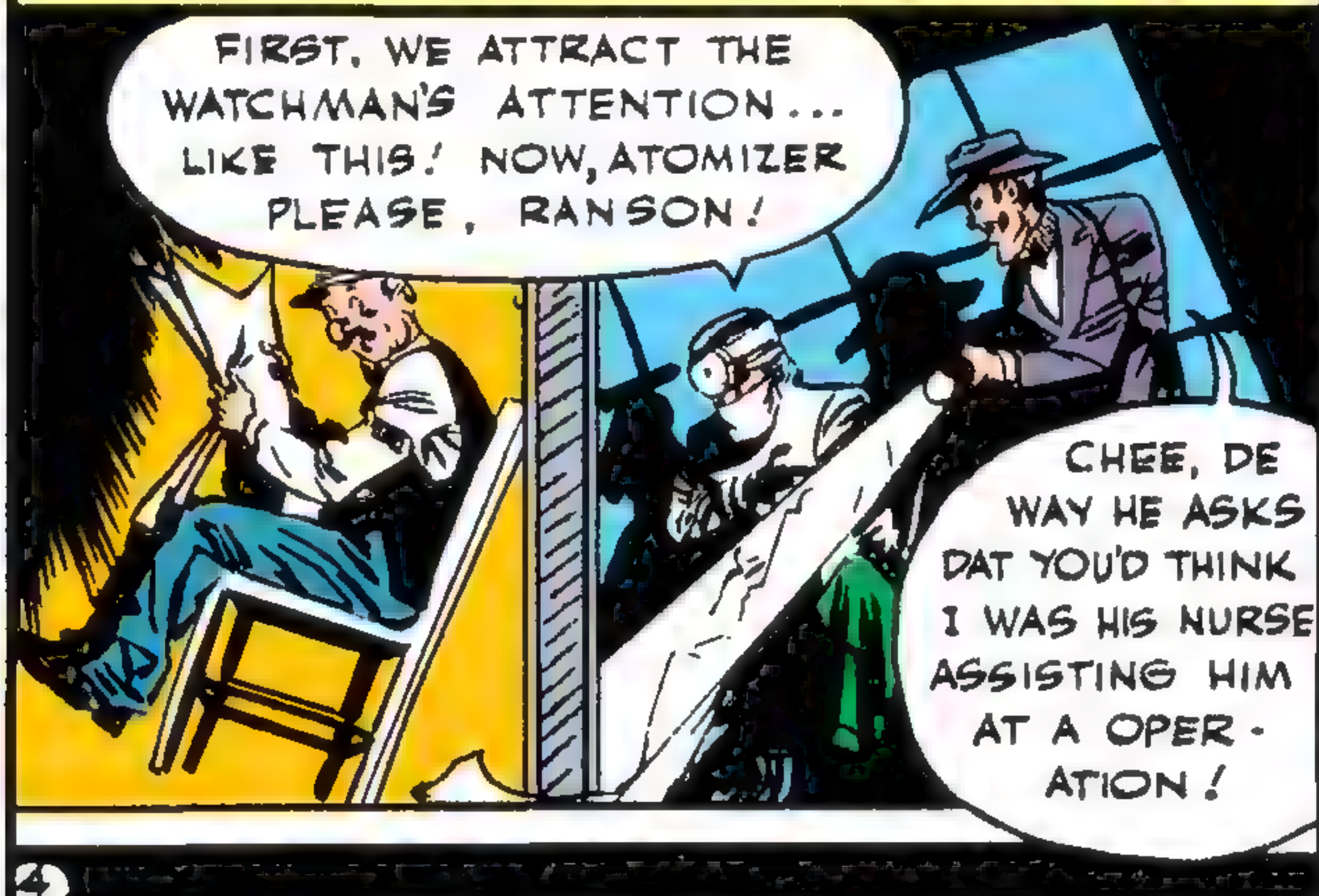
JUST THAT--
A MASK!

THE TROUBLE!

SEE, THAT WATCHMAN
AGAINST THAT DOOR CAN
SPOT US EASY IF WE TRY
TO FORCE THE WINDOW OR
THE DOOR!

HMMM 'WHERE THE
PATIENT IS CONSCIOUS
LIKE THIS, IT'S BEST
TO GIVE AN
ANESTHETIC!

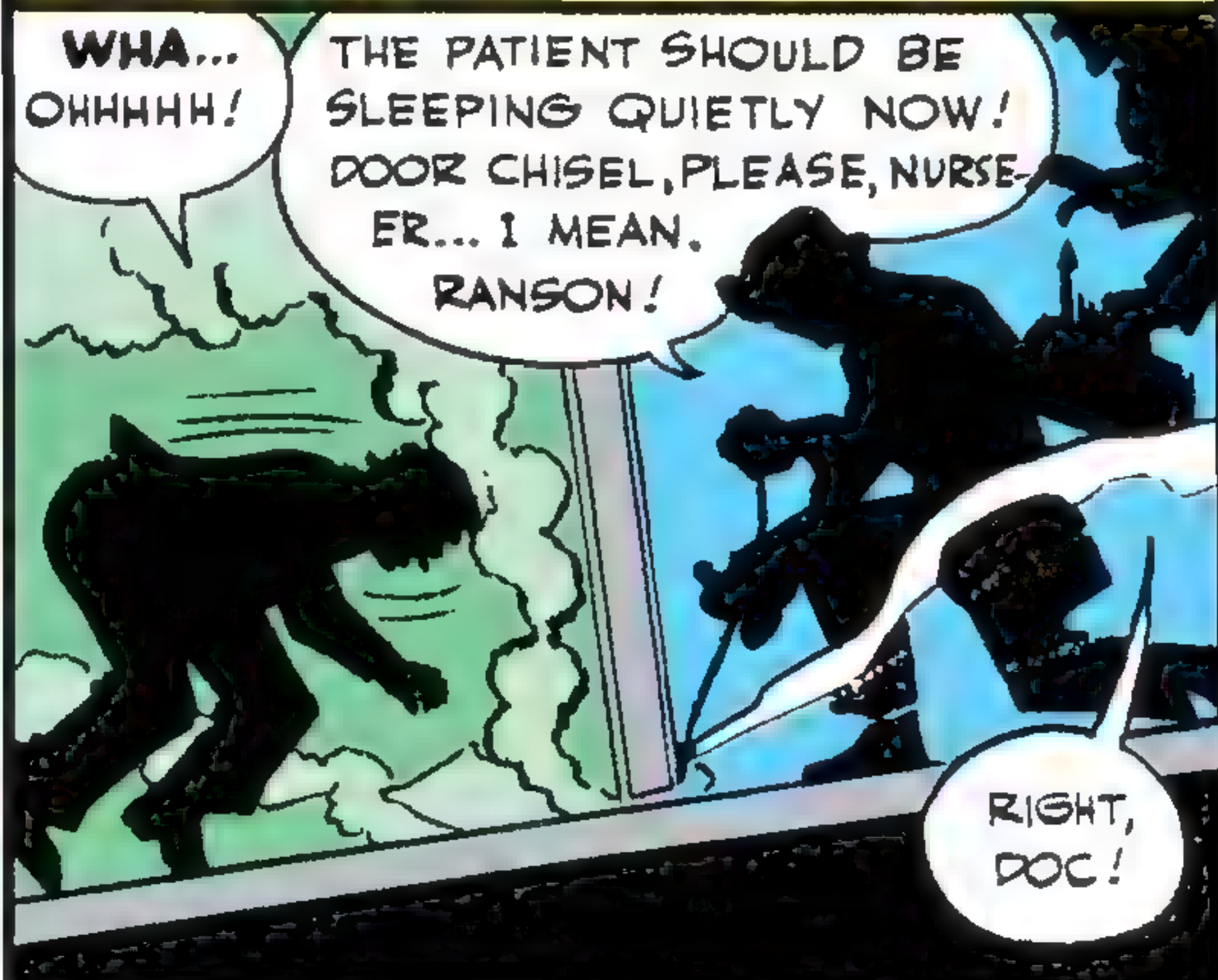
AS METHODICALLY AND SCIENTIFICALLY AS THOUGH HE WERE PERFORMING A MEDICAL OPERATION, THE CRIME DOCTOR BEGINS HIS CRIME OPERATION!



FIRST, WE ATTRACT THE
WATCHMAN'S ATTENTION...
LIKE THIS! NOW, ATOMIZER
PLEASE, RANSON!

CHEE, DE
WAY HE ASKS
DAT YOU'D THINK
I WAS HIS NURSE
ASSISTING HIM
AT A OPER-
ATION!

AS THE CURIOUS WATCHMAN BENDS TOWARD THE PAPER... THE DOCTOR PRESSES THE BULB OF A GAS-FILLED TUBE!



WHA...
OHHHHH!

THE PATIENT SHOULD BE
SLEEPING QUIETLY NOW!
DOOR CHISEL, PLEASE, NURSE-
ER... I MEAN,
RANSON!

RIGHT,
DOC!

MOMENTS PASS! TWO CAPED FIGURES NOW STAND SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE NIGHT SKY AS THEY SURVEY THE STREET BELOW!

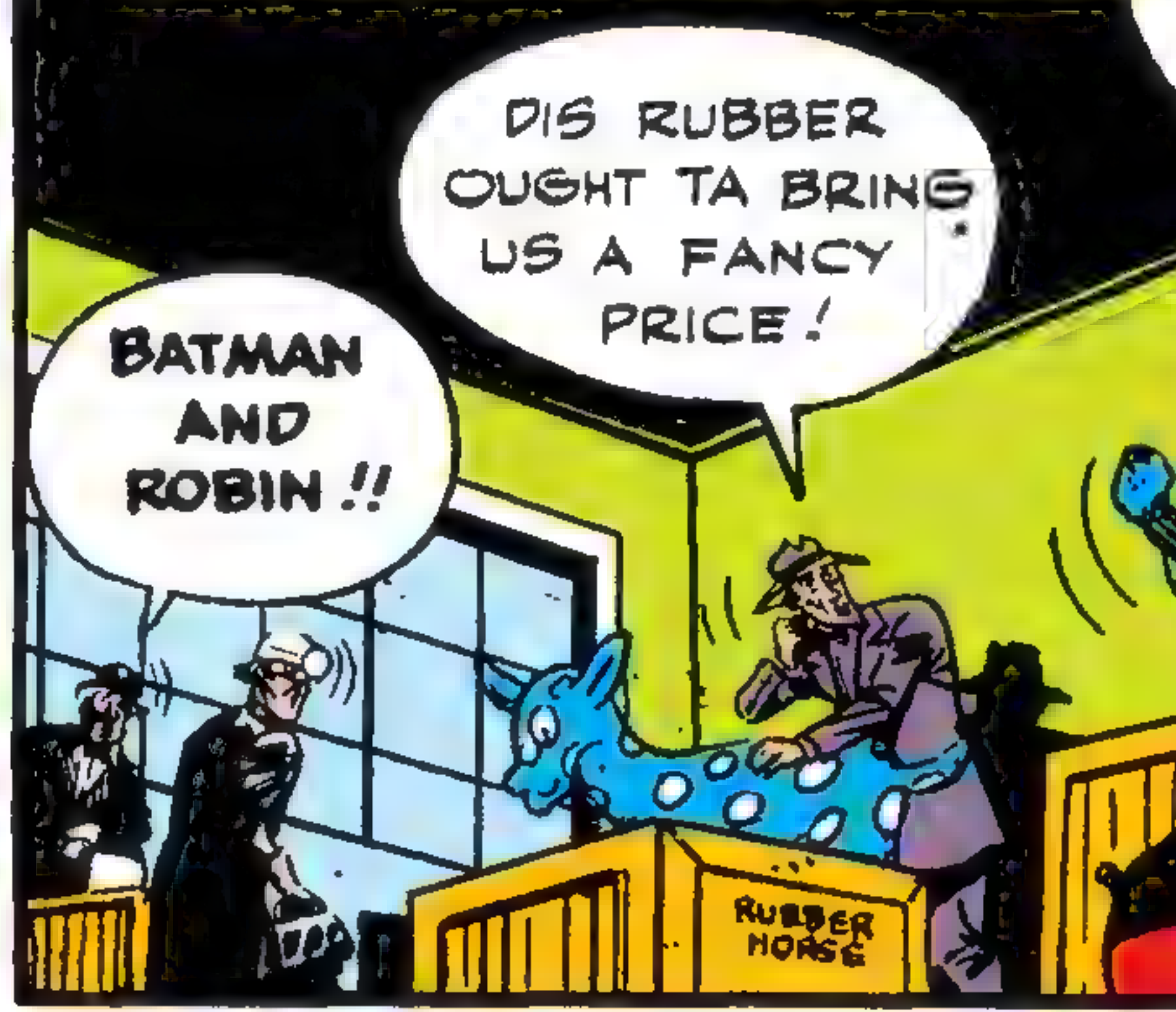


LOOK, BATMAN! AN AMBULANCE IN FRONT OF THAT WAREHOUSE!

THAT'S ODD! PERHAPS THE WATCHMAN TOOK SICK! LET'S TAKE A LOOK!

HERE'S THAT FISTFUL! I ALWAYS KEEP MY PROMISE!

THAT ONE LOOK CONVINCES THE TWO ACE CRIME-CRACKERS THAT NOT THE WATCHMAN NEEDS ATTENTION-- BUT THE PRECIOUS RUBBER STOCK!



BATMAN AND ROBIN !!

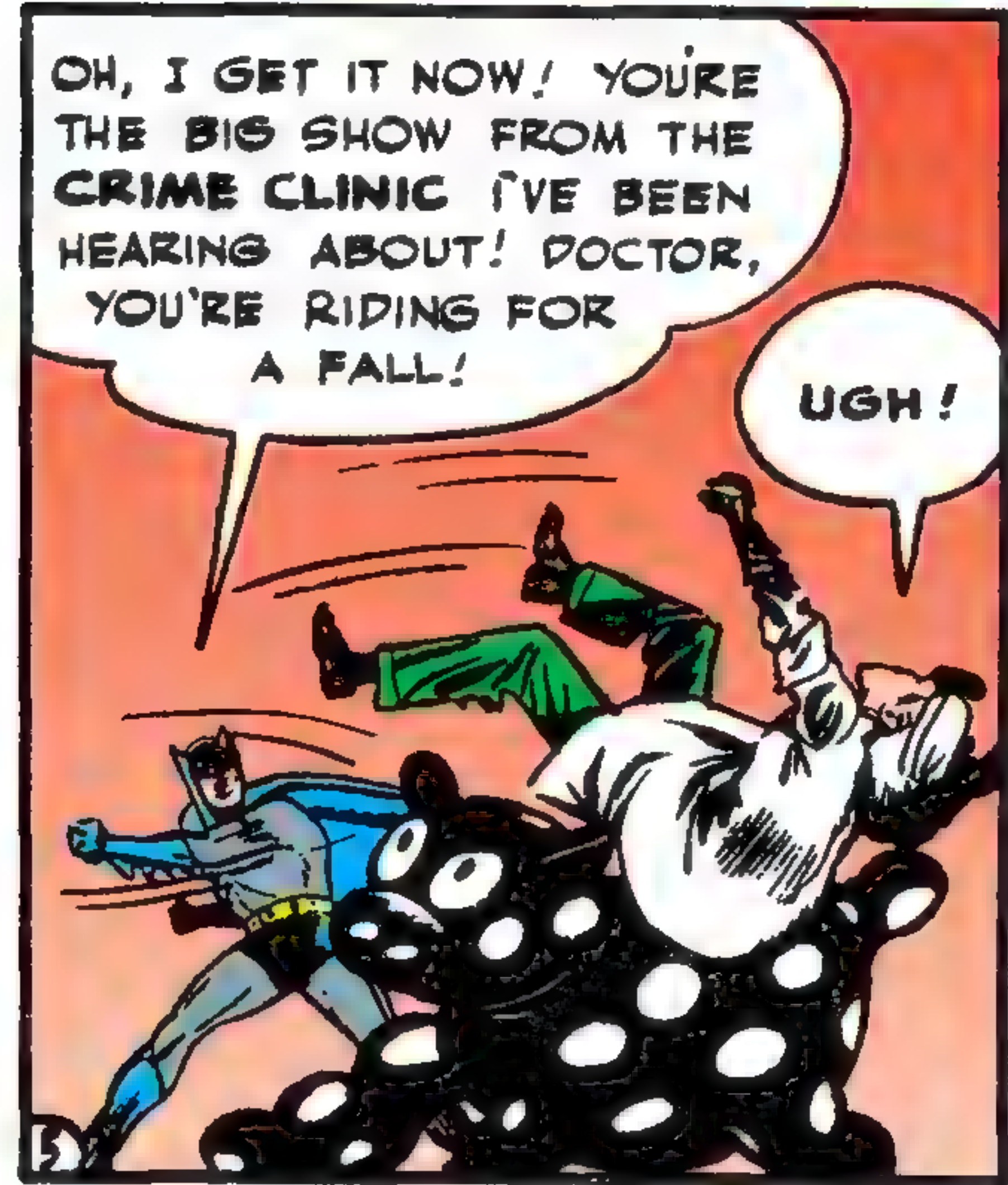
DIS RUBBER OUGHT TA BRING US A FANCY PRICE!

IT WILL ALSO BRING YOU A FISTFUL OF KNUCKLES, RAT!



I'LL DROP THIS KID WITH A SLUG... OOF!

THE DROP-KICK KID, THAT'S ME!



OH, I GET IT NOW! YOU'RE THE BIG SHOW FROM THE CRIME CLINIC I'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT! DOCTOR, YOU'RE RIDING FOR A FALL!

UGH!

THEN ROBIN TAKES ONE EXPLOSIVE LEAP, FOR 45 CALIBRE DEATH SUDDENLY THREATENS THE BATMAN!



I'M GONNA BLAST DE BATMAN'S SPINE LOOSE!

OH-OH!

RIDING THE FULL LENGTH OF THE COAT RACK, **ROBIN** CANNONBALLS INTO THE KILL-CRAZY BANDIT!

BLAM

OOF!

FOR ONE BREATHLESS INSTANT THE DUO STANDS, CAUGHT OFF GUARD, AND THAT'S WHEN THE CRIME-SPECIALIST BRINGS STRATEGY INTO PLAY!

THERE! A MORE PRIMITIVE ANESTHETIC SHOULD TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF THEM!

THE GREAT **BATMAN**! HA! DOC, I'M GONNA MAKE DIS TOUGH GUY **REAL SICK** WID A DOSE O' LEAD POISONING!

NO! I'LL TOLERATE NO KILLINGS! I'M A DOCTOR! A DOCTOR SAVES LIFE, DOESN'T TAKE IT! NOW WE'D BEST GET GOING BEFORE THE POLICE INVESTIGATE THAT SHOOTING!

AS THE CRIME DOCTOR BEGINS HIS GETAWAY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** REVIVE! SWIFTLY ANALYSING THE SITUATION, **BATMAN** DIPS HIS HAND TO HIS UTILITY BELT...

NOVELTY RUBBER

...PRESSES A MICROSCOPIC SWITCH... AND HURLS SOMETHING AT THE RETREATING AMBULANCE!

WHAT DID YOU THROW INTO THE AMBULANCE?

A TINY, LOW POWER **SHORT-WAVE TRANSMITTER** THAT WILL SEND OUT A CONTINUOUS SIGNAL FOR AN HOUR! NOW WE'LL SCOOT HOME AND FOLLOW THAT SIGNAL WITH THE **BAT-MOBILE'S DIRECTION FINDER**!

MINUTES LATER...TWO HUMAN BLOODHOUNDS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, FOLLOW AN INVISIBLE RADIO TRAIL!

BATMAN, THE SIGNAL IS GROWING STRONGER NOW!

DA-DA-DI-DA

THAT MEANS WE'RE GETTING CLOSER TO THE AMBULANCE!

EXCITING MINUTES LATER... THE DUO LOCATES THEIR QUARRY! **BATMAN** HAS MATCHED THE CRIME DOCTOR'S SCIENCE WITH **CRIME-FIGHTING SCIENCE**

THIS IS IT! **MATTHEW THORNE**! SO HE'S THE CRIME CLINIC!

THORNE? SAY, HE'S BIG TIME!

MEANWHILE, DOCTOR THORNE CAREFULLY MARKS A CHART! NO, NOT A FEVER OR BLOOD PRESSURE CHART-- BUT A CRIME CHART!

ALBERT, FOR THE FIRST TIME THE CRIME CLINIC GOES DOWN TO A LOW MARK!

YEAH, BOSS...
I GUESS BATMAN PUTS PLENTY OF PRESSURE ON A GUY!

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN, ALBERT!

GOOD EVENING! WHY, DOCTOR THORNE. YOU LOOK POSITIVELY ILL!

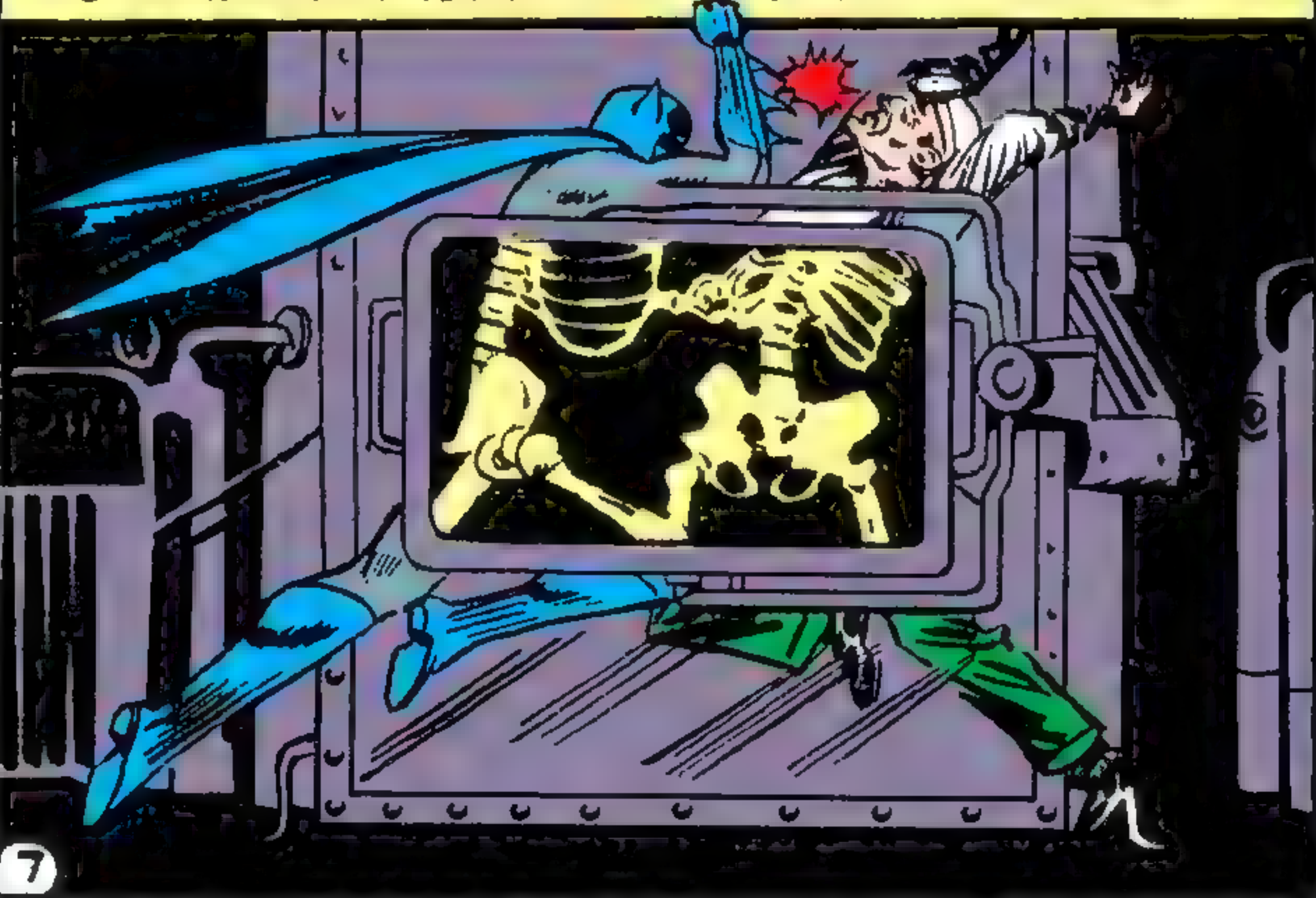


YOU'VE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD! I PRESCRIBE A VACATION FROM CRIME... A LONG VACATION!

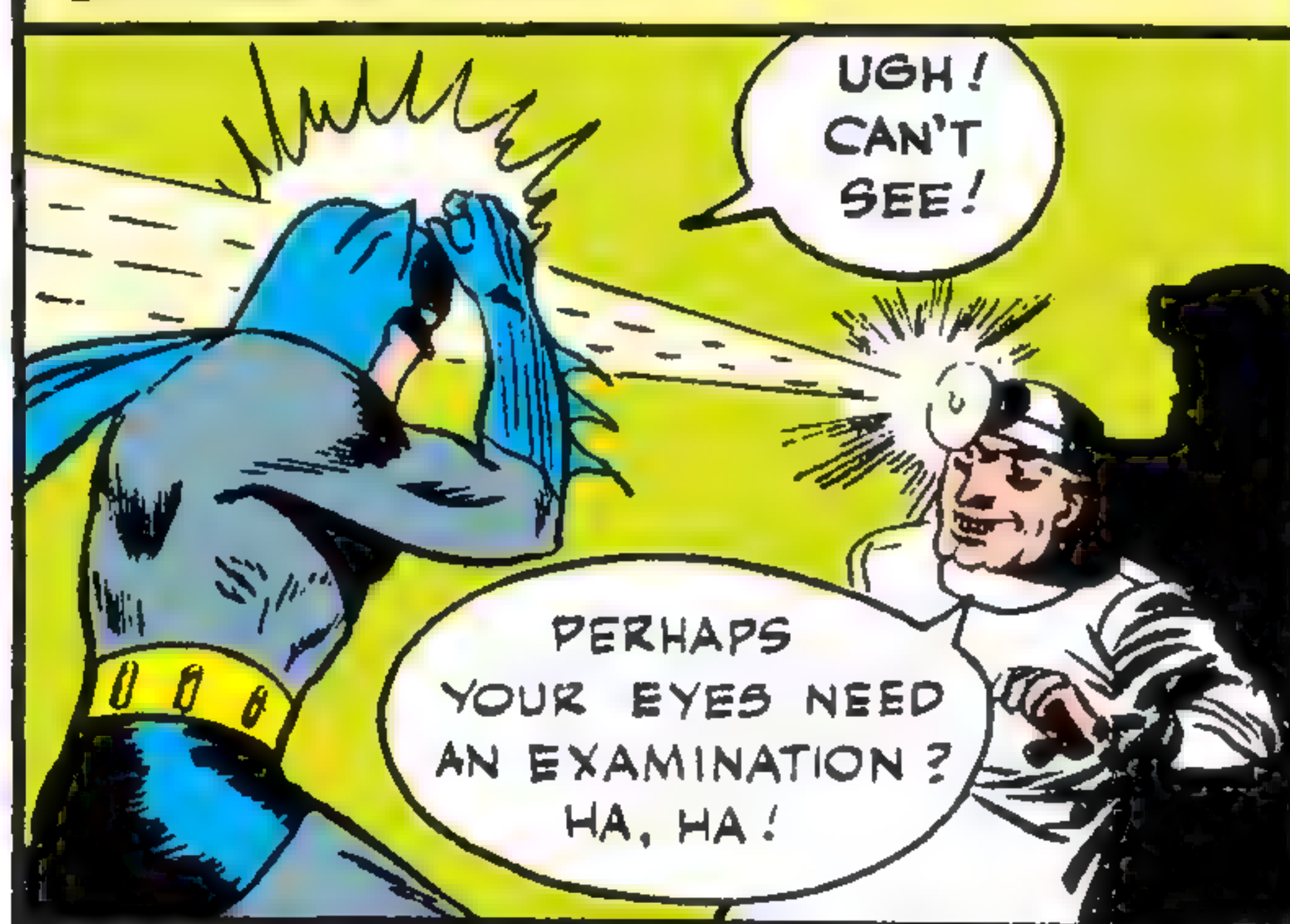


WHY - I COULD ALMOST TAKE YOU FOR BROTHERS!

AGAIN DOCTOR AND BATMAN STALK EACH OTHER, AND BEHIND THE FLUORESCENT X-RAY MACHINE THE TWO CLASH IN A WEIRD AND GHOSTLY BATTLE!



BUT ANOTHER OF THE CRIME SPECIALIST'S STRANGE WEAPONS TURNS THE TIDE! A BLINDING LIGHT BEAM BOUNCES FROM THE HEAD REFLECTOR AND STABS AT BATMAN'S EYES!



UGH! CAN'T SEE!

PERHAPS YOUR EYES NEED AN EXAMINATION? HA, HA!

SWIFTLY, THE DOCTOR OF CRIME SNATCHES HIS ADVANTAGE -- AND A REVOLVER FROM HIS DRAWER!

STOP! BATMAN, I'M A DOCTOR AND DON'T WANT TO KILL - UNLESS I'M FORCED! I'M GOING TO LEAVE NOW...



ABRUPTLY, THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN! A MAN STUMBLES IN...

DOCTOR THORNE... SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO YOU... I'M A SICK MAN... I... OHHHHH...



IT'S THE BANKER, HODGES! I WARNED HIM ABOUT HIS APPENDIX! BATMAN I MUST OPERATE AT ONCE, OR THIS MAN WILL DIE! WILL YOU HELP ME?

OF COURSE!



THEN BEGINS THE STRANGEST OF ALL OPERATIONS! A MAN OF CRIME AND A MAN OF THE LAW CALL A TRUCE... IN ORDER TO SAVE ANOTHER'S LIFE!

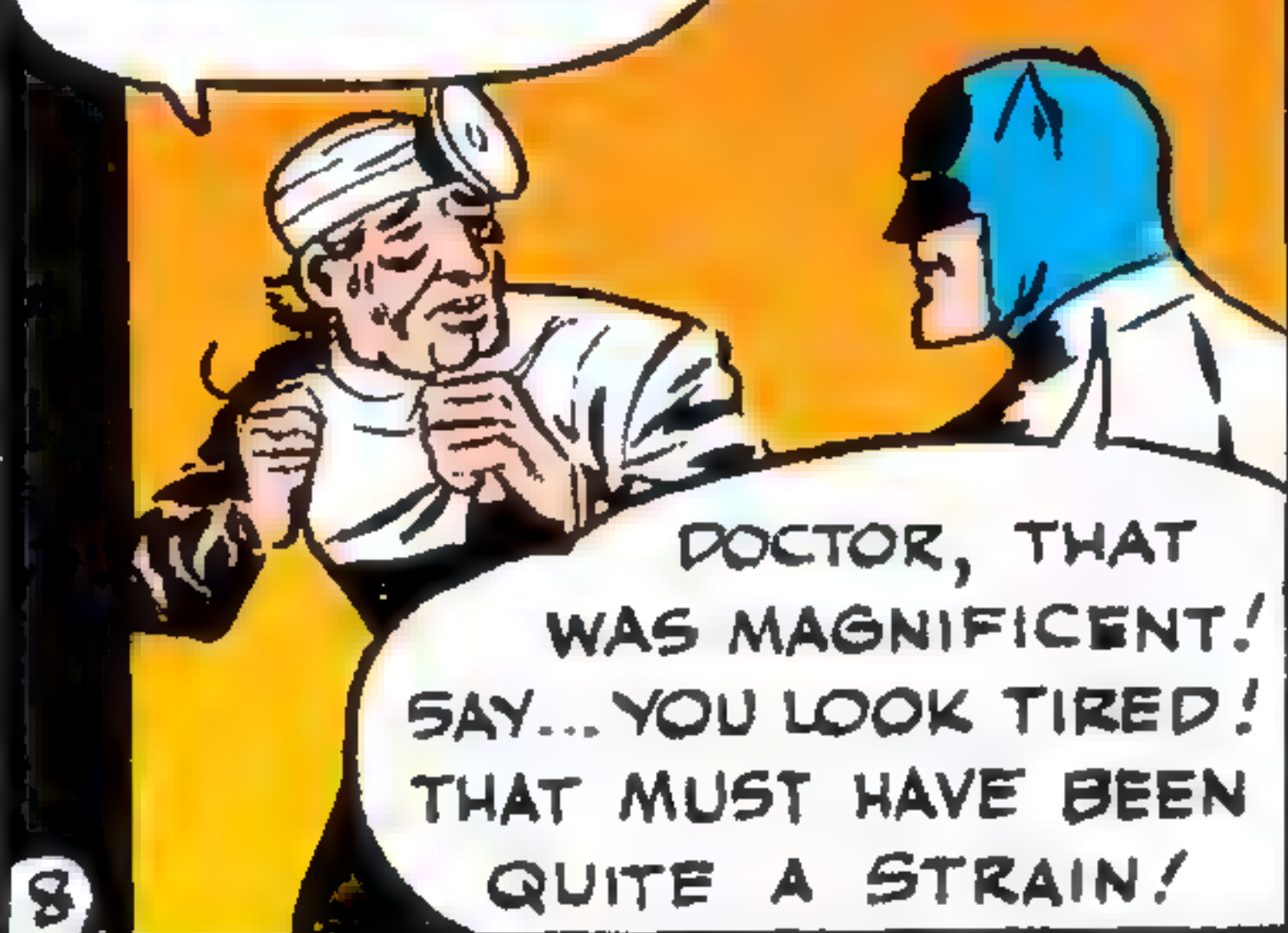
SCISSORS, PLEASE!



TIME TICKS AWAY SLOWLY!... INSTRUMENTS... ADRENALIN... OXYGEN! THE BELLOWS EXPAND AND CONTRACT WITH NORMAL RHYTHM! MEDICAL SCIENCE HAS PERFORMED ANOTHER MIRACLE!

THERE! DONE! HE'LL LIVE!

DOCTOR, THAT WAS MAGNIFICENT! SAY... YOU LOOK TIRED! THAT MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE A STRAIN!



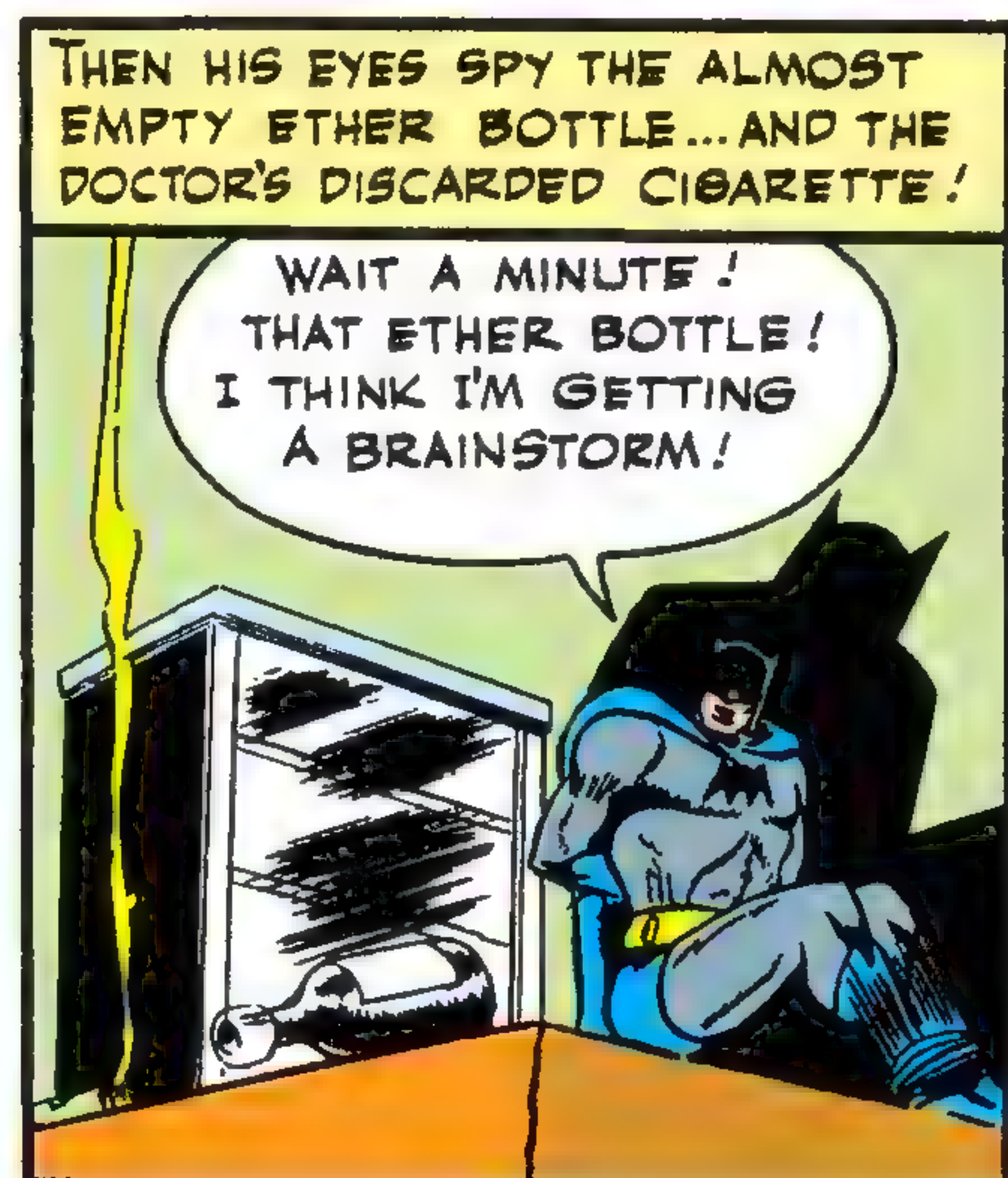
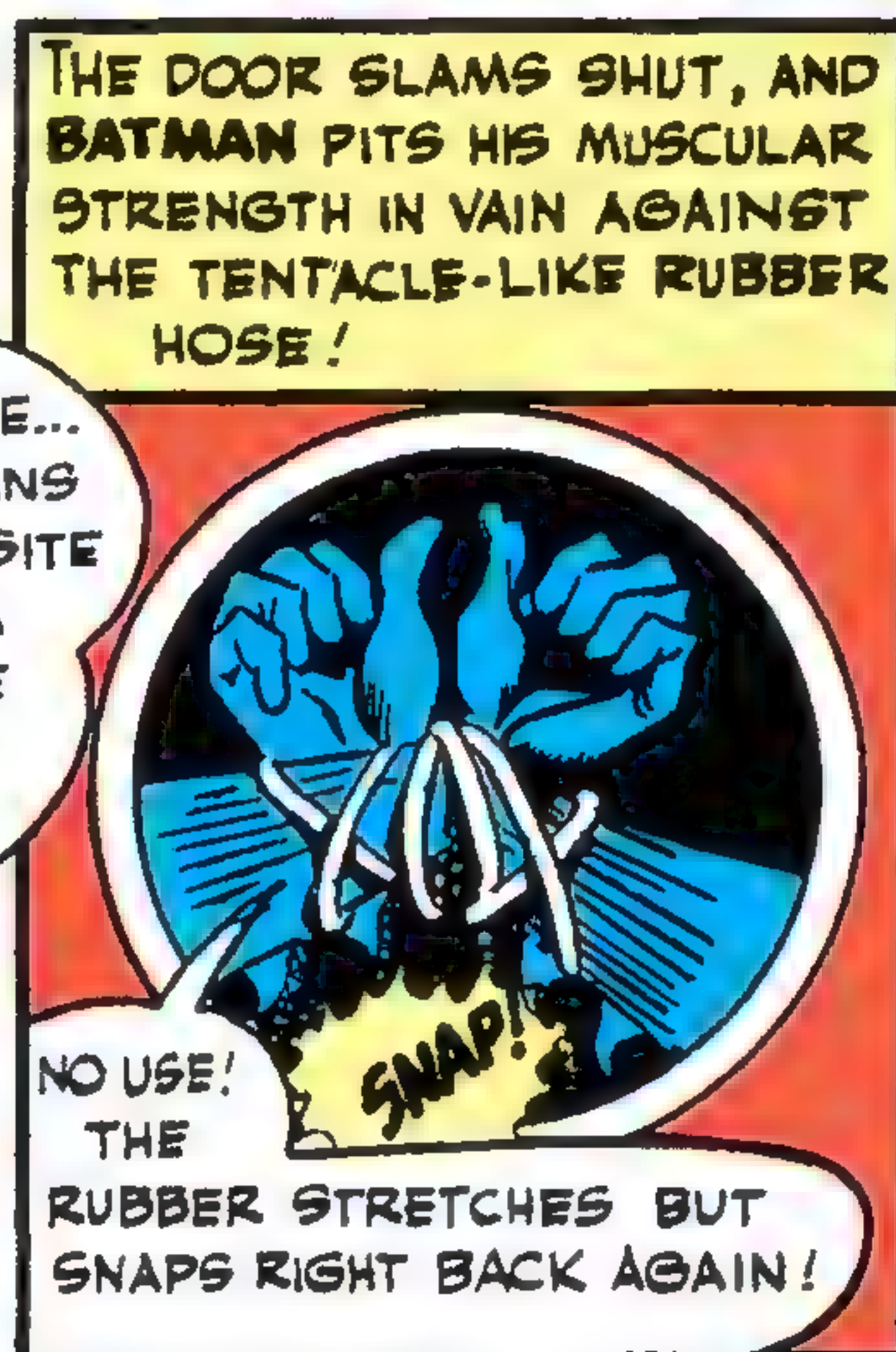
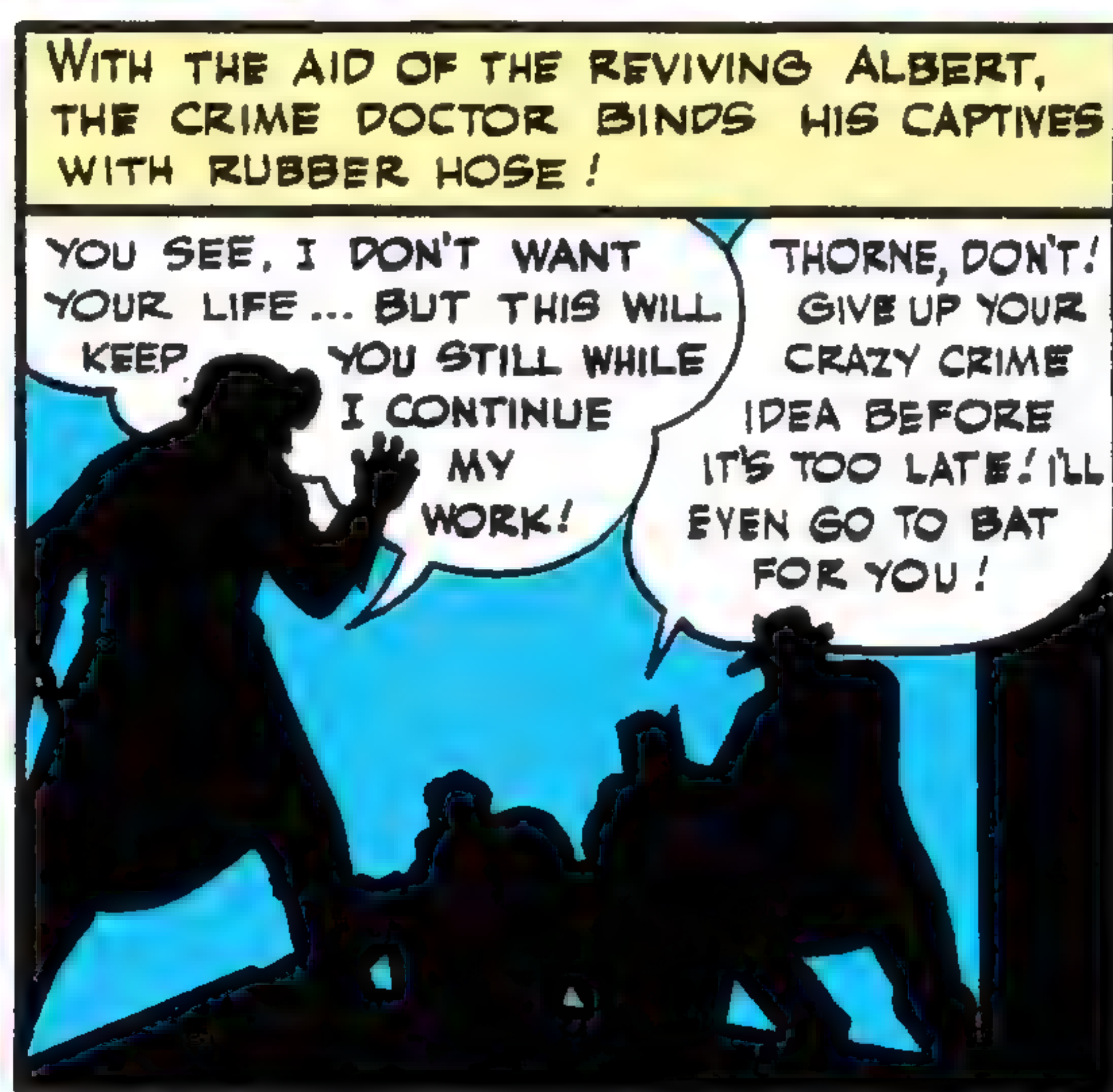
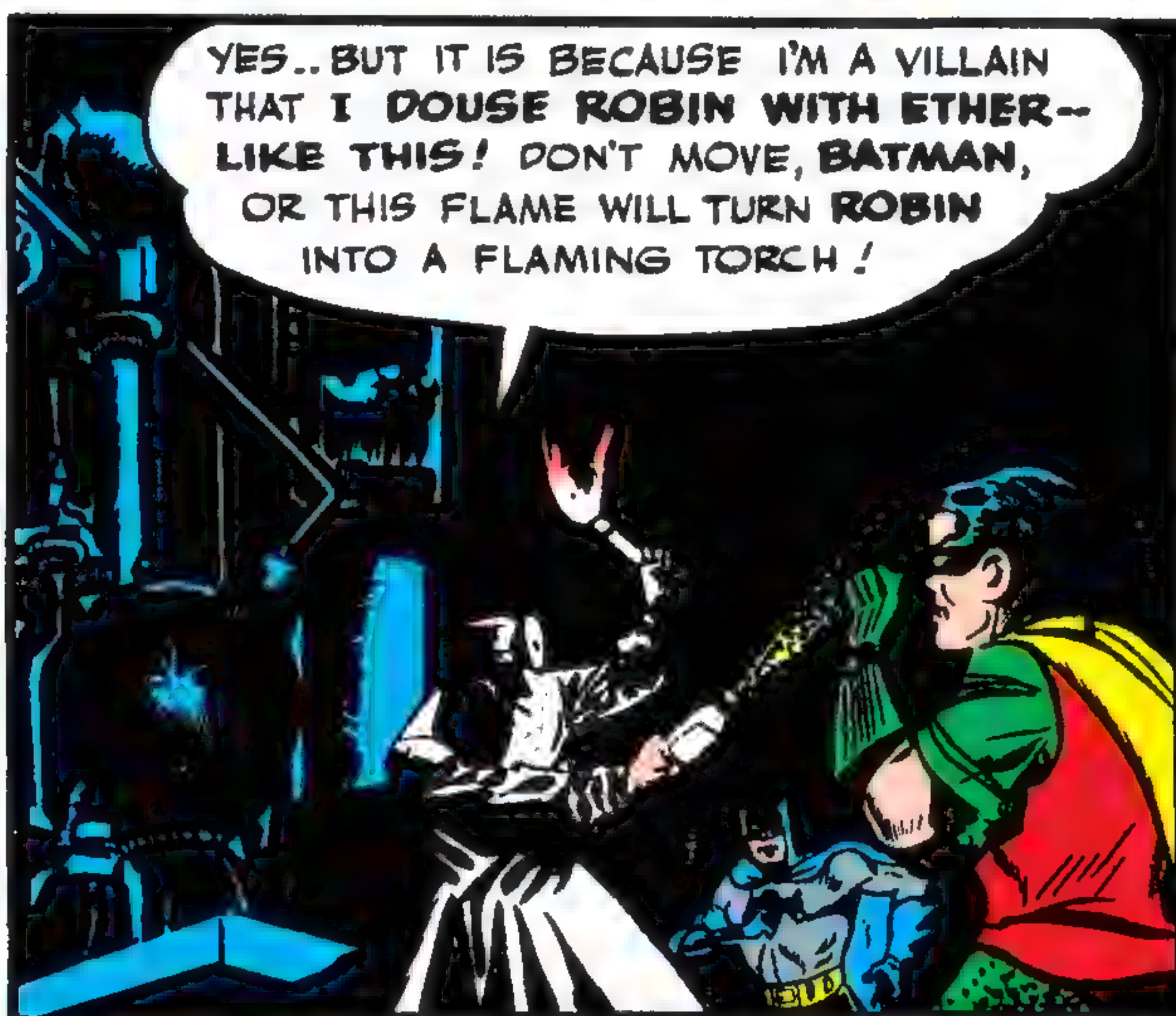
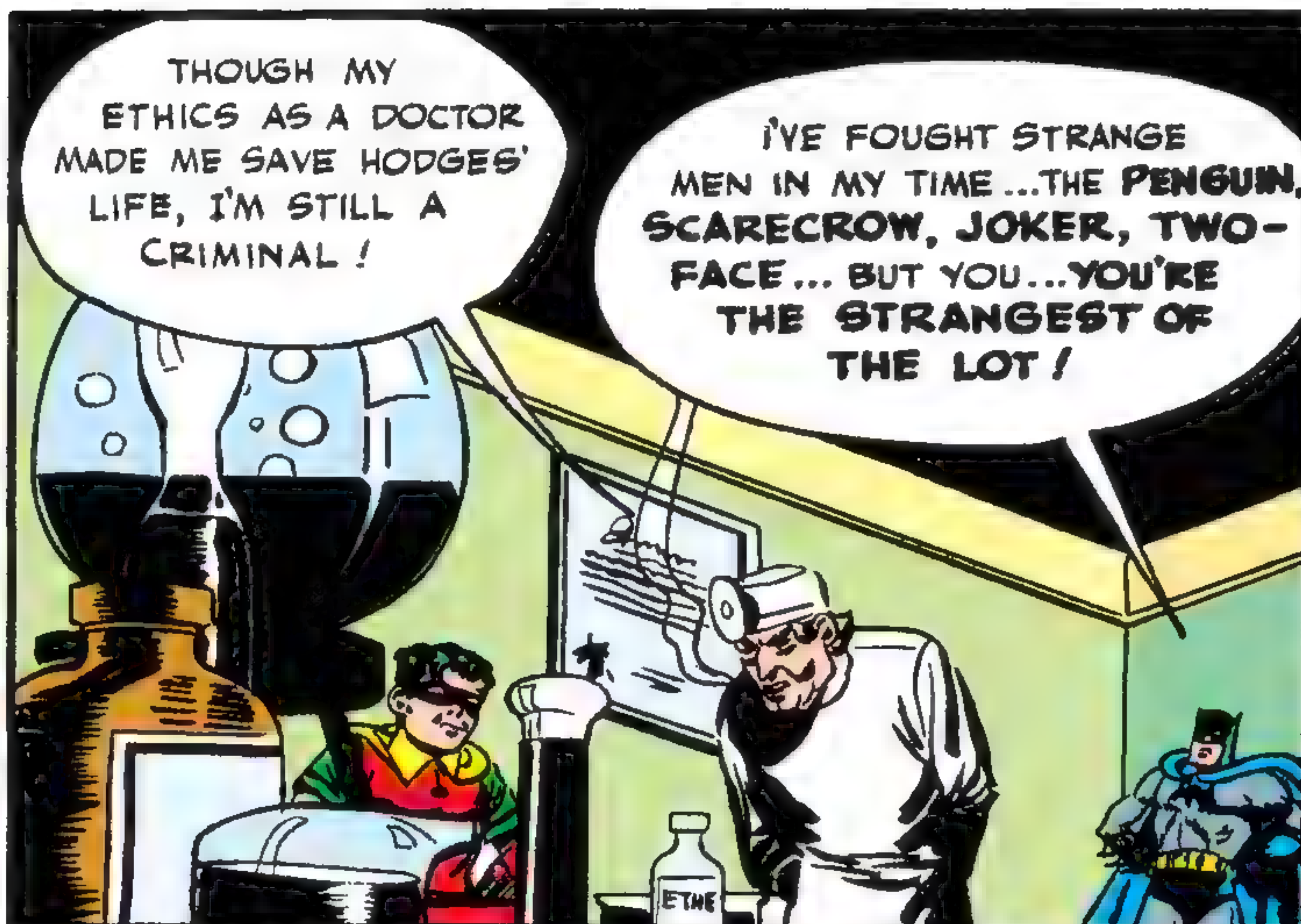
HMPH! A BRILLIANT SURGEON LIKE YOU, STOOPING TO CRIME! YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO SAVE YOURSELF, YET YOU STAY TO OPERATE ON A MAN! I CAN'T FIGURE YOU OUT!

IT'S QUITE SIMPLE REALLY... I'M A DOCTOR!



I LOVE SURGERY... YET CRIME EXCITES ME! IT'S LIKE A DRUG INSIDE MY BODY! I CAN'T HELP IT... BUT I ENJOY ACTING CRIMINALLY!





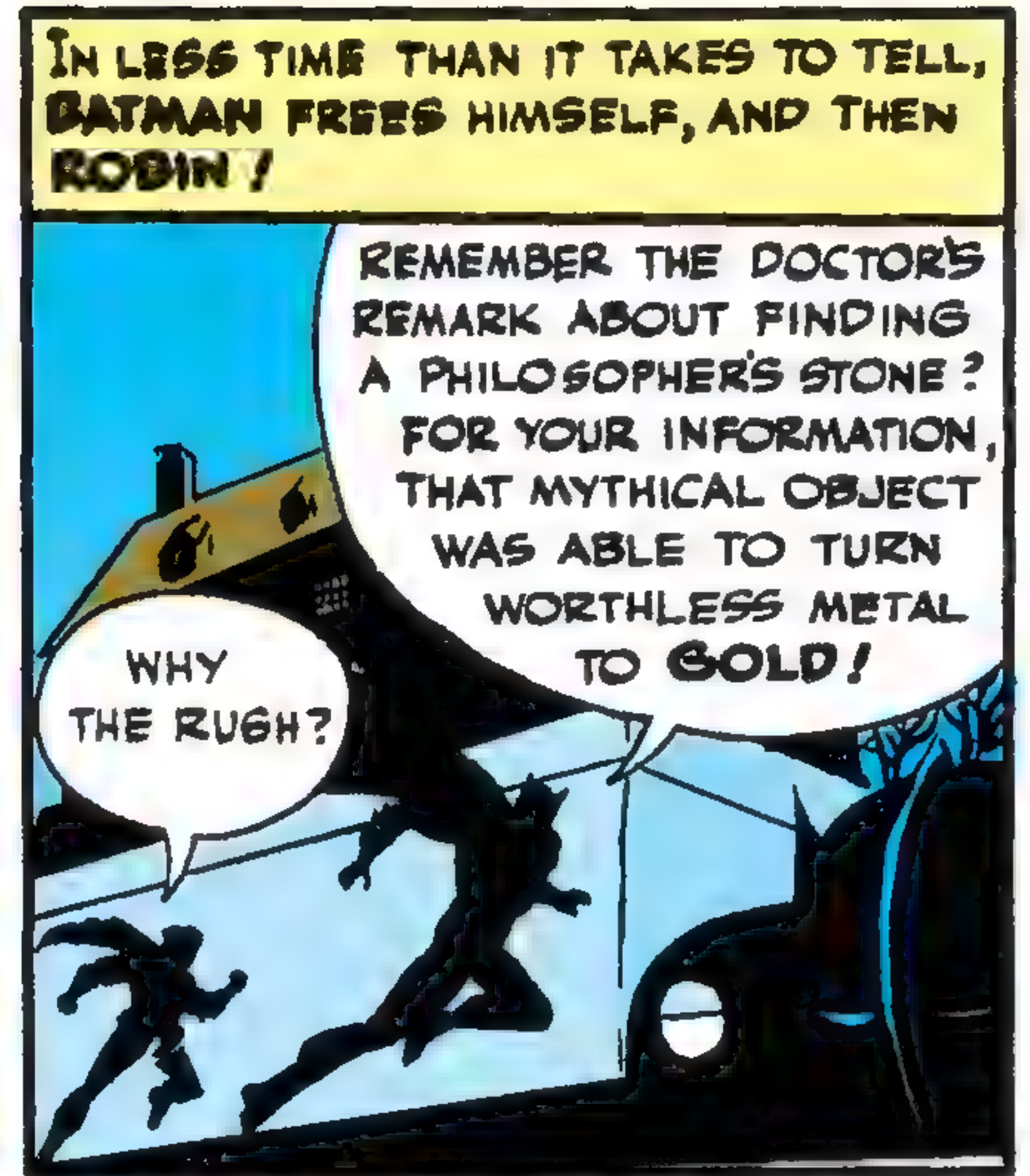


ROBIN,
I THINK THIS
IS GOING TO
WORK!



THE ETHER STRIKES THE BURN-
ING CIGARETTE! A SUDDEN
WHOOSH... AND FLAME!

GOOD THING I REMEMBERED
THAT HEAT MAKES RUBBER
BRITTLE! SHOULD BE
EASY TO BREAK
NOW!



IN LESS TIME THAN IT TAKES TO TELL,
BATMAN FREES HIMSELF, AND THEN
ROBIN!

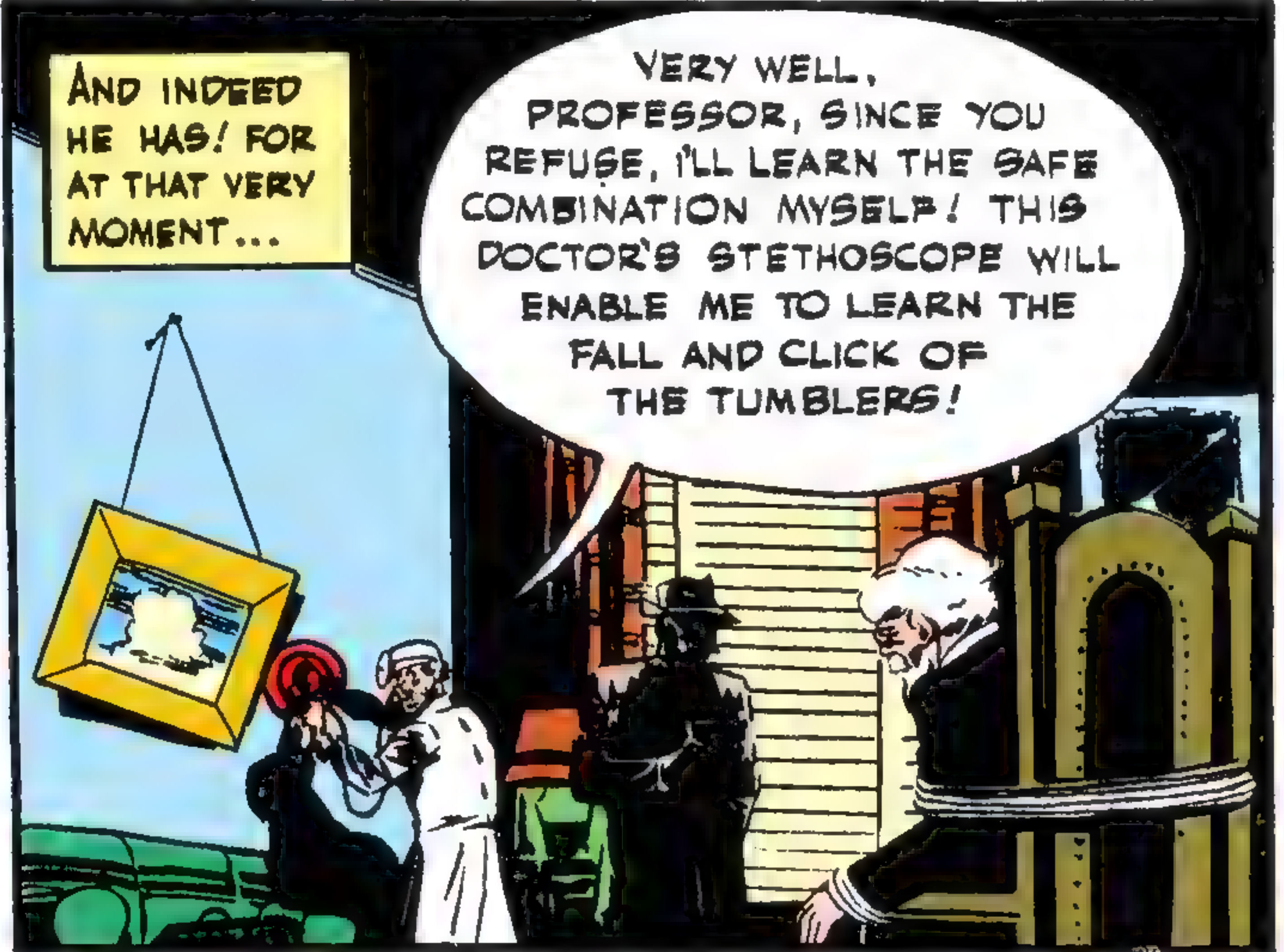
REMEMBER THE DOCTOR'S
REMARK ABOUT FINDING
A PHILOSOPHER'S STONE?
FOR YOUR INFORMATION,
THAT MYTHICAL OBJECT
WAS ABLE TO TURN
WORTHLESS METAL
TO GOLD!

WHY
THE RUGH?



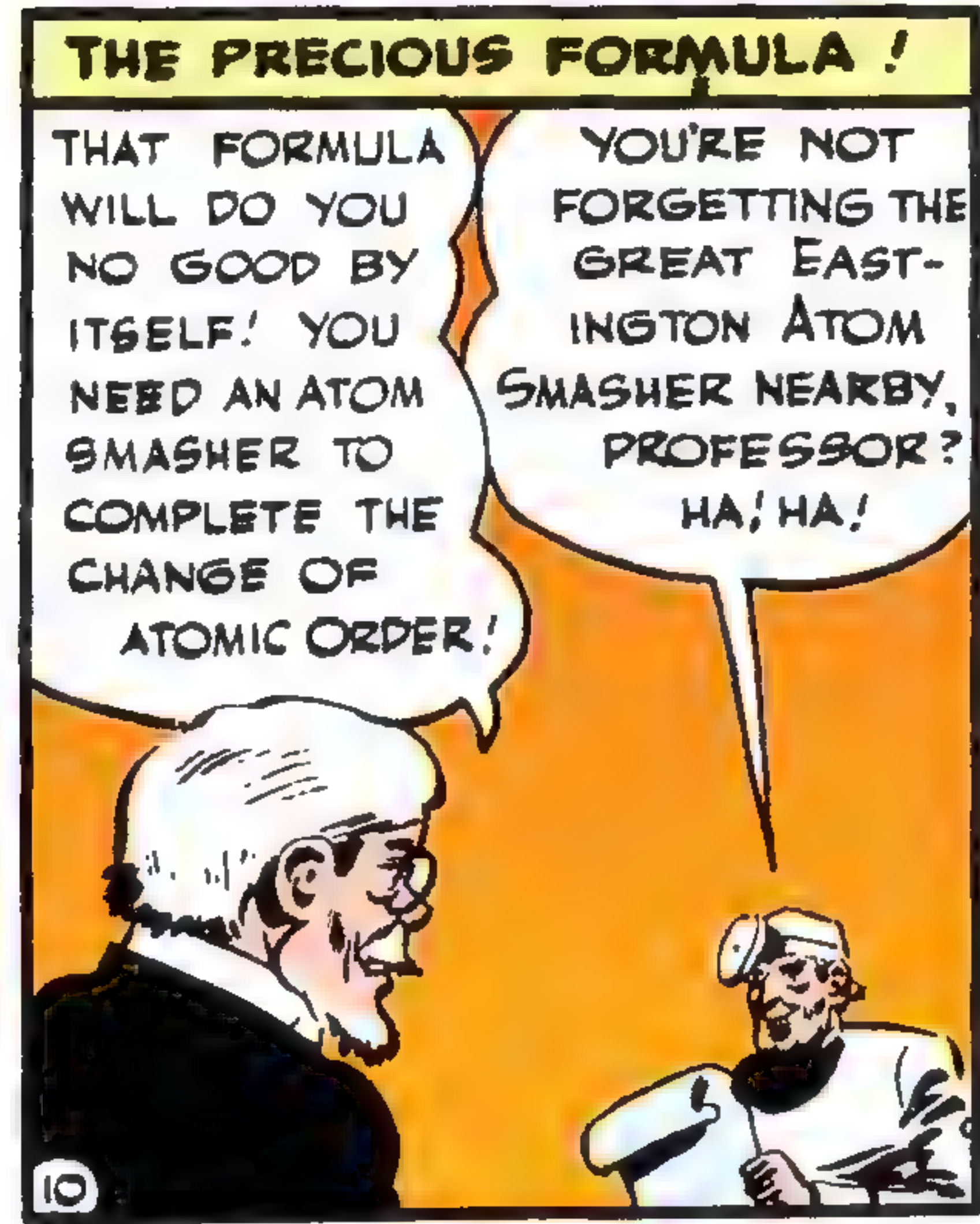
SO
WHAT?

SO YESTERDAY
THE NEWSPAPERS
TOLD OF A PROFESSOR
DISCOVERING A WAY TO
CHANGE THE ATOMIC
ORDER OF OBJECTS. IF
THAT'S POSSIBLE, A MAN
CAN MAKE GOLD! I'VE
A HUNCH THE DOC'S
GONE TO THAT PRO-
FESSOR'S HOME!



AND INDEED
HE HAS! FOR
AT THAT VERY
MOMENT...

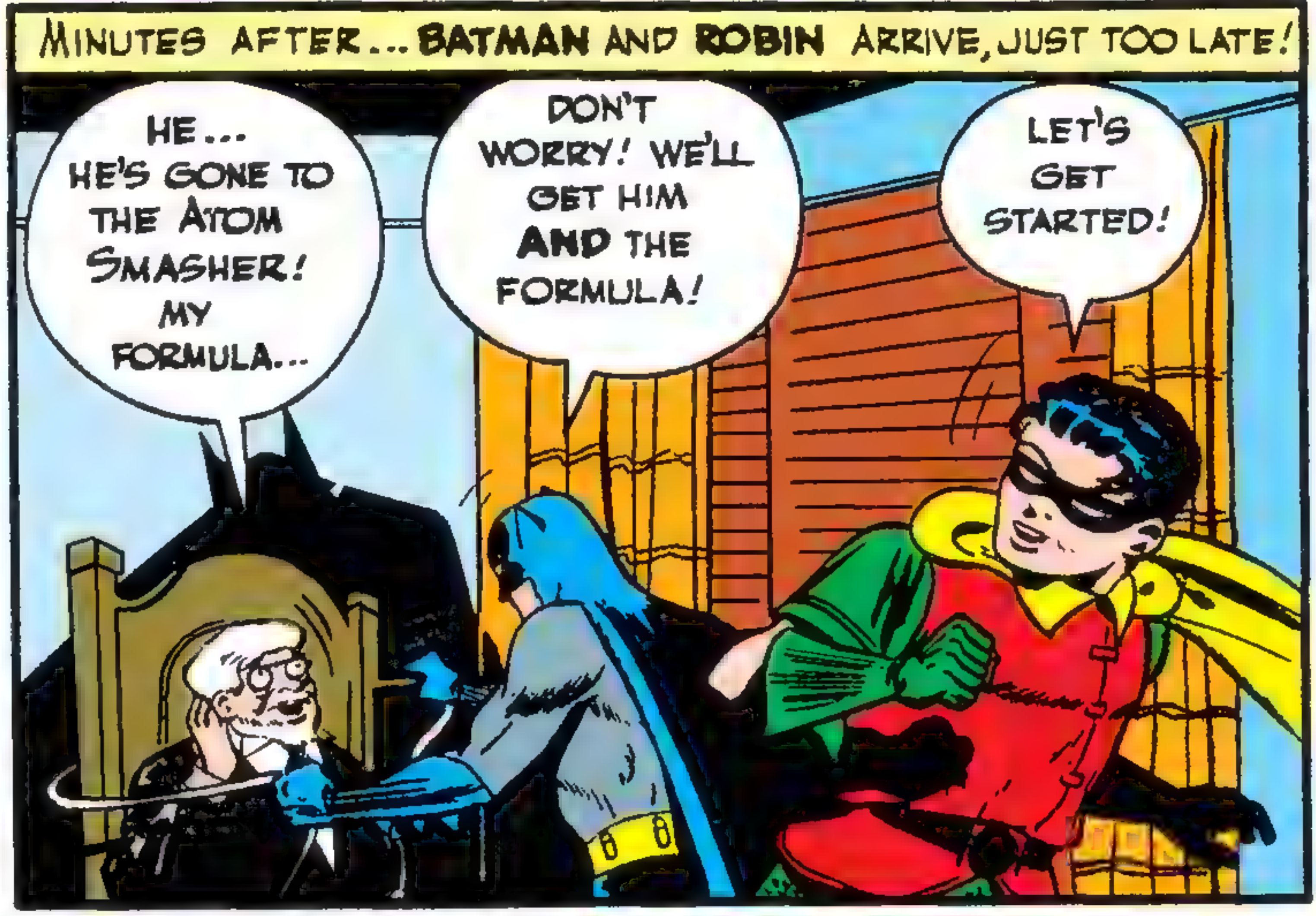
VERY WELL,
PROFESSOR, SINCE YOU
REFUSE, I'LL LEARN THE SAFE
COMBINATION MYSELF! THIS
DOCTOR'S STETHOSCOPE WILL
ENABLE ME TO LEARN THE
FALL AND CLICK OF
THE TUMBLERS!



THE PRECIOUS FORMULA!

THAT FORMULA
WILL DO YOU
NO GOOD BY
ITSELF! YOU
NEED AN ATOM
SMASHER TO
COMPLETE THE
CHANGE OF
ATOMIC ORDER!

YOU'RE NOT
FORGETTING THE
GREAT EAST-
INGTON ATOM
SMASHER NEARBY,
PROFESSOR?
HA! HA!



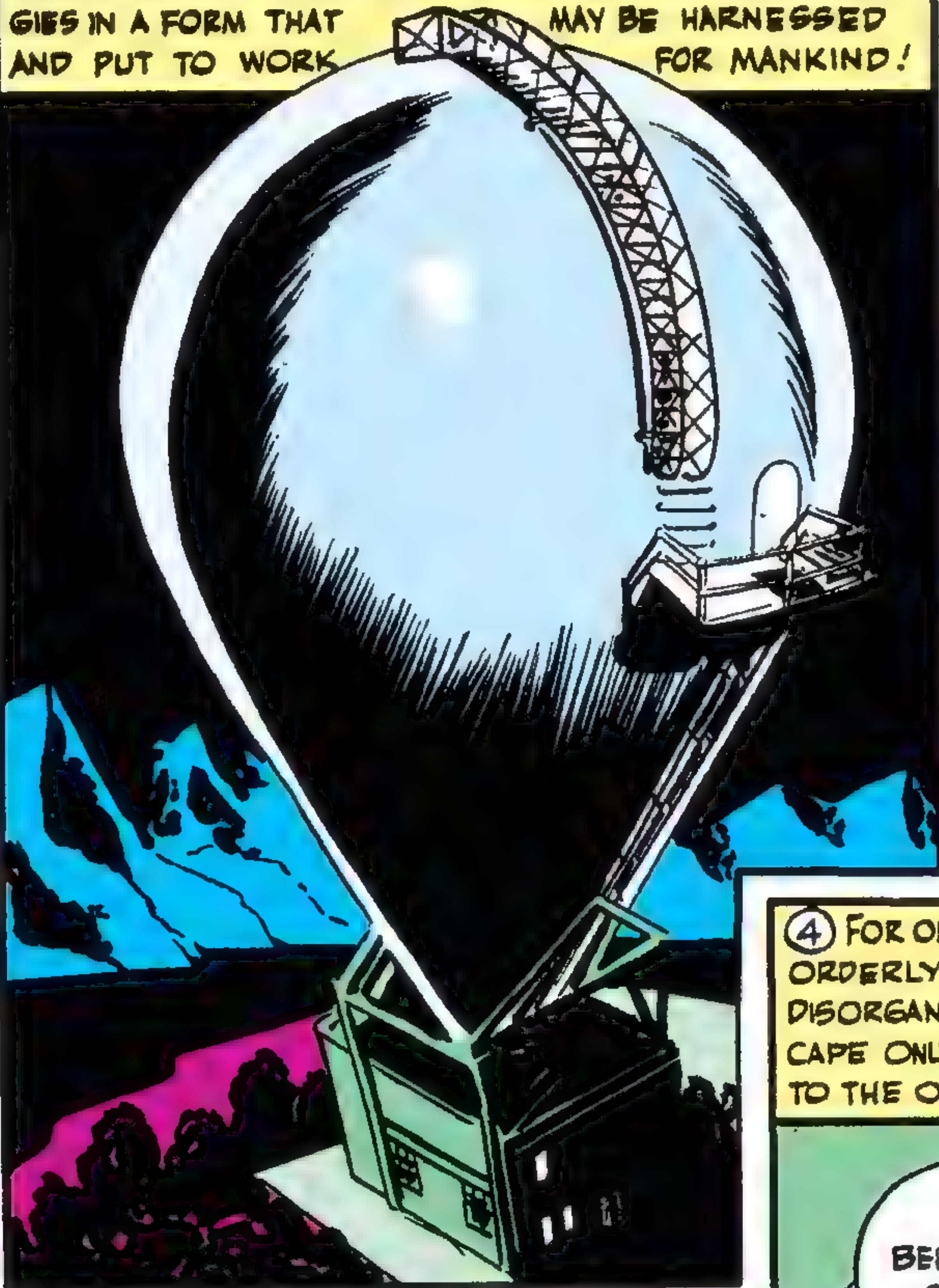
MINUTES AFTER... BATMAN AND ROBIN ARRIVE, JUST TOO LATE!

HE...
HE'S GONE TO
THE ATOM
SMASHER!
MY
FORMULA...

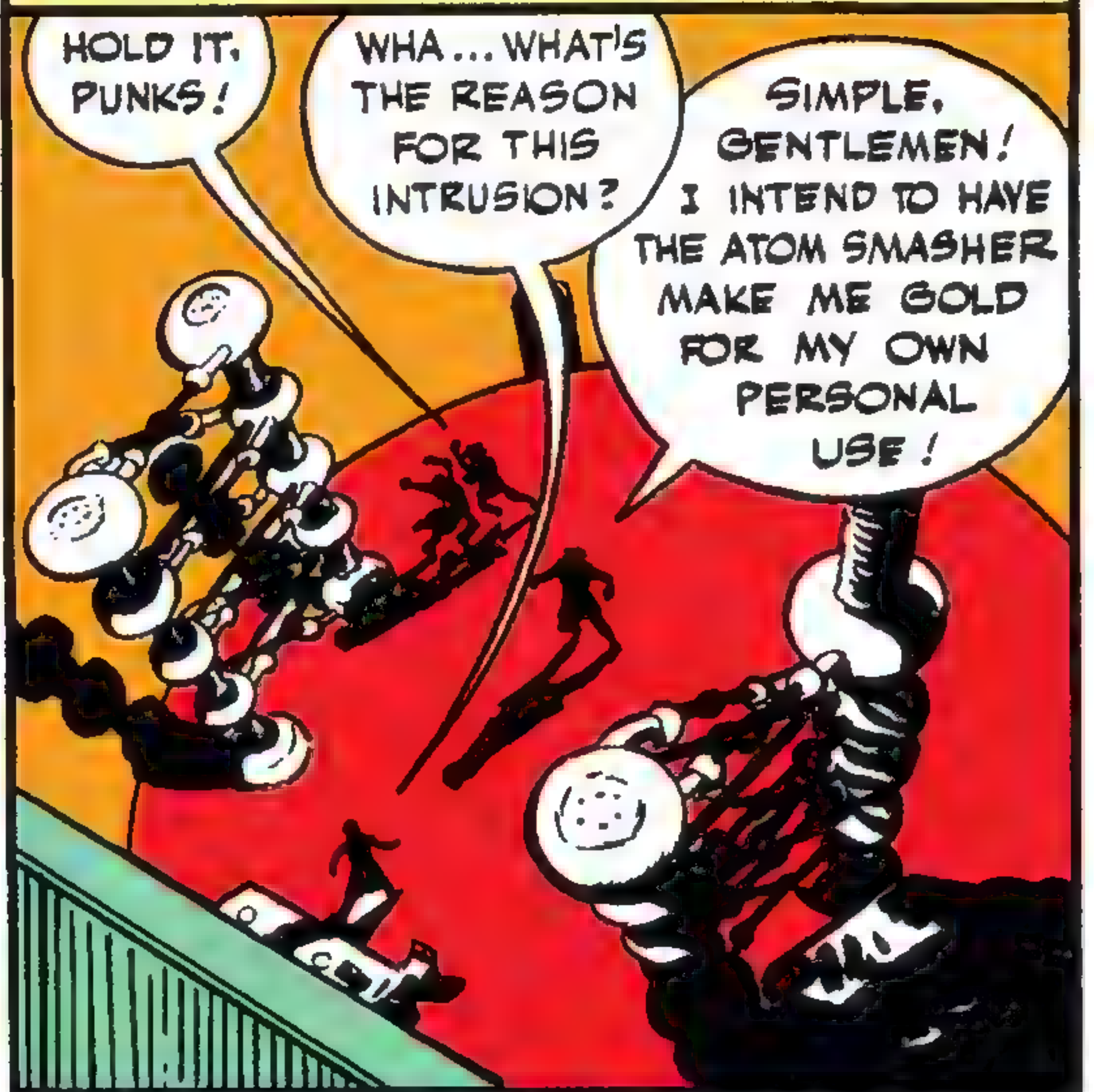
DON'T
WORRY! WE'LL
GET HIM
AND THE
FORMULA!

LET'S
GET
STARTED!

① THE MAMMOTH ATOM SMASHER VACUUM TUBE... WHERE SCIENCE HOPES TO RELEASE THE ATOM'S VAST ENERGIES IN A FORM THAT MAY BE HARNESSSED AND PUT TO WORK FOR MANKIND!



② INSIDE... UNDER THE HUGE ELECTRODE TOWERS, COME TWO UNWELCOME VISITORS!



④ FOR ONCE THE CRIME DOCTOR'S ORDERLY, SCIENTIFIC MIND IS DISORGANIZED! HIS HASTE TO ESCAPE ONLY LEADS TO THE DOOR TO THE OUTSIDE TUBE-STAIRS!



⑤ GAINING THE BALCONY FIRST, THORNE GRIMLY DRIVES HIS FOOT STRAIGHT DOWN AT BATMAN'S FACE...



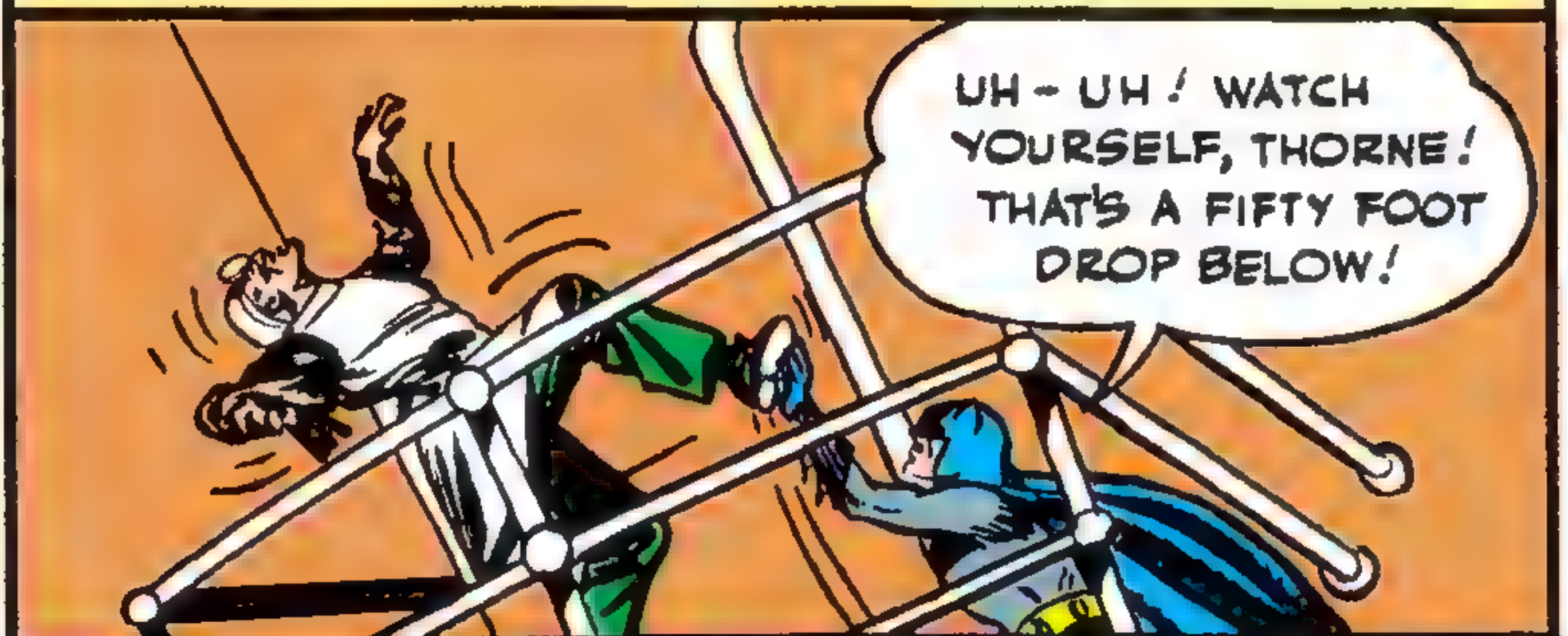
③ SORRY, DOCTOR, BUT I THINK THERE IS GOING TO BE A CHANGE IN YOUR PLANS!

BATMAN! BUT HOW...??

BE GOOD, ALBERT, AND I'LL ONLY HAVE TO HIT YOU ONCE!



⑥ BUT ANTICIPATING SUCH A MOVE, BATMAN SEIZES THE FOOT -- AND PUSHES BACK, HARD!

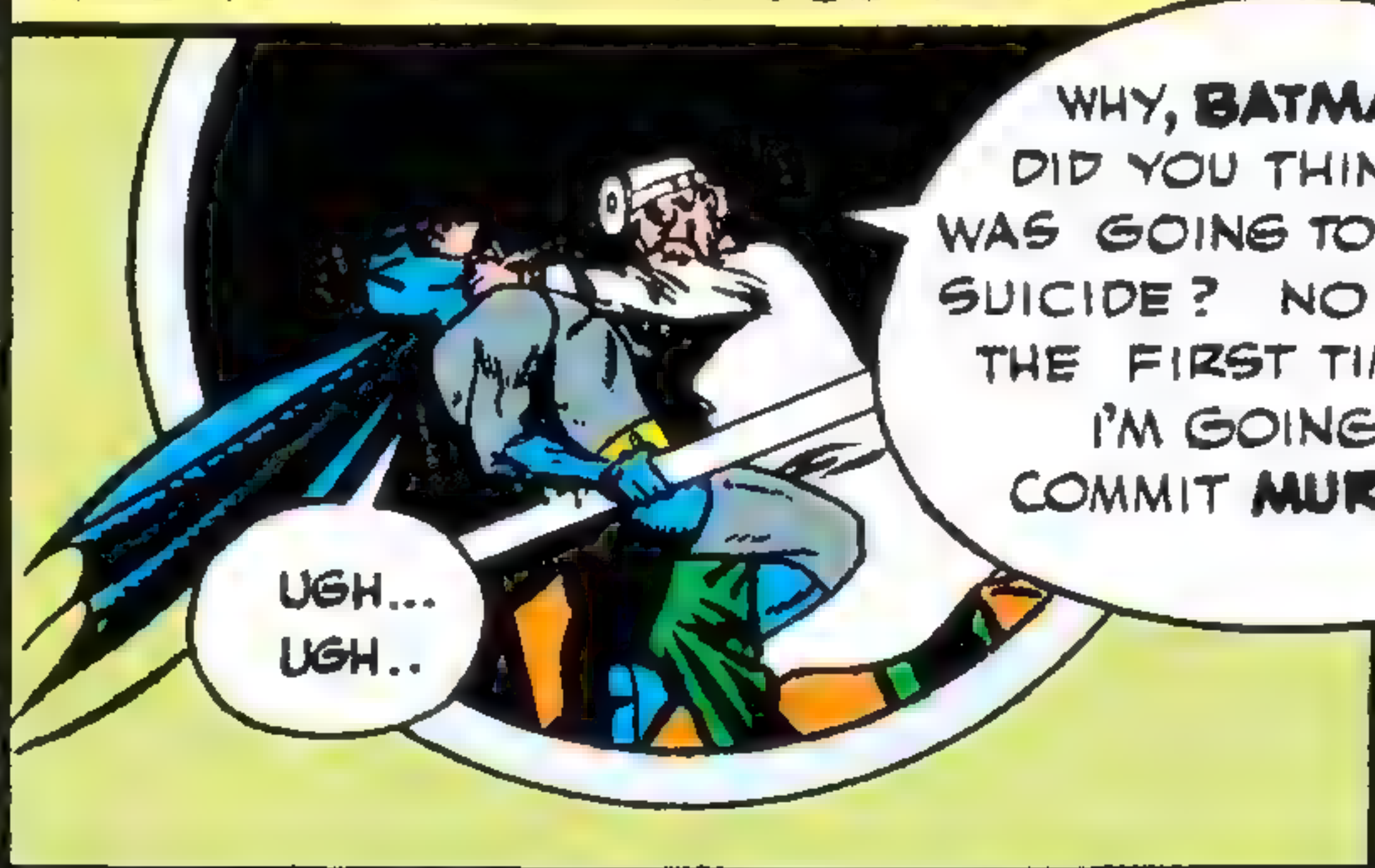


① LIKE A TIGER, THORNE POUNCES ON THE BATMAN, BUT THE LAWMAN'S IRON FISTS HAMMER HIM BACK... BACK!



SORRY, DOC... BUT I'M TAKING YOU IN!

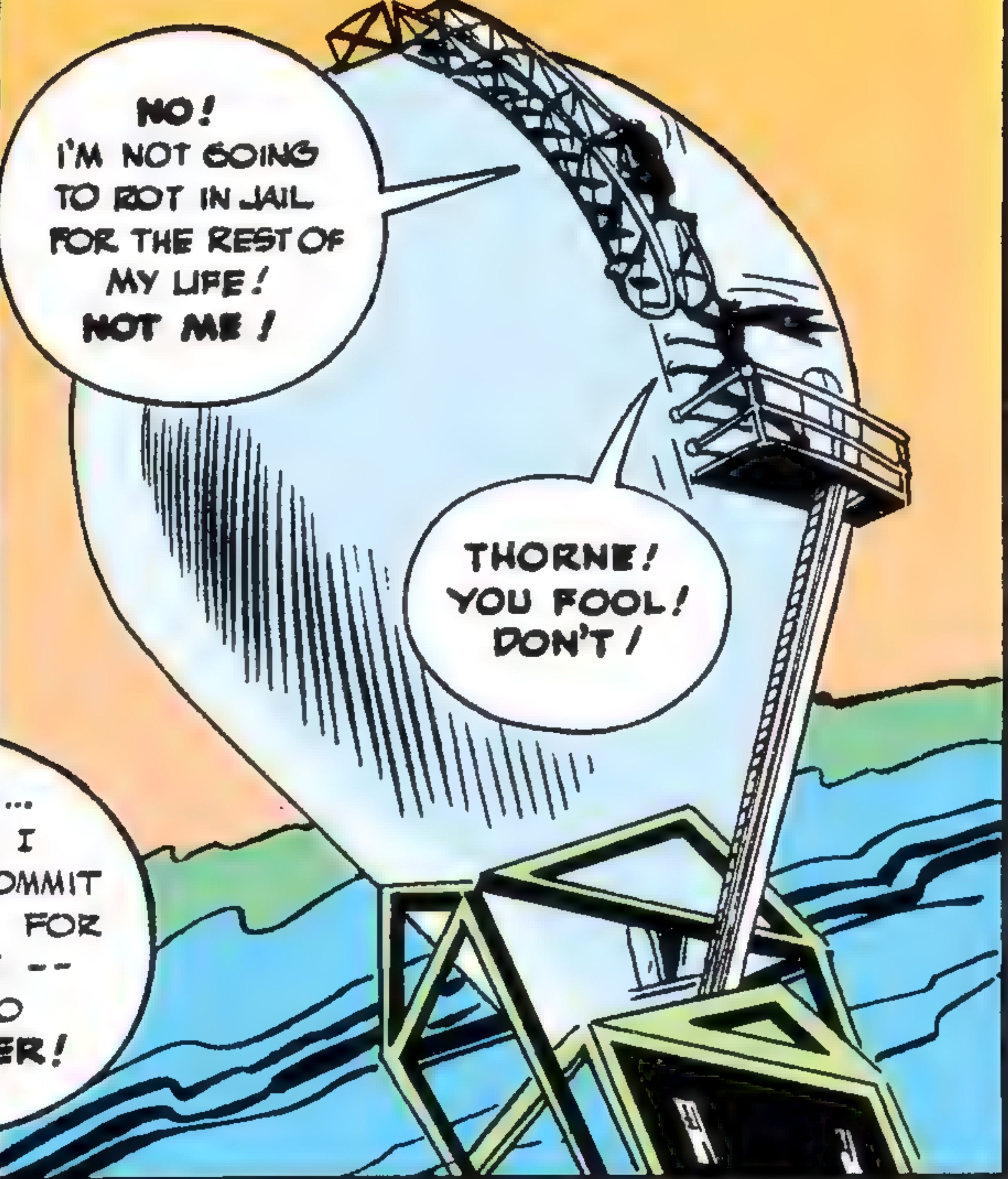
③ BUT HIGH ON THE FIFTY-FOOT TOWER, THORNE WHEELS SHARPLY! HIS MUSCULAR, SURGEON'S HANDS WIND VISE-LIKE ABOUT THE BATMAN'S THROAT! HE BEGINS TO SQUEEZE...



WHY, BATMAN... DID YOU THINK I WAS GOING TO COMMIT SUICIDE? NO... FOR THE FIRST TIME -- I'M GOING TO COMMIT MURDER!

UGH... UGH...

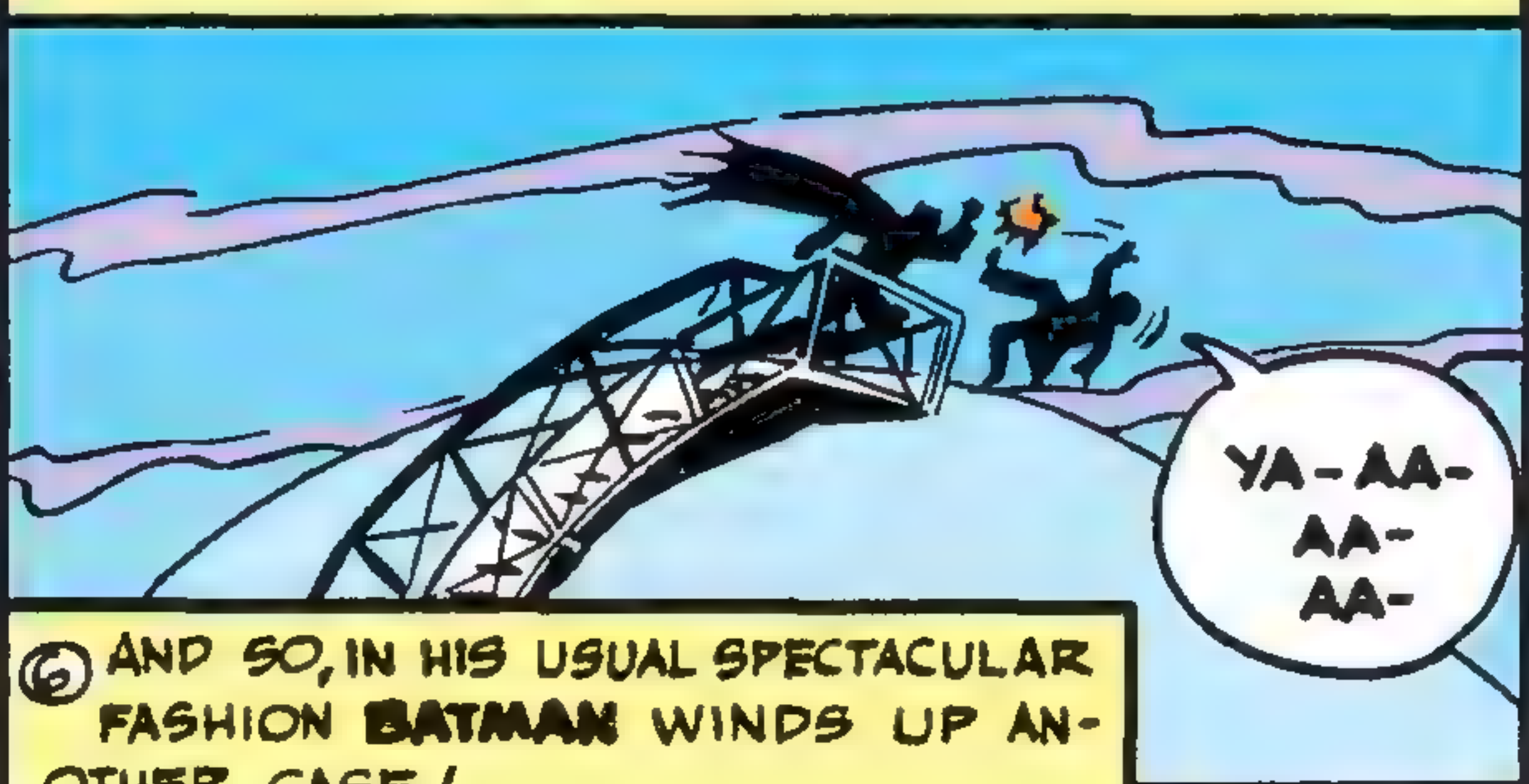
②



NO! I'M NOT GOING TO ROT IN JAIL FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE! NOT ME!

THORNE! YOU FOOL! DON'T!

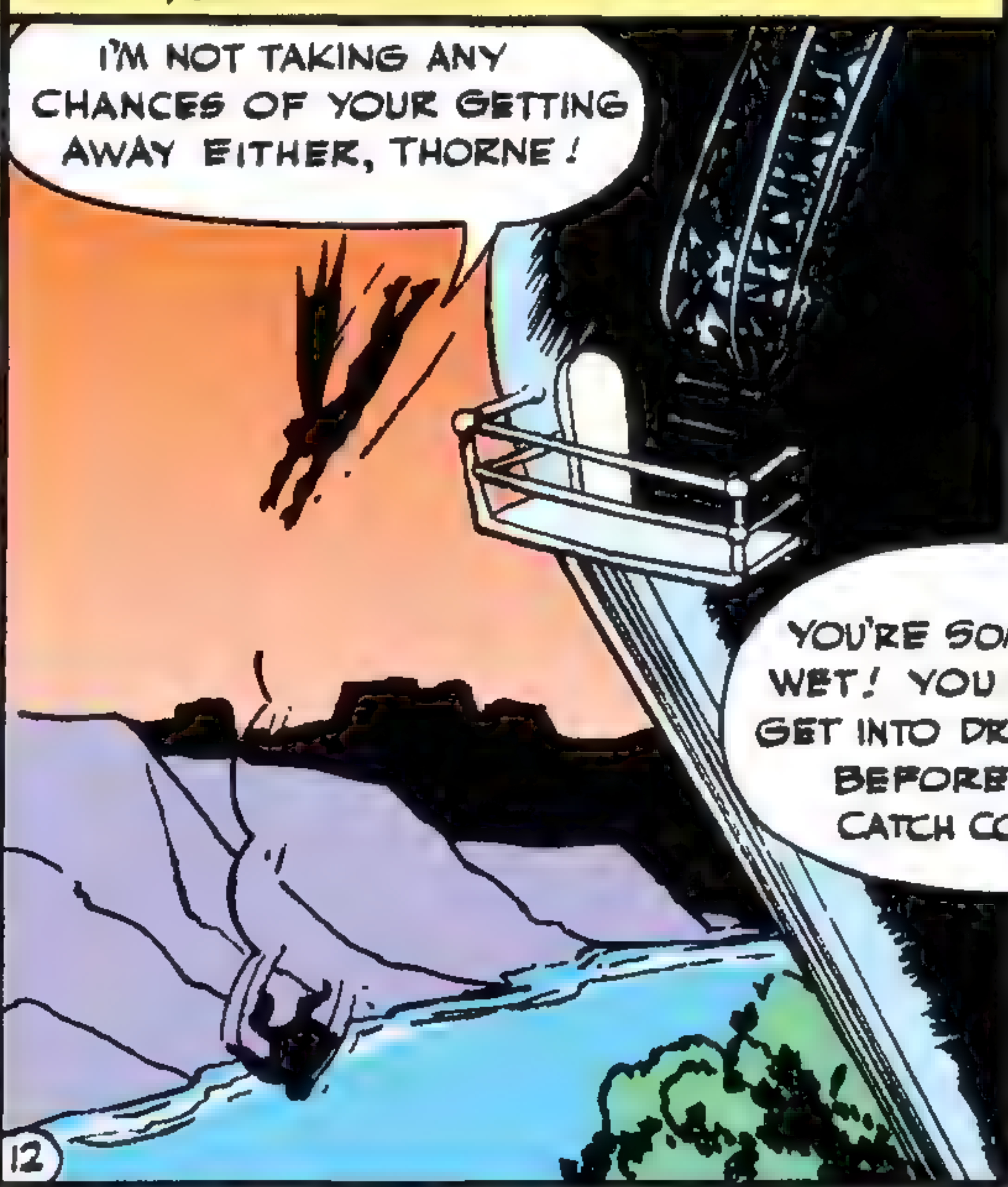
④ FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE NOW, BATMAN HAS ONLY ONE COURSE! ONE FIST SLAMS THORNE'S SOLAR-PLEXUS! THE OTHER CRASHES HEAVILY AGAINST HIS JAW... AND...



YA-AA-AA-AA-AA-

⑥ AND SO, IN HIS USUAL SPECTACULAR FASHION BATMAN WINDS UP ANOTHER CASE!

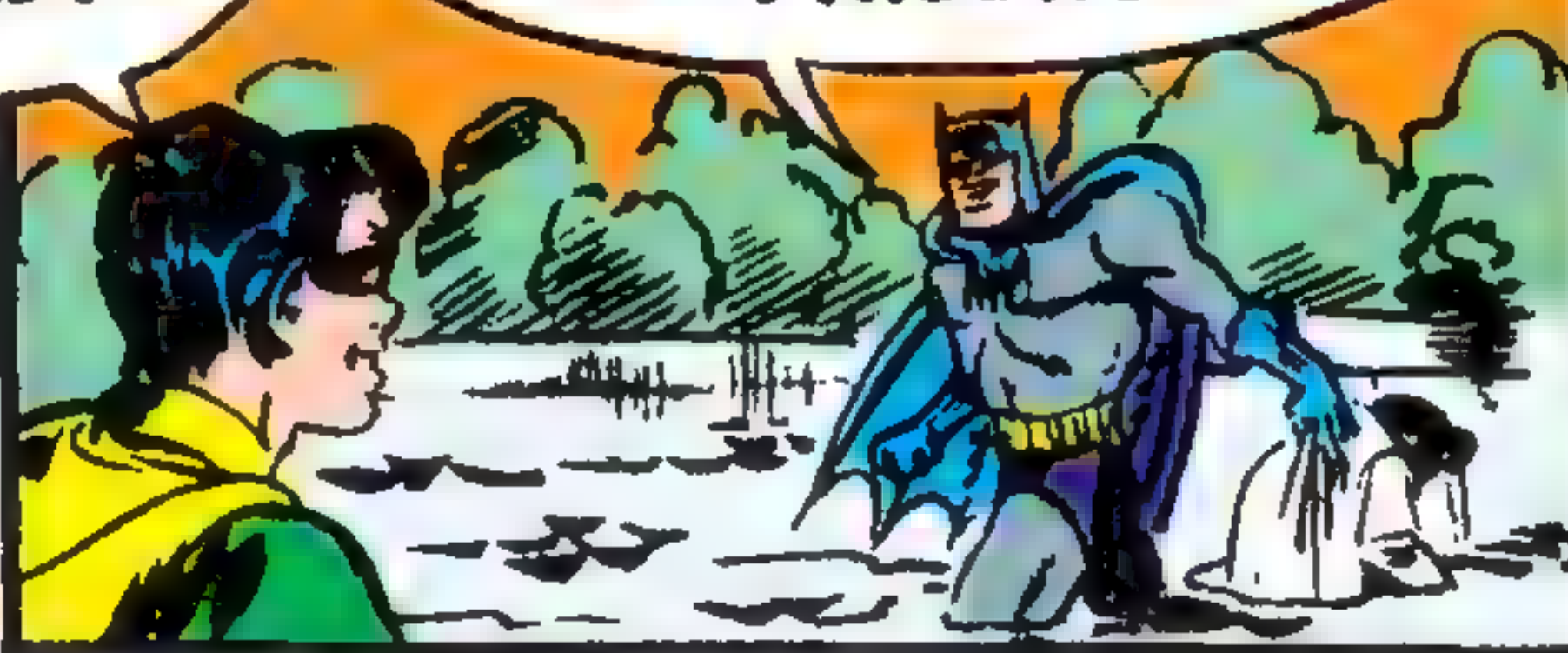
⑤ BUT, EVEN AS THORNE'S TWISTED BODY TUMBLES THROUGH SPACE TOWARD THE RIVER BELOW, BATMAN DIVES HEADLONG AFTER HIM!



I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES OF YOUR GETTING AWAY EITHER, THORNE!

YOU'RE SOAKING WET! YOU BETTER GET INTO DRY CLOTHES BEFORE YOU CATCH COLD!

IF I DO GET SICK, I KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND A GOOD DOCTOR THAT'S ALWAYS HOME! AFTER ALL... DOCTOR THORNE CAN'T DO MUCH TRAVELING IN PRISON!



BUT YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE LAST OF THE CRIME SPECIALIST, BATMAN! WE WARN YOU! IN FACT, YOU'LL MEET HIM IN BATMAN COMICS #918



THE BATMAN

No. 78 BOY COMMANDOS



Detective

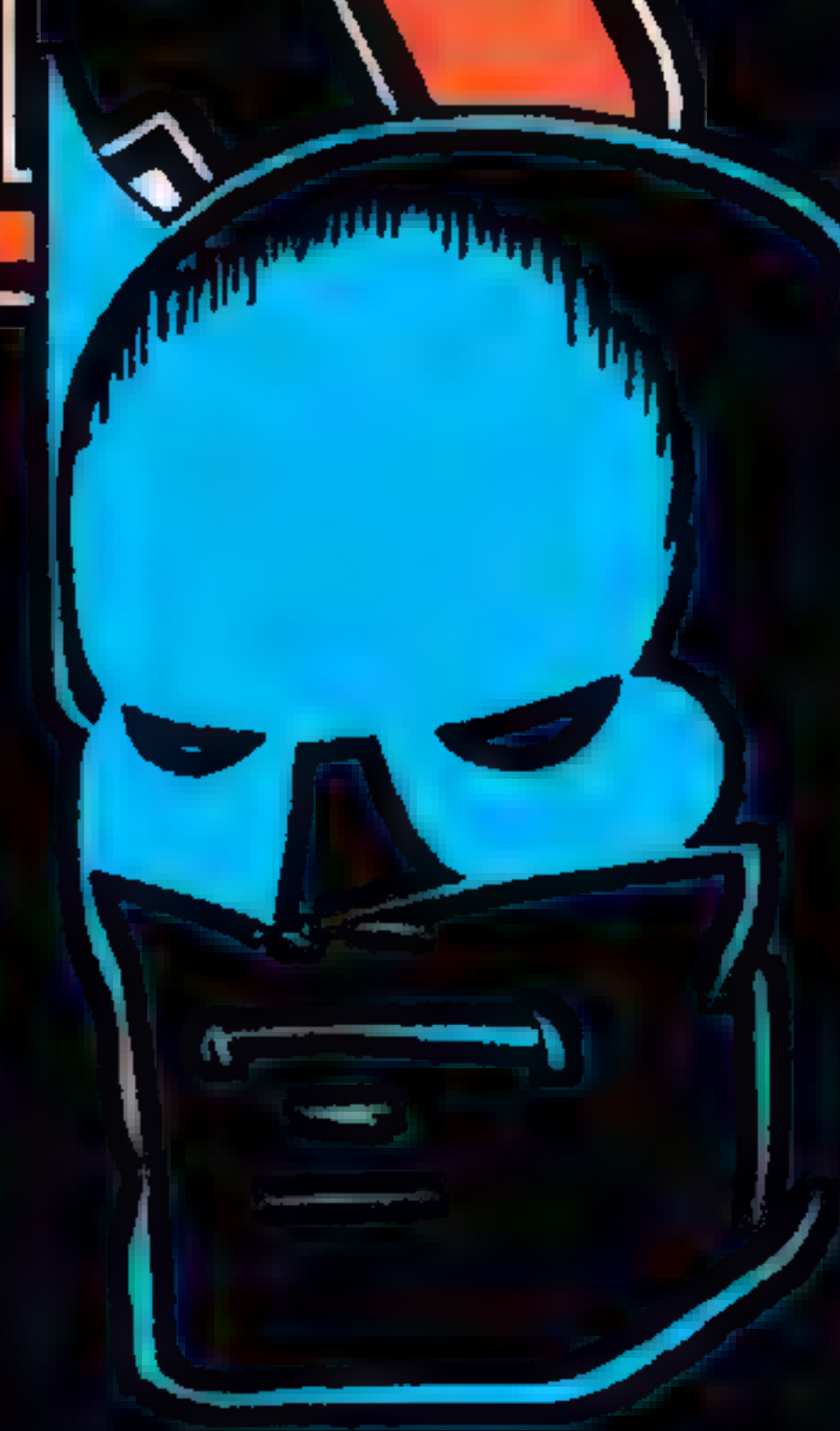
AUG.

COMICS

BATMAN & ROBIN

PRESENT A TIMELY
PATRIOTIC STORY
WITH REAL PUNCH!

"THE BOND WAGON"



BATMAN

RAT-AT-TA-TAT! RAT-AT-TA-TAT! RAT-AT-TA-TAT! HEAR THAT ROLL OF A DRUM? TWEE! TWEE! TWEE! HEAR THAT SHRILL OF A FIRE?? IT'S A CALL, BROTHER... IT'S A CALL TO JOIN THE PARADE!

YOU, TOO, SISTER... YOU'RE IN ON THIS!
GET IN STEP! GET IN STEP! FOR HERE THEY COME!
THE BUTCHER, THE BAKER, THE GIRL RIVETER, THE MAN MACHINIST
THE FARMER, THE BANKER, HOUSEWIFE, SCHOOLKID!
EVERYBODY'S MARCHING... MARCHING BEHIND THE MINUTE MAN!
GO BUY THOSE WAR BONDS! BUY THOSE WAR STAMPS!
GET IN STEP! GET IN STEP WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN AS THEY
GO MARCHING ON TO VICTORY WITH...
"THE BOND WAGON"



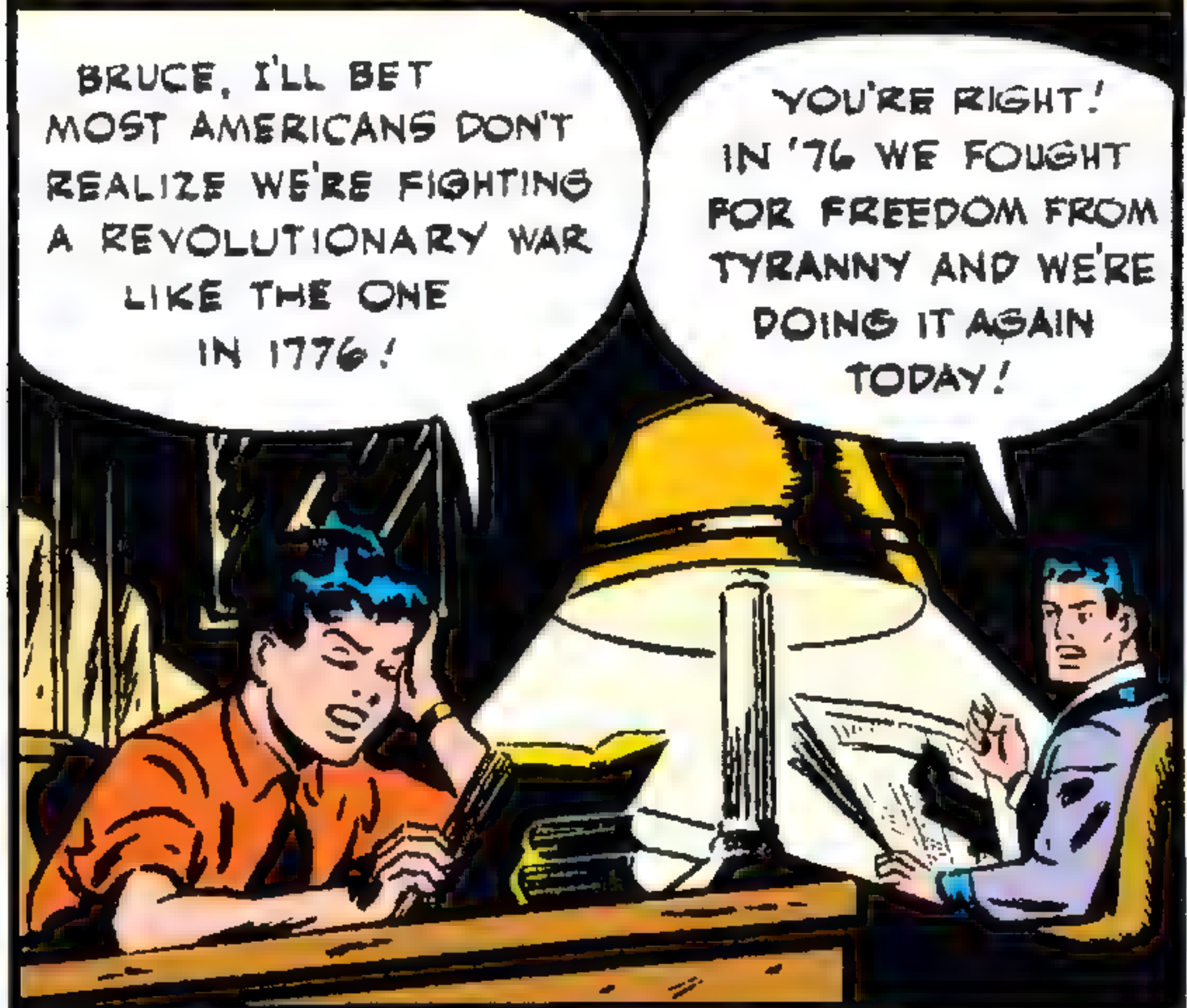
IT'S ME EYES
THAT ARE GOIN'
BACK ON ME!

NO, READER, YOU'RE NOT GOING CRAZY!
YOU ARE ACTUALLY LOOKING AT
GEORGE WASHINGTON WALKING
THE CROWDED STREETS OF
GOTHAM CITY IN THIS YEAR 1943!
OF COURSE IT'S AN AMAZING SCENE,
BUT EVEN MORE AMAZING IS THE
STORY BEHIND IT...

BOB
KANE



IT BEGAN WHEN DICK GRAYSON, WARD OF BRUCE WAYNE, WAS DOING HIS HISTORY HOMEWORK...



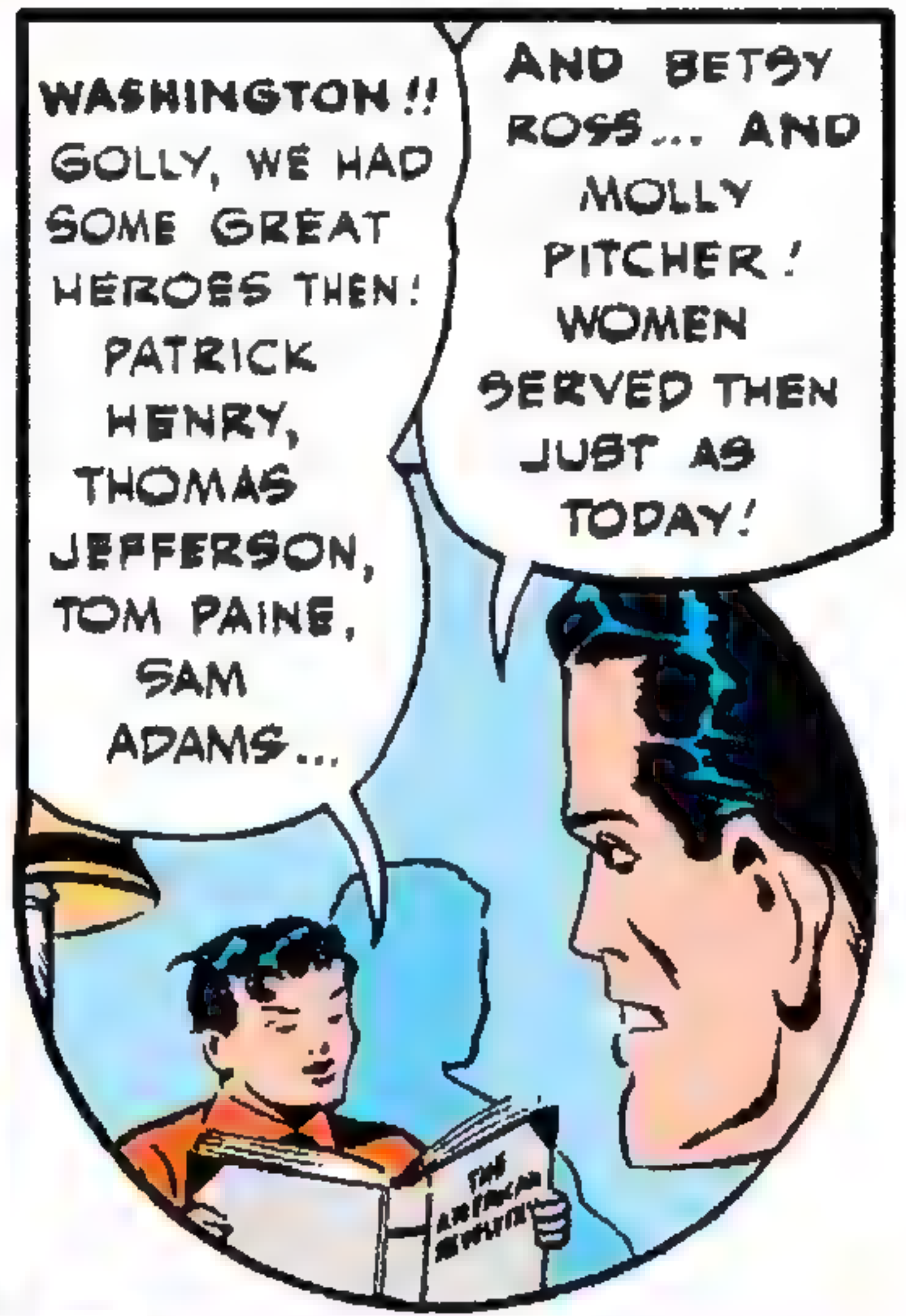
BRUCE, I'LL BET MOST AMERICANS DON'T REALIZE WE'RE FIGHTING A REVOLUTIONARY WAR LIKE THE ONE IN 1776!

YOU'RE RIGHT! IN '76 WE FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM FROM TYRANNY AND WE'RE DOING IT AGAIN TODAY!

SILENCE FOR A MOMENT... THEN...



HUMPH! PEOPLE COMPLAIN ABOUT RATIONING, BUT HOW ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF '76? HOW ABOUT WASHINGTON'S STARVING, RAGGED, BARE-FOOTED MEN AT VALLEY FORGE?



WASHINGTON!! GOLLY, WE HAD SOME GREAT HEROES THEN! PATRICK HENRY, THOMAS JEFFERSON, TOM PAINE, SAM ADAMS...

AND BETSY ROSS... AND MOLLY PITCHER! WOMEN SERVED THEN JUST AS TODAY!

MORE SILENCE... THEN...



I'LL BET IF A LOT OF THOSE AMERICANS COULD SEE THOSE DAYS AGAIN THEY'D REMEMBER AND BUY MORE WAR BONDS!

EH?? WHY NOT? WHY NOT?! DICK, HOP INTO YOUR DUDS! WE'RE GOING OUT AND PUT AN AD IN THE PAPERS!



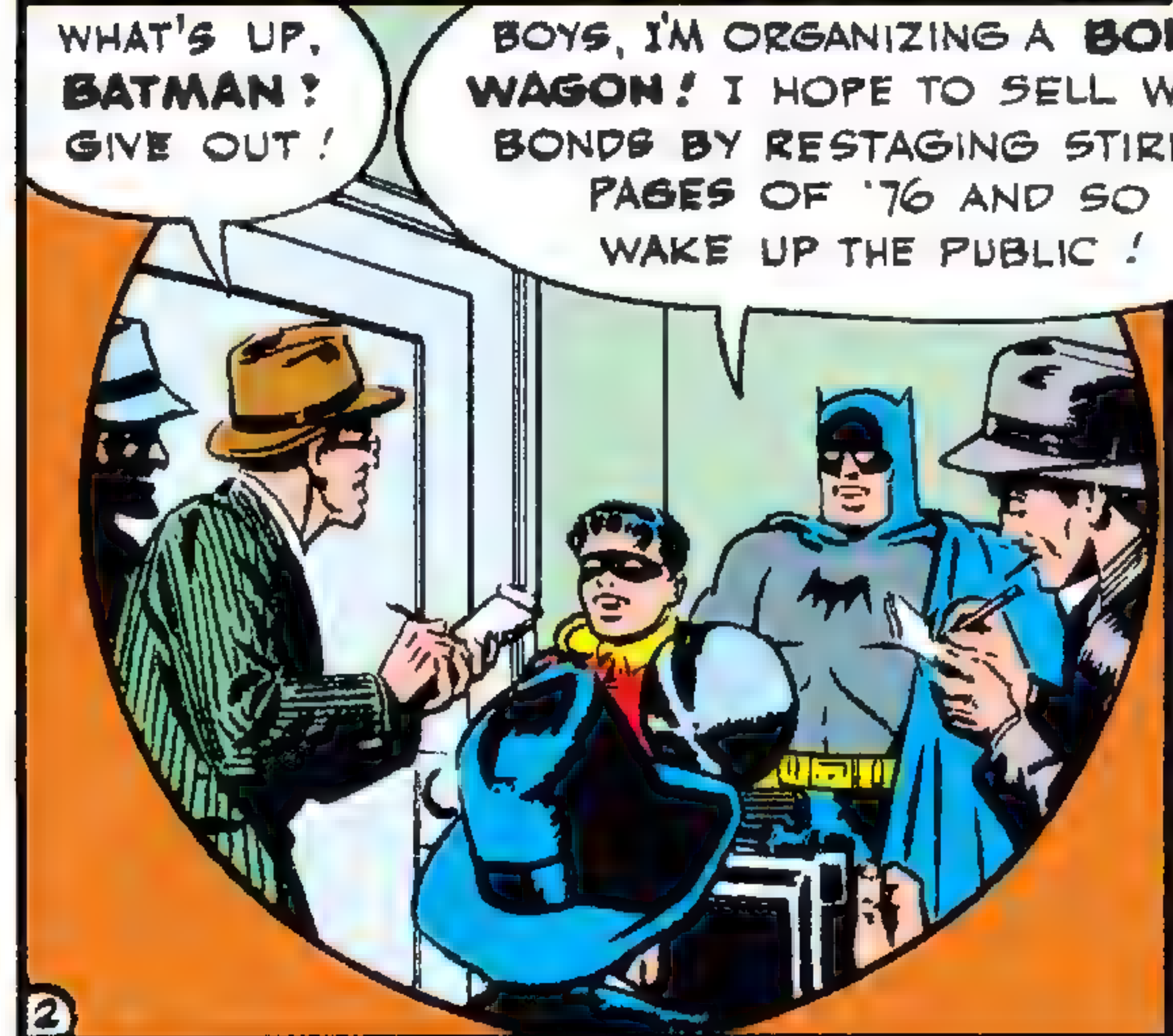
YOU GOING TO ADVERTISE FOR SOMETHING?

YES... FOR AMERICANS!!

THE NEXT MORNING IN THE "HELP WANTED" COLUMNS, THIS APPEARED...

WANTED!
GEORGE WASHINGTON, PATRICK HENRY, NATHAN HALE...
AMERICANS! IF you resemble any great American patriot of '76, call on the **BATMAN**, Room 76, Constitution Ave.

FIRST CAME THE REPORTERS...



WHAT'S UP, BATMAN? GIVE OUT!

BOYS, I'M ORGANIZING A BOND WAGON! I HOPE TO SELL WAR BONDS BY RESTAGING STIRRING PAGES OF '76 AND SO WAKE UP THE PUBLIC!

THEN CAME THE MOB!

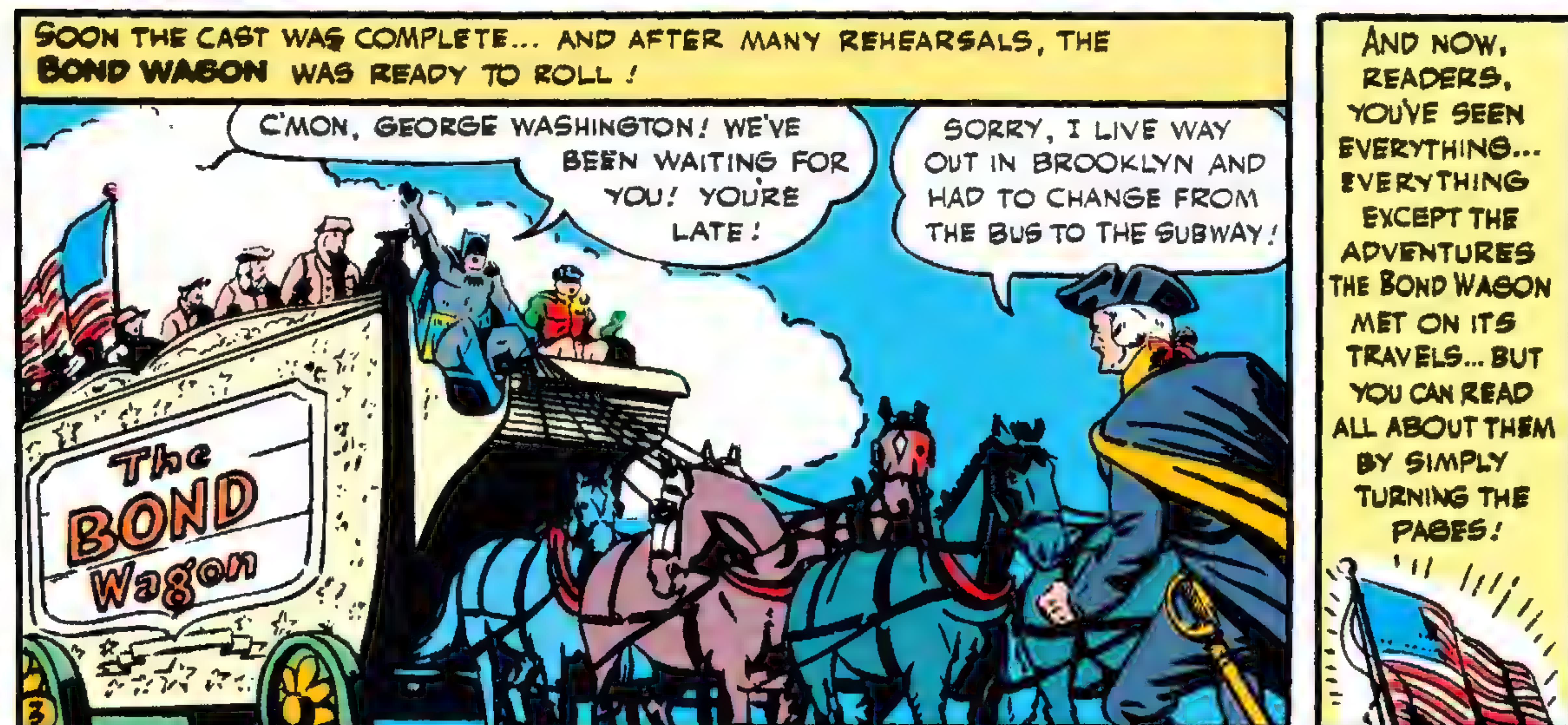
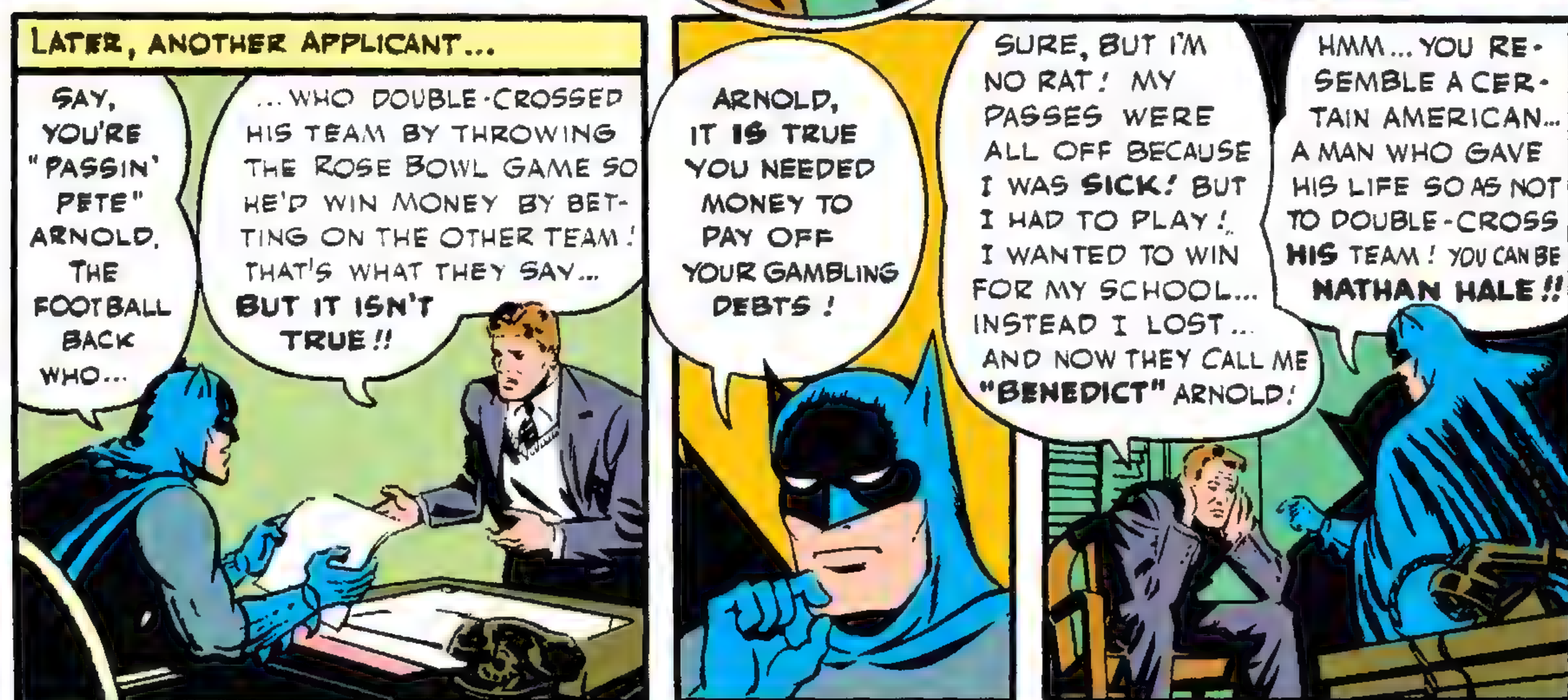
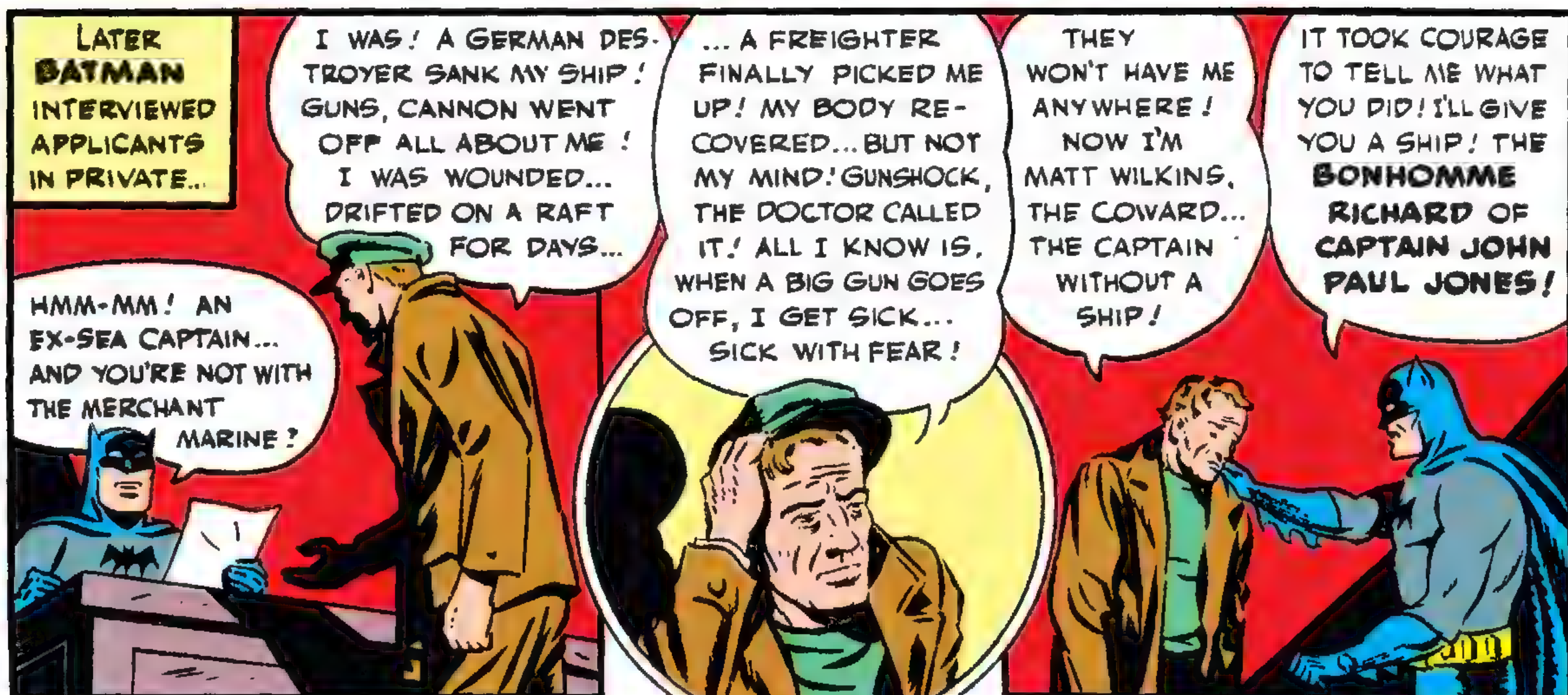


I'M A DOUBLE FOR BETSY ROSS!

I MAKE A PERFECT WASHINGTON!

I'M YOUR PATRICK HENRY!

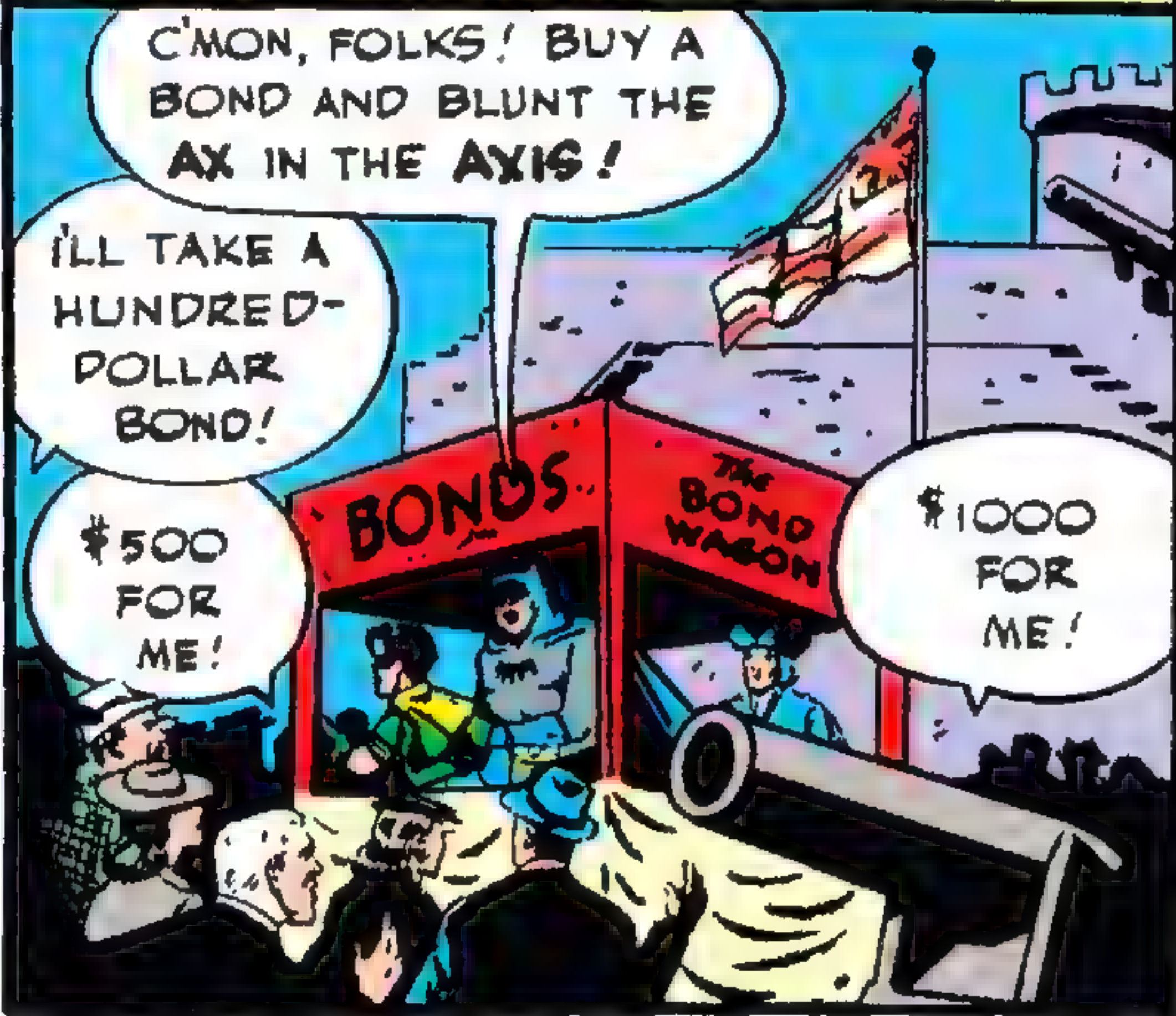
GET ON BOND WAGON



THE FIRST ENGAGEMENT! THE CAPTURE OF FORT TICONDEROGA BY ETHAN ALLEN AND HIS GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS!



AFTER VIEWING THE PULSE-STIRRING SPECTACLE, PEOPLE MOB THE BOND STANDS!



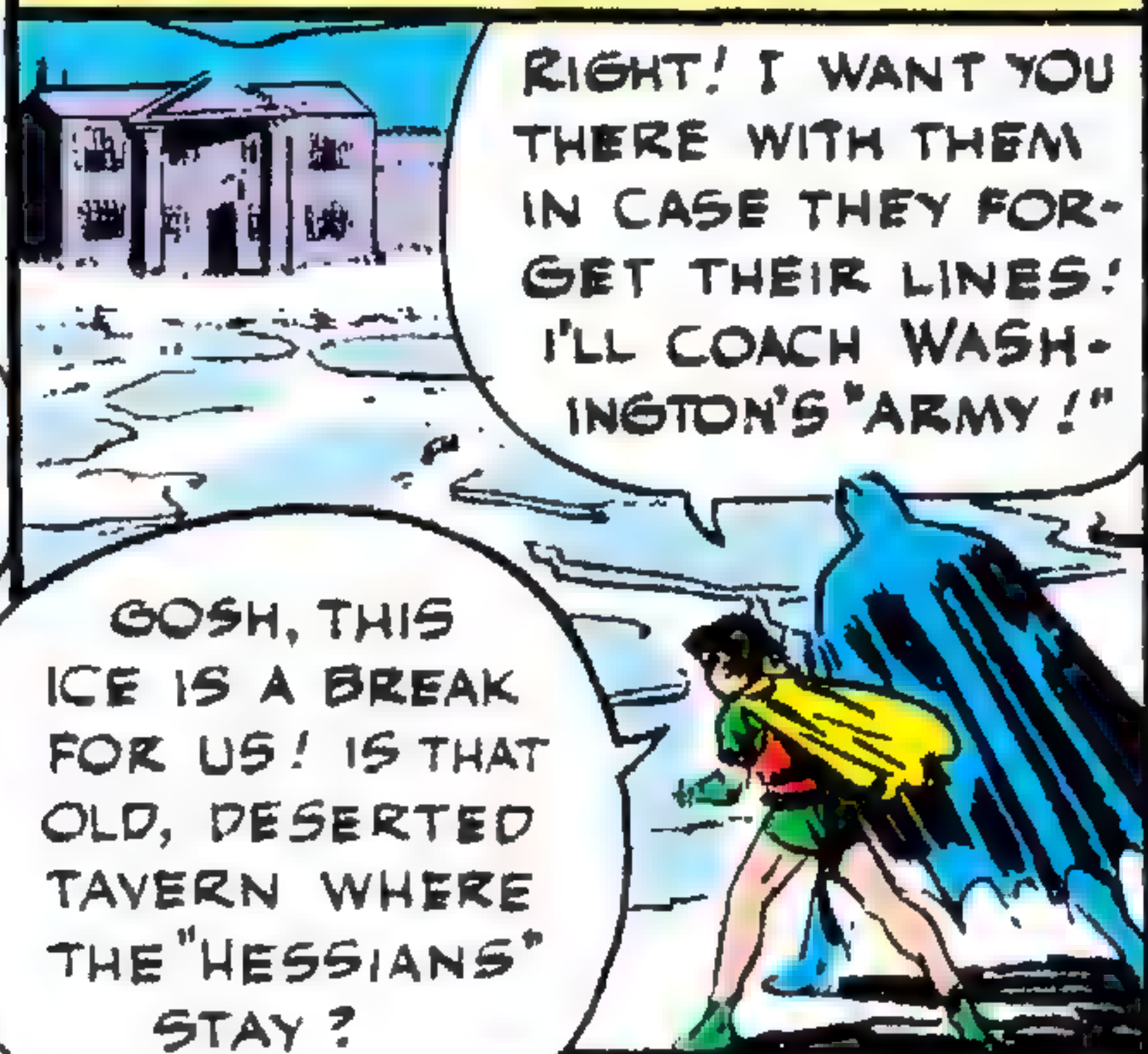
BUT NOT EVERYONE VIEWS THE BOND WAGON WITH FAVOR! IN A ROOM SOMEWHERE IN AMERICA...



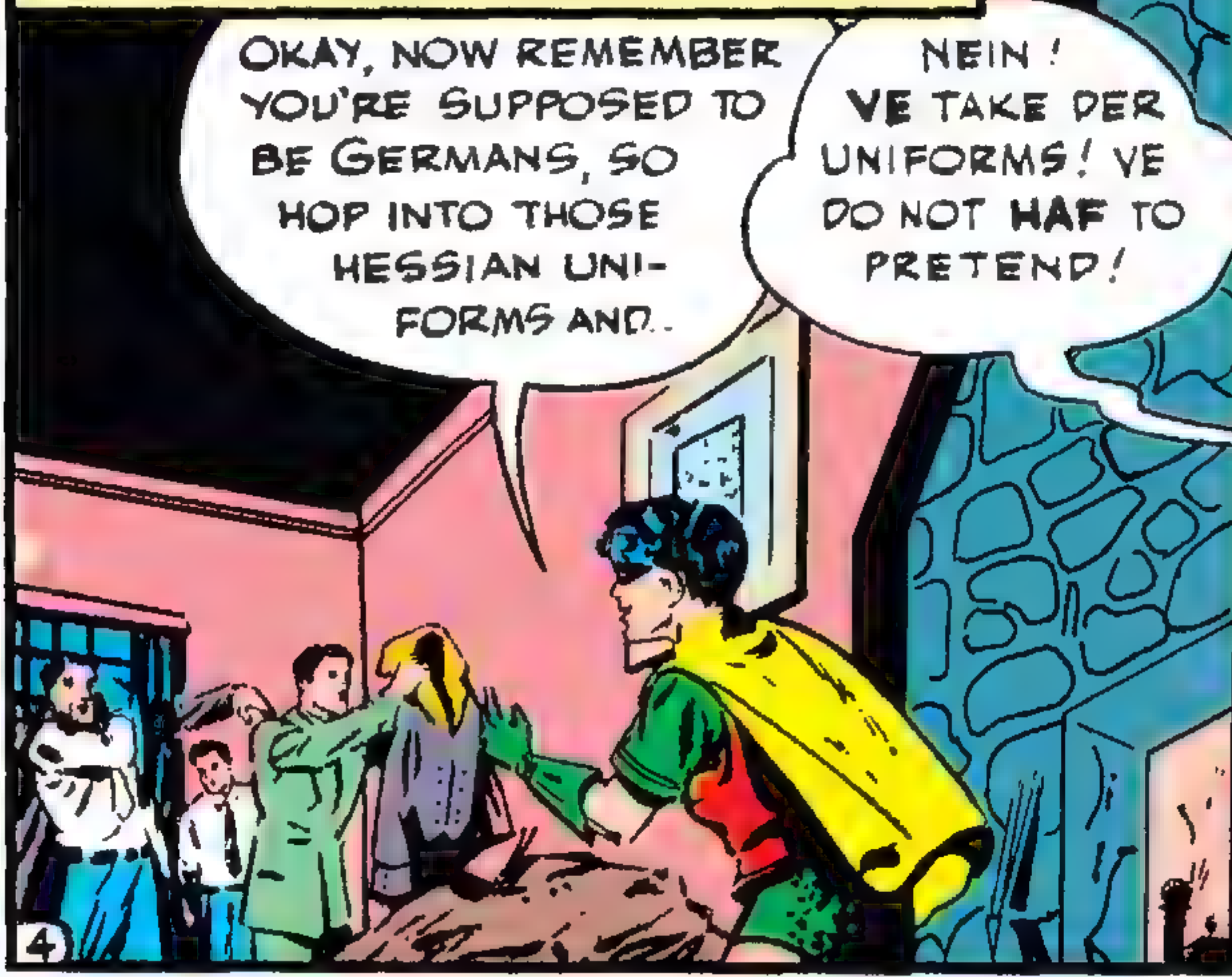
IF ONLY VE CAN SABOTAGE DIS BONDVAGON VE ALSO STRIKE A BLOW AT AMERIKANER MO-RALE! TOMORROW DER BOND VAGON ENACTS DER CAPTURE OF DER HESSIANS AT TRENTON! DER HESSIANS VERE HIRED CHERMAN SOLDIERS...



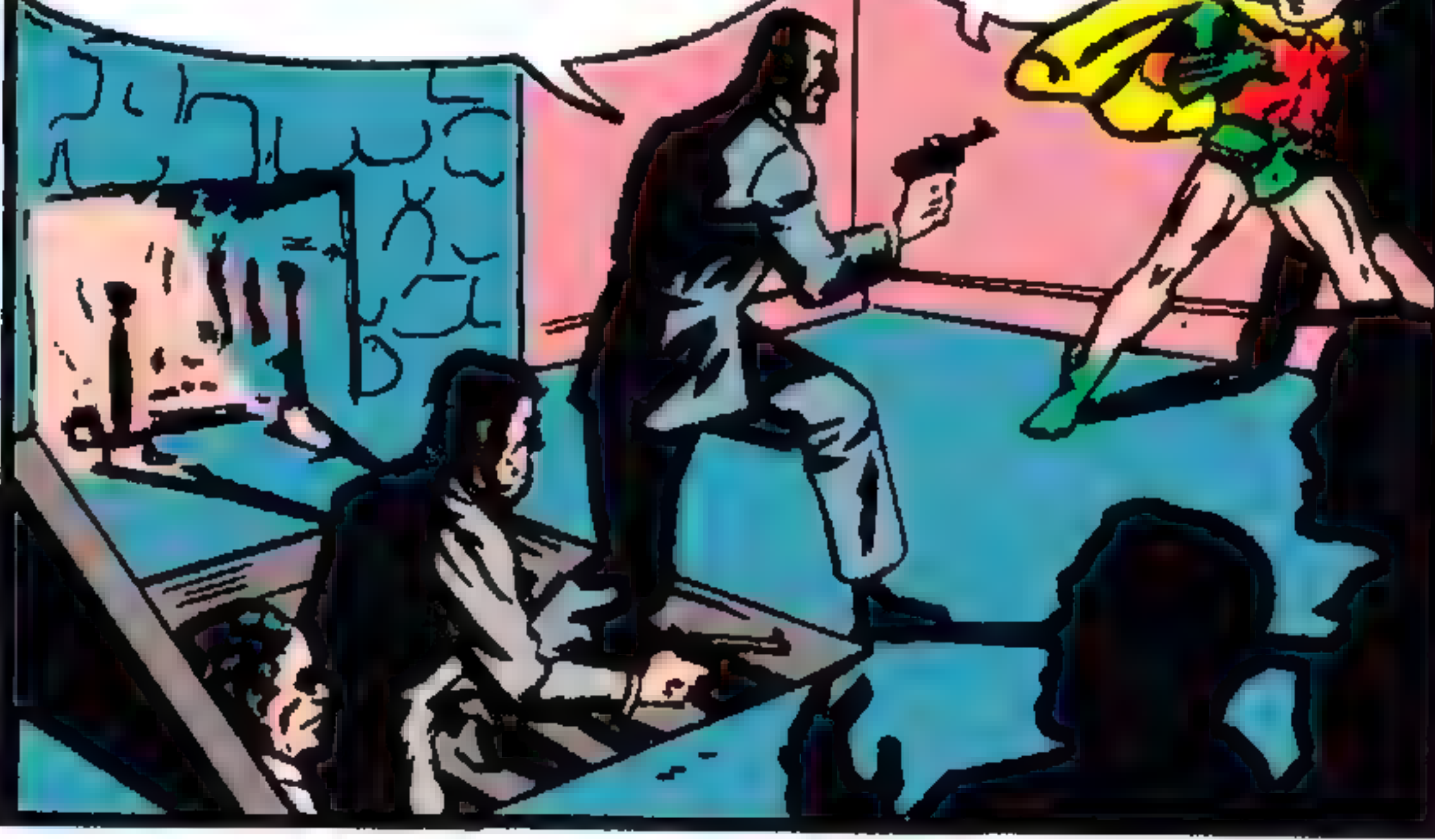
NEXT DAY, AFTER RECRUITING EXTRAS FOR THE BIG SCENE. BATMAN AND ROBIN STAND ON THE BANKS OF THE DELEWARE...



THAT NIGHT... AS ROBIN GIVES LAST-MINUTE INSTRUCTIONS...



QUICK! YOU ALL GO DOWN DER CELLAR! BOY, YOU STAY HERE TO STOP SUSPICION SHOULD SOMEONE ENTER! VE LEAF YOUR HANDS UNTIED... BUT VON FALSE MOVE... UND I SHOOT!



AFTER THE ACTORS ARE HERDED TO THE CELLAR...

UH ... WH-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ?

"WASHINGTON'S ARMY" CARRIES RIFLES MIT ONLY **BLANK** CARTRIDGES ... BUT NOT OUR **LUGERS**! YEN DEY LAND --VE **SLAUGHTER** DEM! HA! HA! GOOT, EH?



MINUTES TICK BY... THEN... A PAGE OF HISTORY **DRAMATICALLY COMES TO LIFE**! AS DID THOSE HEROIC MEN ON CHRISTMAS EVE IN 1776, ANOTHER ARMY CROSSES THE ICE-CHOKED DELAWARE!



BUT... ON THAT PAGE OF HISTORY OF 1776, THERE WAS NO **DEATH-TRAP** AMBUSHING WASHINGTON AND HIS MEN!

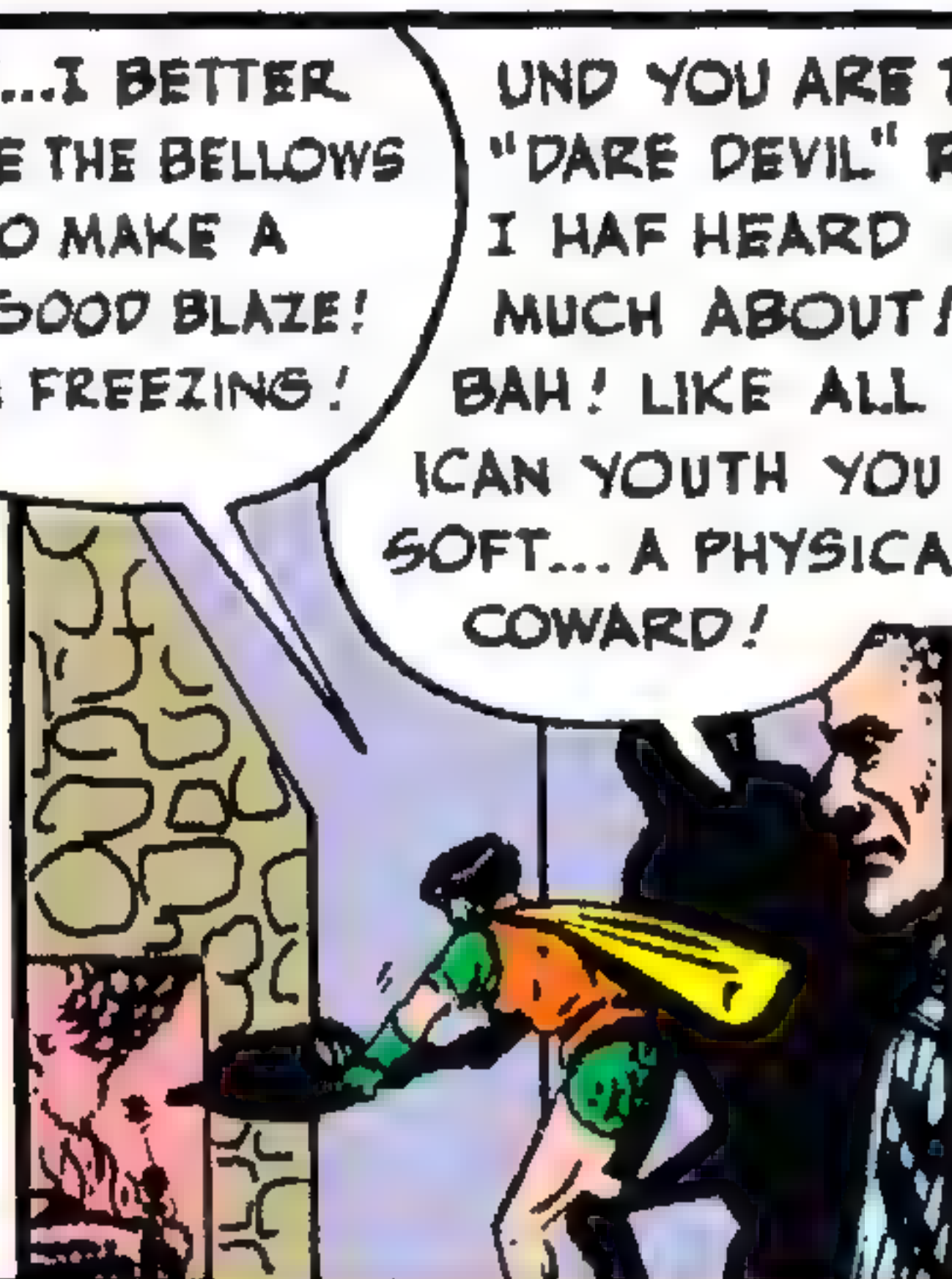
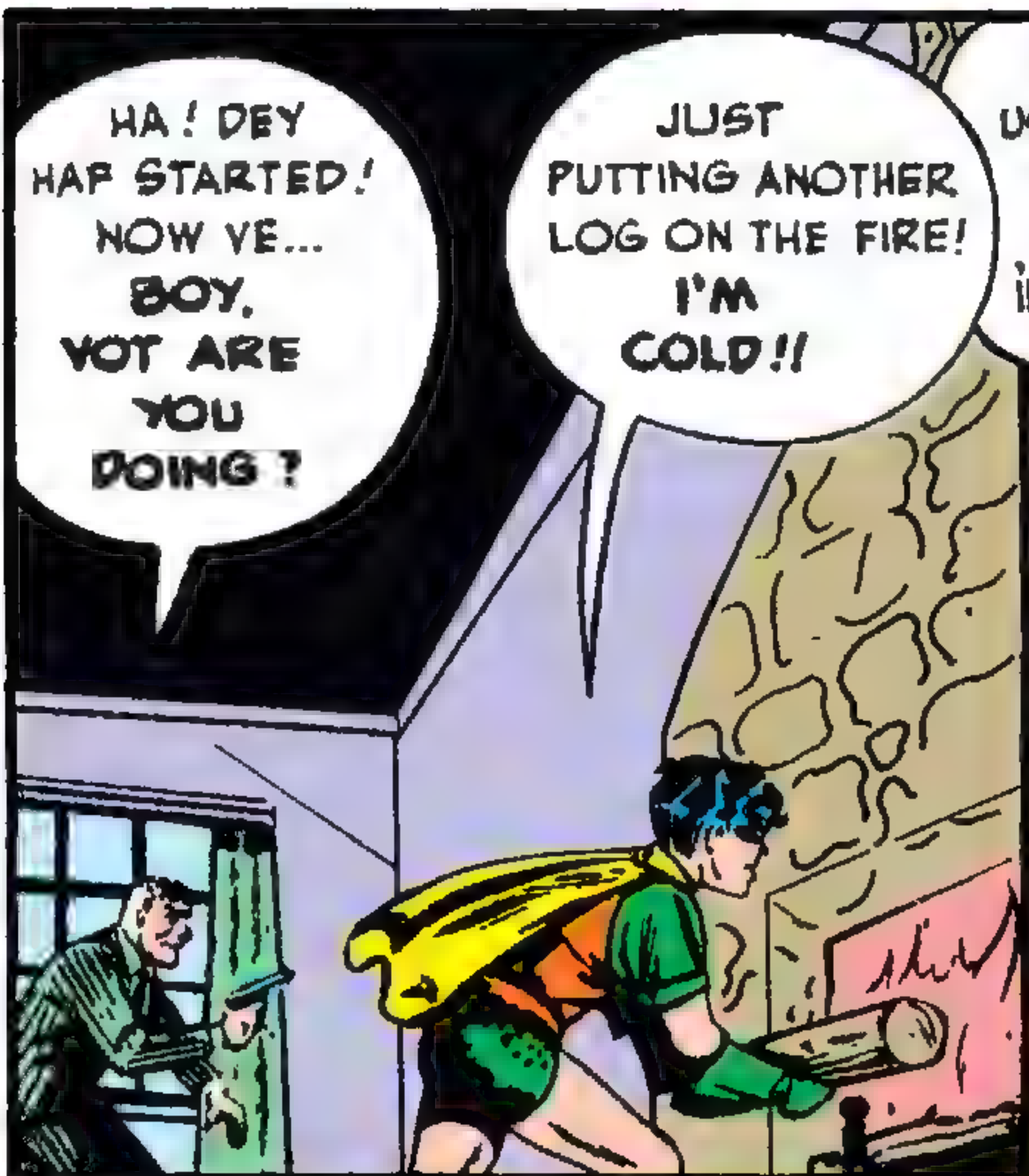
HA! DEY HAF STARTED! NOW YE... **BOY**, YOT ARE YOU DOING?

JUST PUTTING ANOTHER LOG ON THE FIRE! I'M **COLD!!**

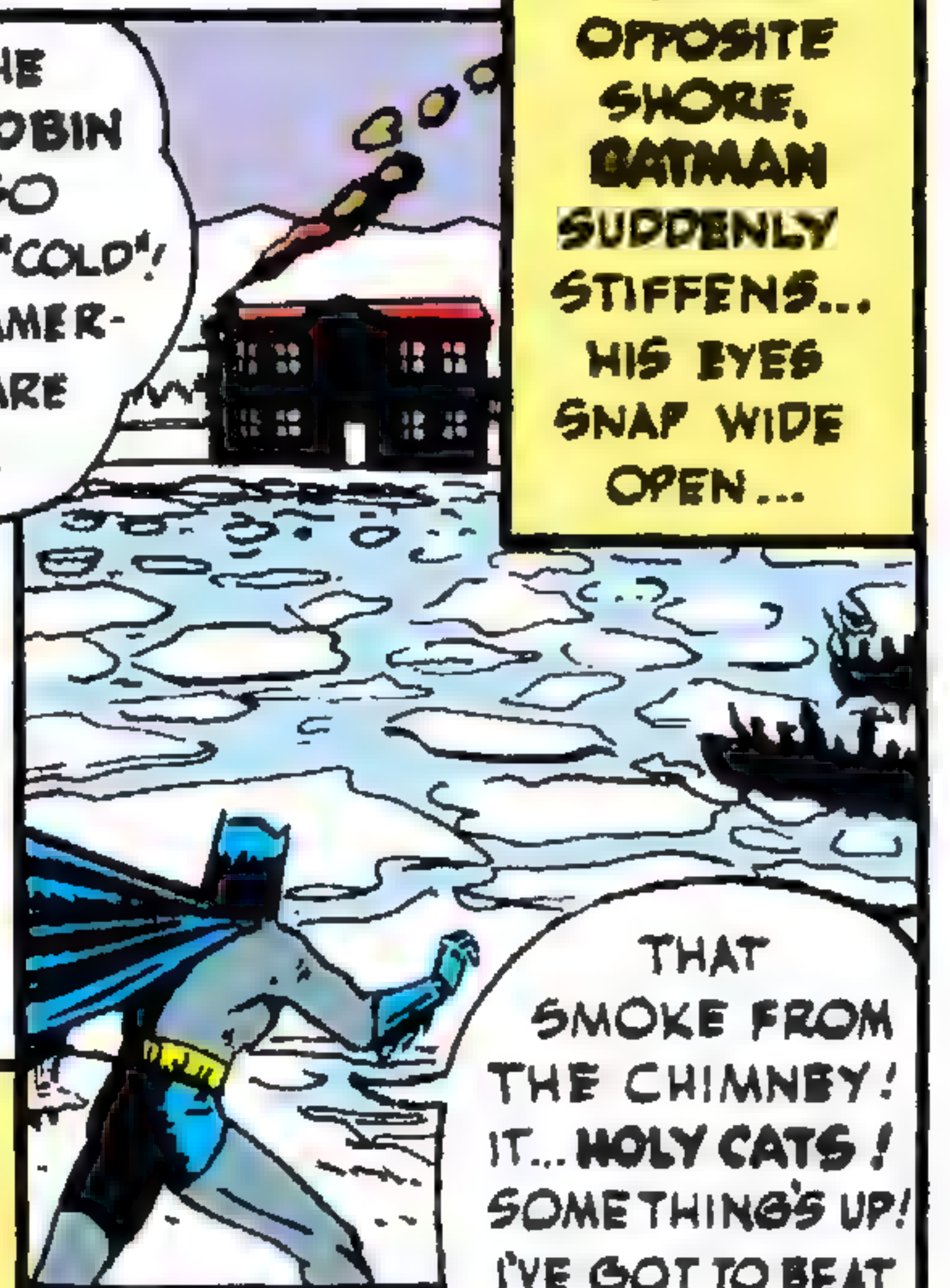
I...I BETTER USE THE BELLOWS TO MAKE A **GOOD BLAZE**! I'M FREEZING!

UND YOU ARE THE "DARE DEVIL" **ROBIN** I HAF HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT! "COLD"! BAH! LIKE ALL AMERICAN YOUTH YOU ARE **SOFT...** A **PHYSICAL COWARD**!

ON THE **OPPOSITE SHORE**, **BATMAN** **SUDDENLY STIFFENS...** HIS EYES **SNAP WIDE OPEN...**

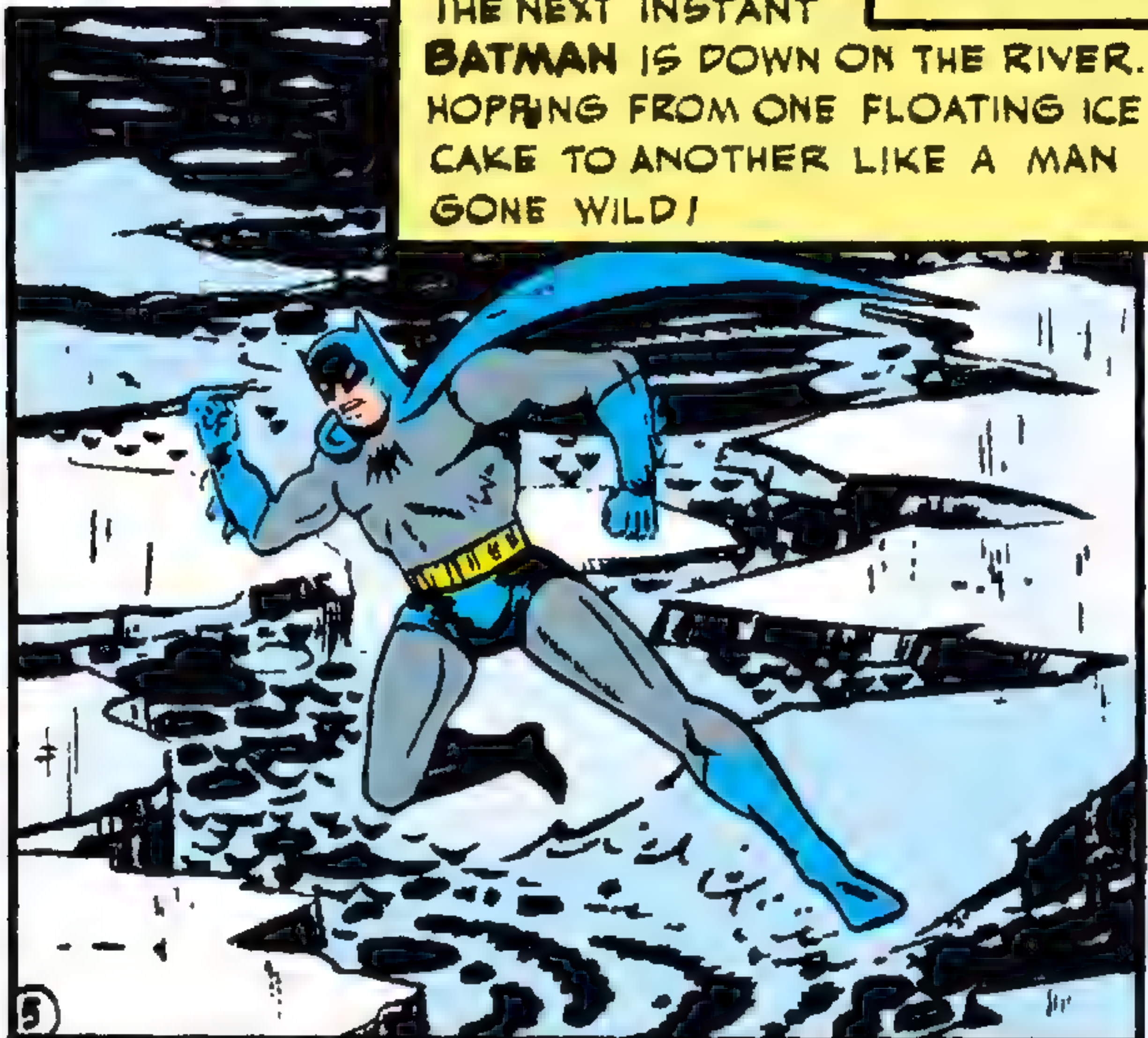


WHAT'S THIS? IS **ROBIN** REALLY GOING **SOFT**? OR IS HE USING THOSE **BELLOWS** FOR ANOTHER PURPOSE?!!



THAT **SMOKE** FROM THE **CHIMNEY**! IT... **HOLY CATS**! SOMETHING'S UP! I'VE GOT TO BEAT THE "ARMY" **ACROSS**!

THE NEXT INSTANT **BATMAN** IS DOWN ON THE RIVER. HOPPING FROM ONE FLOATING ICE CAKE TO ANOTHER LIKE A MAN GONE WILD!



ALL **BATMAN** HAS SPOTTED IS SOME **SMOKE** FROM A **CHIMNEY**, YET HE'S WISE SOMETHING'S **WRONG!** **HOW COME**



BUT ALREADY **WASHINGTON'S** MEN HAVE LANDED... AND ARE **MARKED MEN**! - **MARKED BY LUGER SIGHTS**!!



READY... AIM...

THEN... GLASS CAPSULES PLOP TO THE FLOOR!



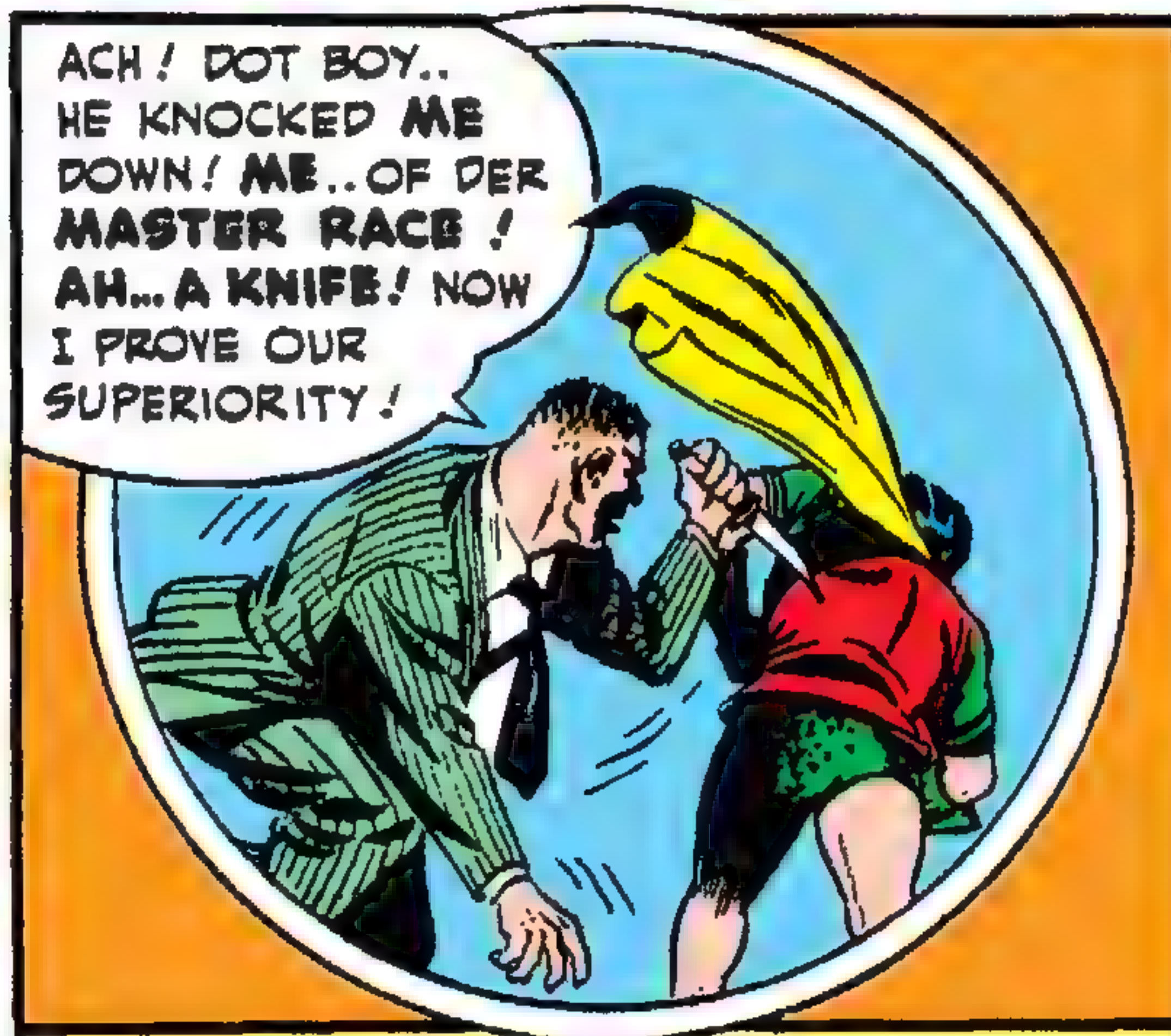
PISTOLS FALL AS THE COUGHING HESSIANS SCRAMBLE FOR FRESH AIR!



THEN IT IS THAT THE STARTLED BUT ENTHUSIASTIC SPECTATORS EAGERLY WATCH THE ACTORS 'AD LIB' THEIR LINES AND MAKE NEW HISTORY!



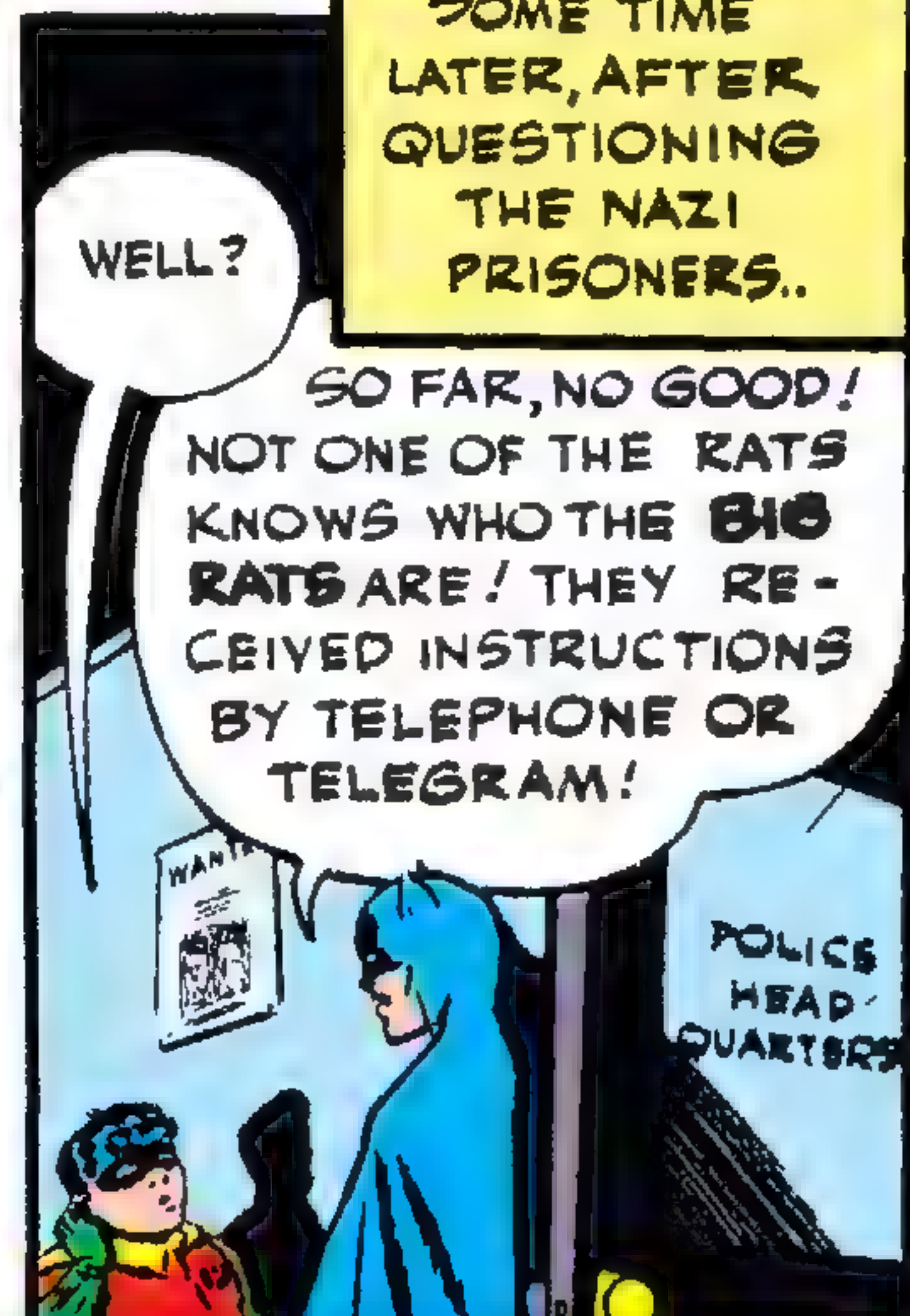
GEORGE WASHINGTON LIVES UP TO A REPUTATION!



THE MASTER RACE, INDEED! MASTER OF THE STAB IN THE BACK!!

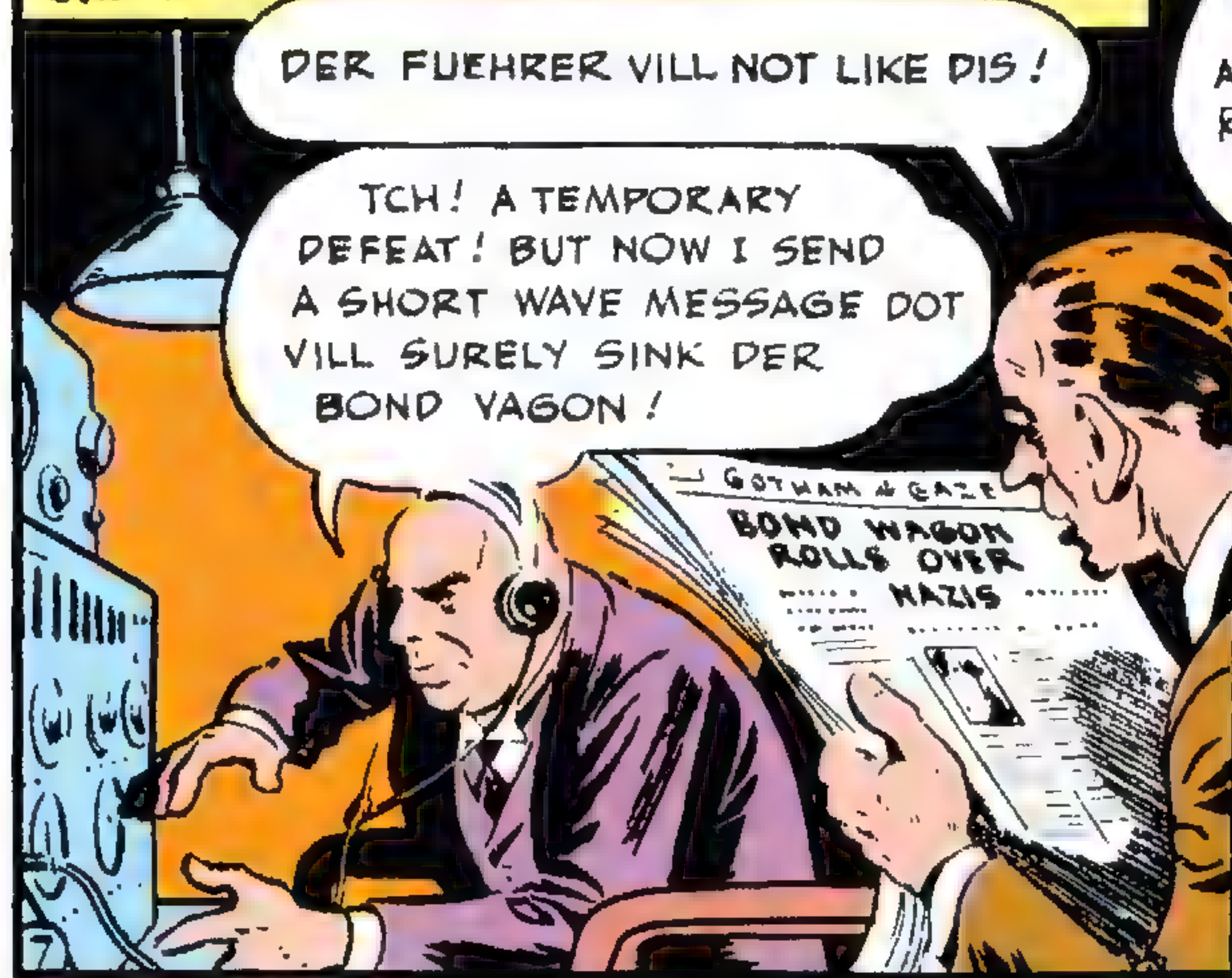


AND SO THE BATTLE IS WON!



BUT THE BATMAN IS NOT THE ONLY DISGUSTED ONE ...

AND THE BOND WAGON ROLLS ON!

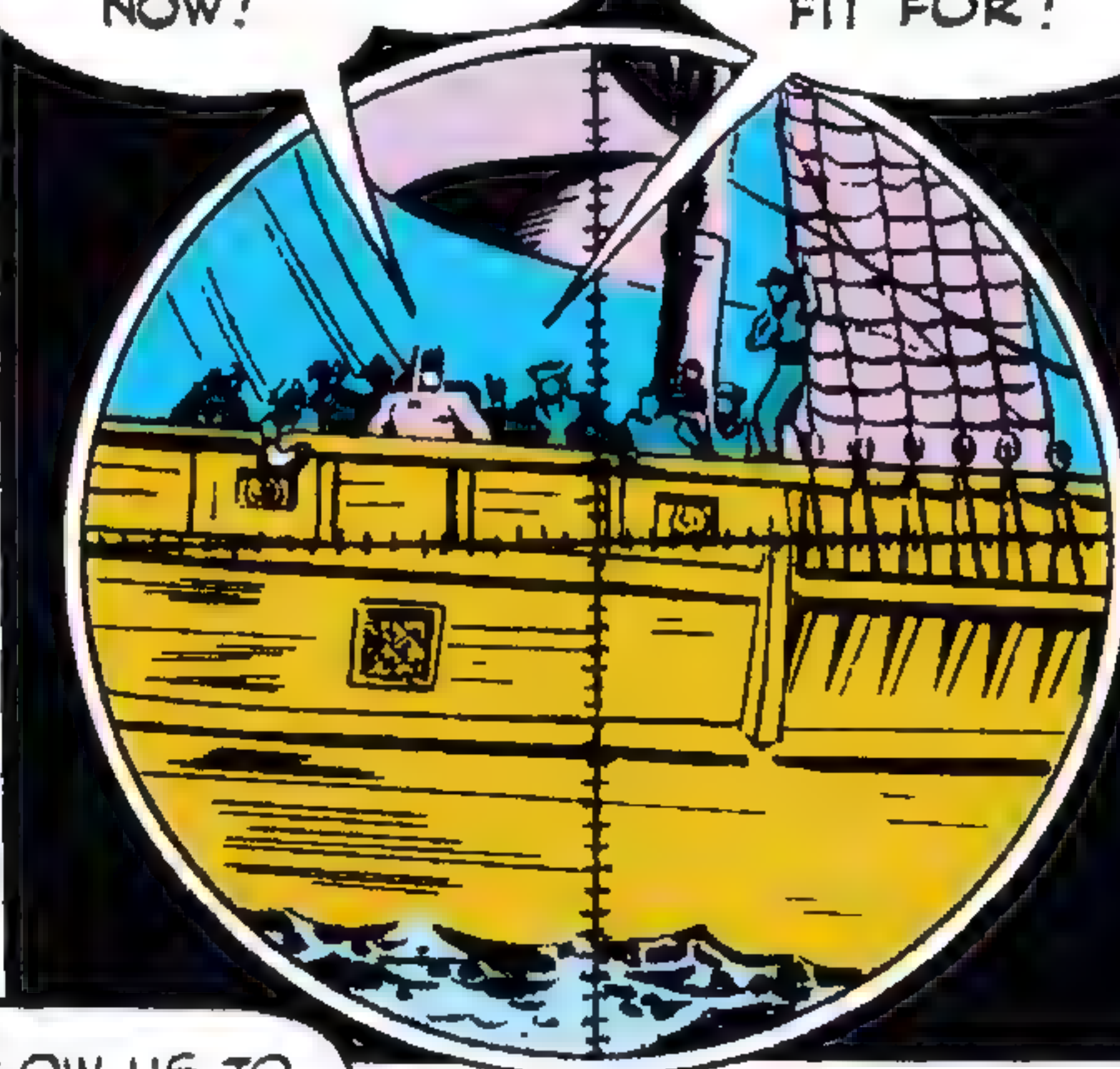
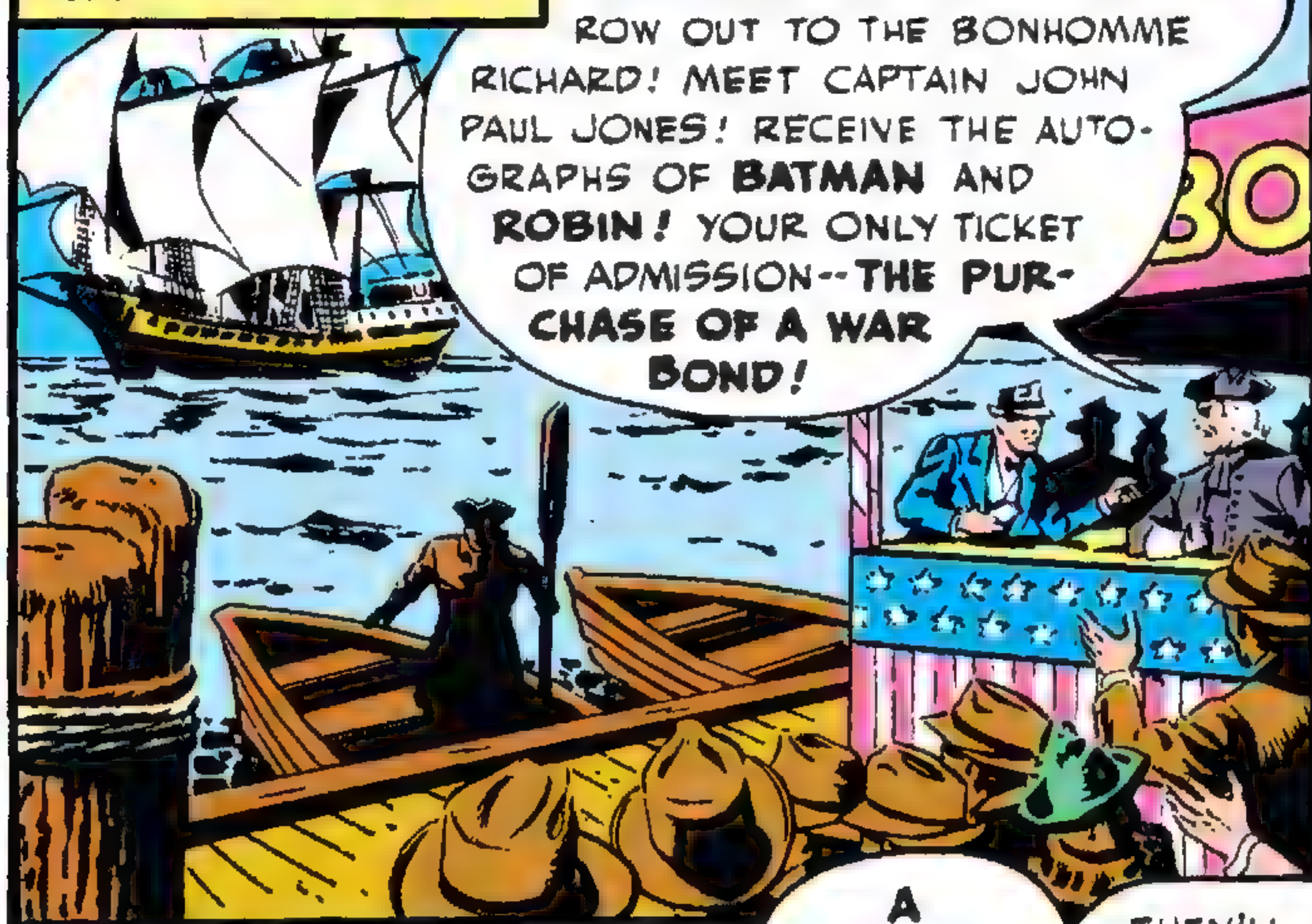


NEXT AFTERNOON...

LADIEE-EES AND GENTLEMEN!
ROW OUT TO THE BONHOMME
RICHARD! MEET CAPTAIN JOHN
PAUL JONES! RECEIVE THE AUTO-
GRAPHS OF **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN! YOUR ONLY TICKET
OF ADMISSION--THE PUR-
CHASE OF A WAR
BOND!

WELL, WILKINS...
I MEAN JONES...
YOU'VE GOT A SHIP
NOW!

AYE... BUT ONLY
AN EXHIBITION
SHIP IS ALL I'M
FIT FOR!



THEN... A SLEEK SOMETHING
HISSES THROUGH THE WATER...AND...



TORPEDO !!

A
NAZI SUB!
THEY'RE
GOING TO
SHELL US!

THEY'LL BLOW US TO
BITS! THIS WOODEN
TUB WILL SINK! WE'LL
DROWN! THEIR GUNS
WILL BL...

STOP IT!
THIS SHIP CAN'T
SINK TOO QUICK-
LY! IT'S FILLED
WITH CORK!
GET A GRIP
ON YOURSELF!

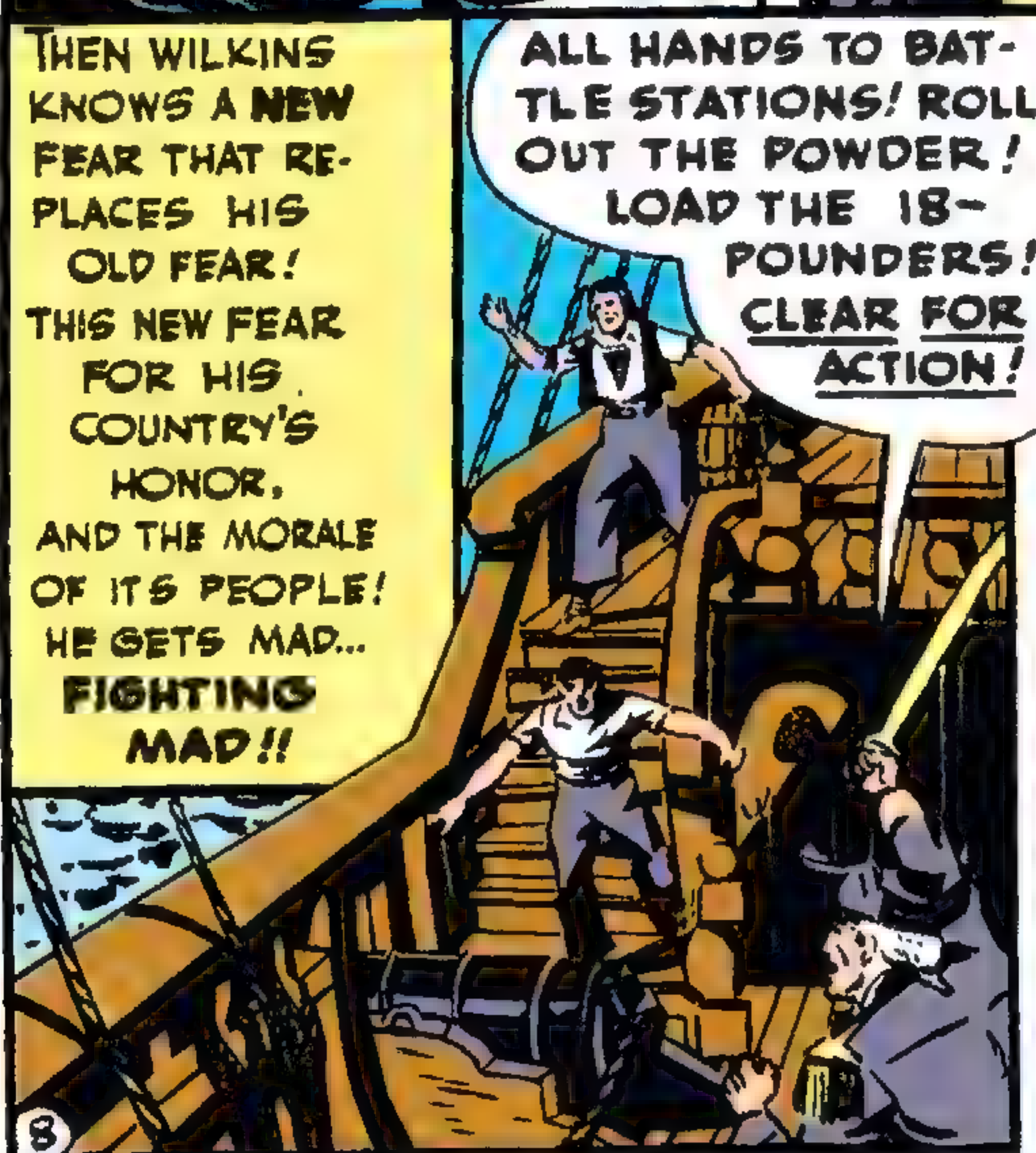


WILKINS, THEY'RE NOT
TRYING TO BLAST THIS
SHIP ALONE... BUT THE
BOND WAGON...AND
THE MORALE OF AMERICANS
ON FARMS, IN FAC-
TORIES, HOMES,
OUR ARMED
FORCES!
CAN'T YOU
SEE THAT?

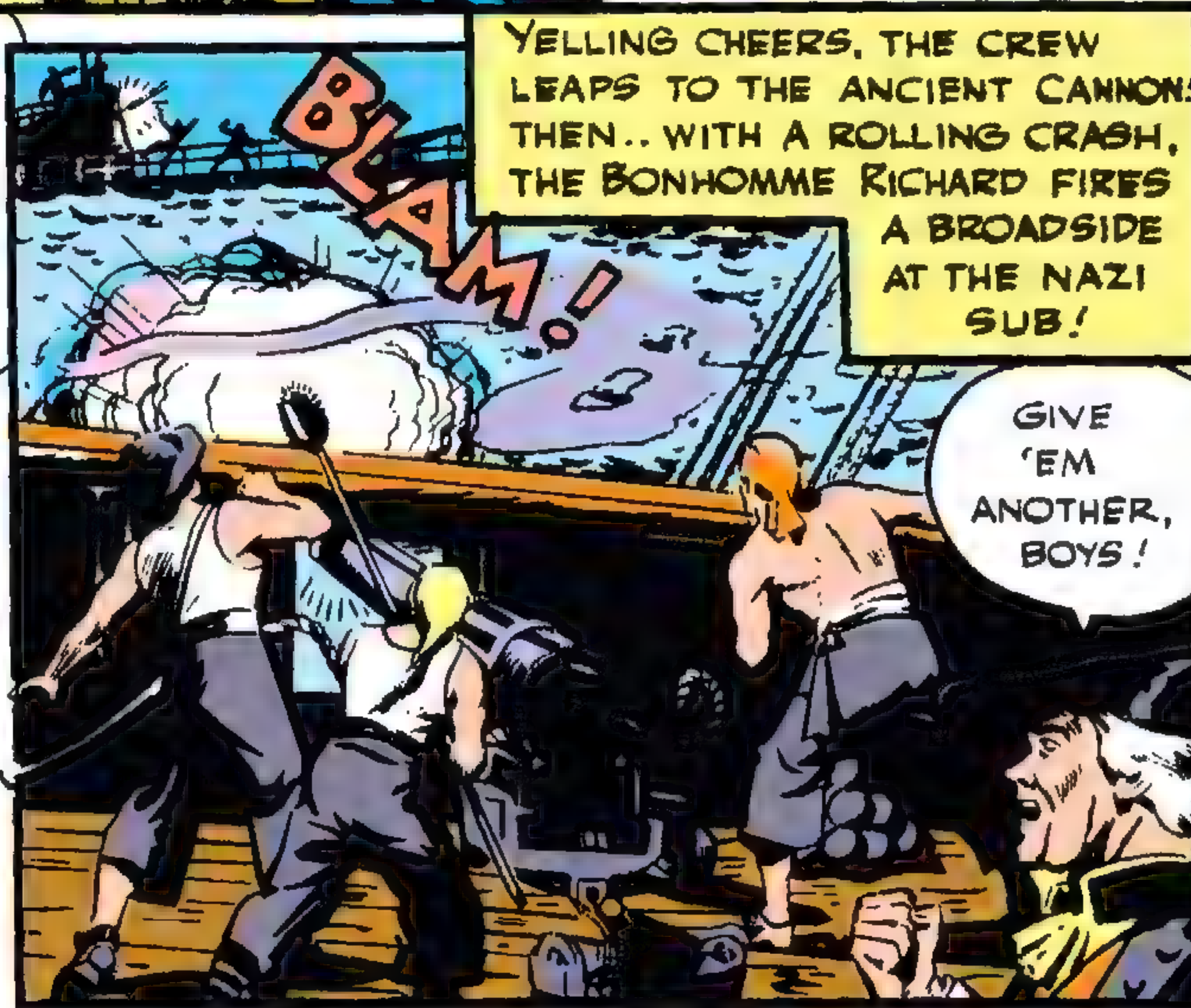


THEN WILKINS
KNOWS A NEW
FEAR THAT RE-
PLACES HIS
OLD FEAR!
THIS NEW FEAR
FOR HIS
COUNTRY'S
HONOR,
AND THE MORALE
OF ITS PEOPLE!
HE GETS MAD...
**FIGHTING
MAD!!**

ALL HANDS TO BAT-
TLE STATIONS! ROLL
OUT THE POWDER!
LOAD THE 18-
POUNDERS!
**CLEAR FOR
ACTION!**

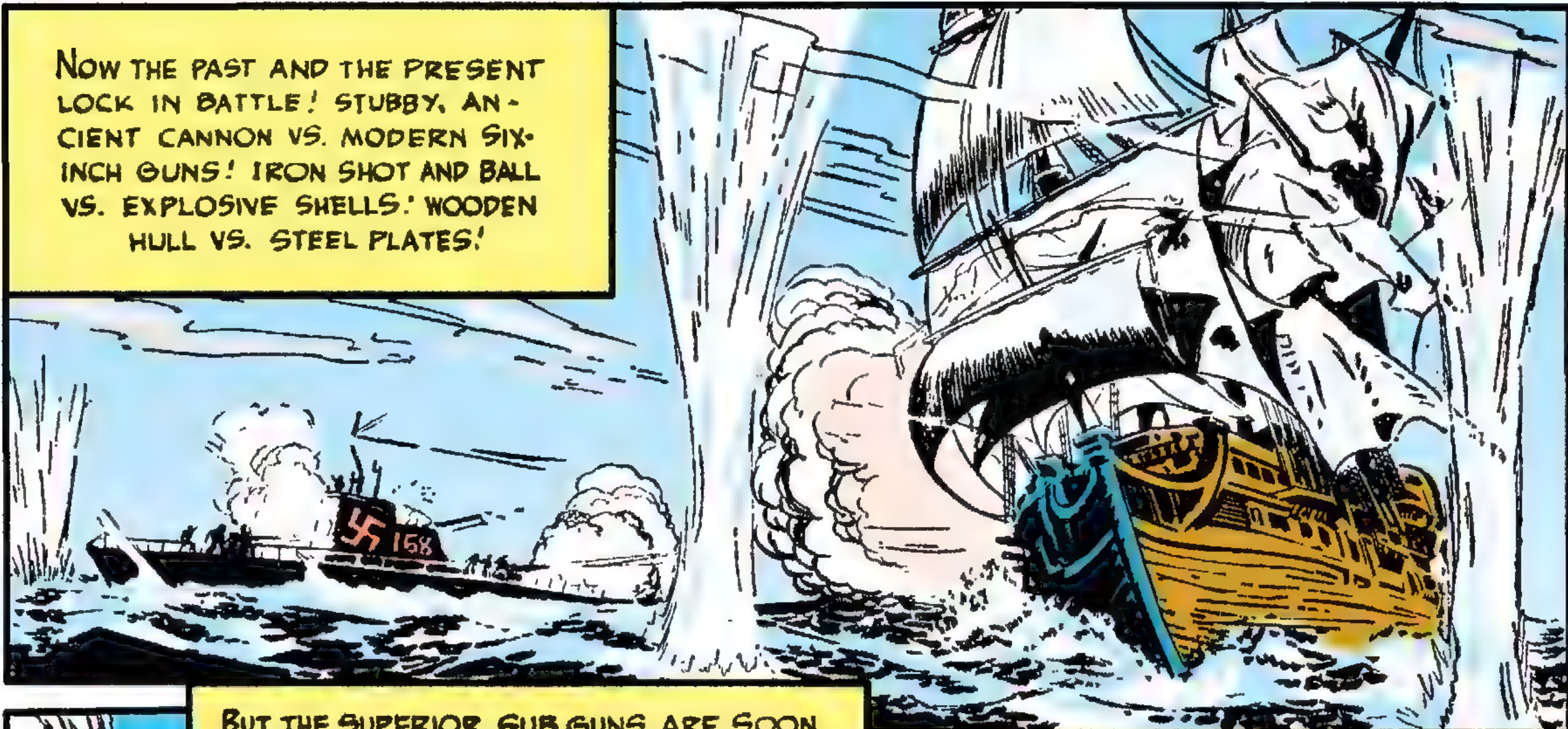


YELLING CHEERS, THE CREW
LEAPS TO THE ANCIENT CANNON.
THEN.. WITH A ROLLING CRASH,
THE BONHOMME RICHARD FIRES
A BROADSIDE
AT THE NAZI
SUB!

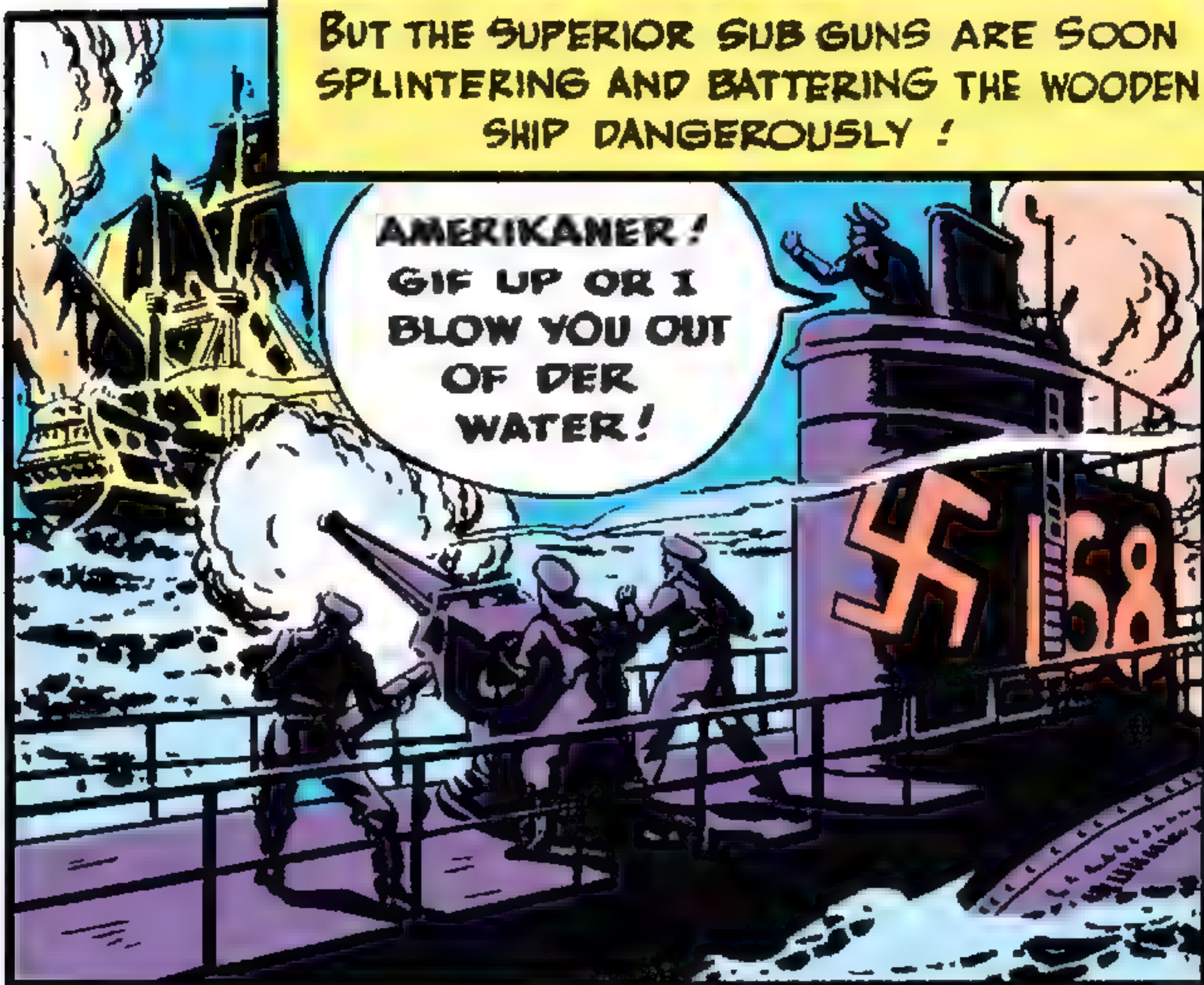


GIVE
'EM
ANOTHER,
BOYS!

NOW THE PAST AND THE PRESENT
LOCK IN BATTLE! STUBBY, AN-
CIENT CANNON VS. MODERN SIX-
INCH GUNS! IRON SHOT AND BALL
VS. EXPLOSIVE SHELLS! WOODEN
HULL VS. STEEL PLATES!



BUT THE SUPERIOR SUB GUNS ARE SOON
SPLINTERING AND BATTERING THE WOODEN
SHIP DANGEROUSLY !



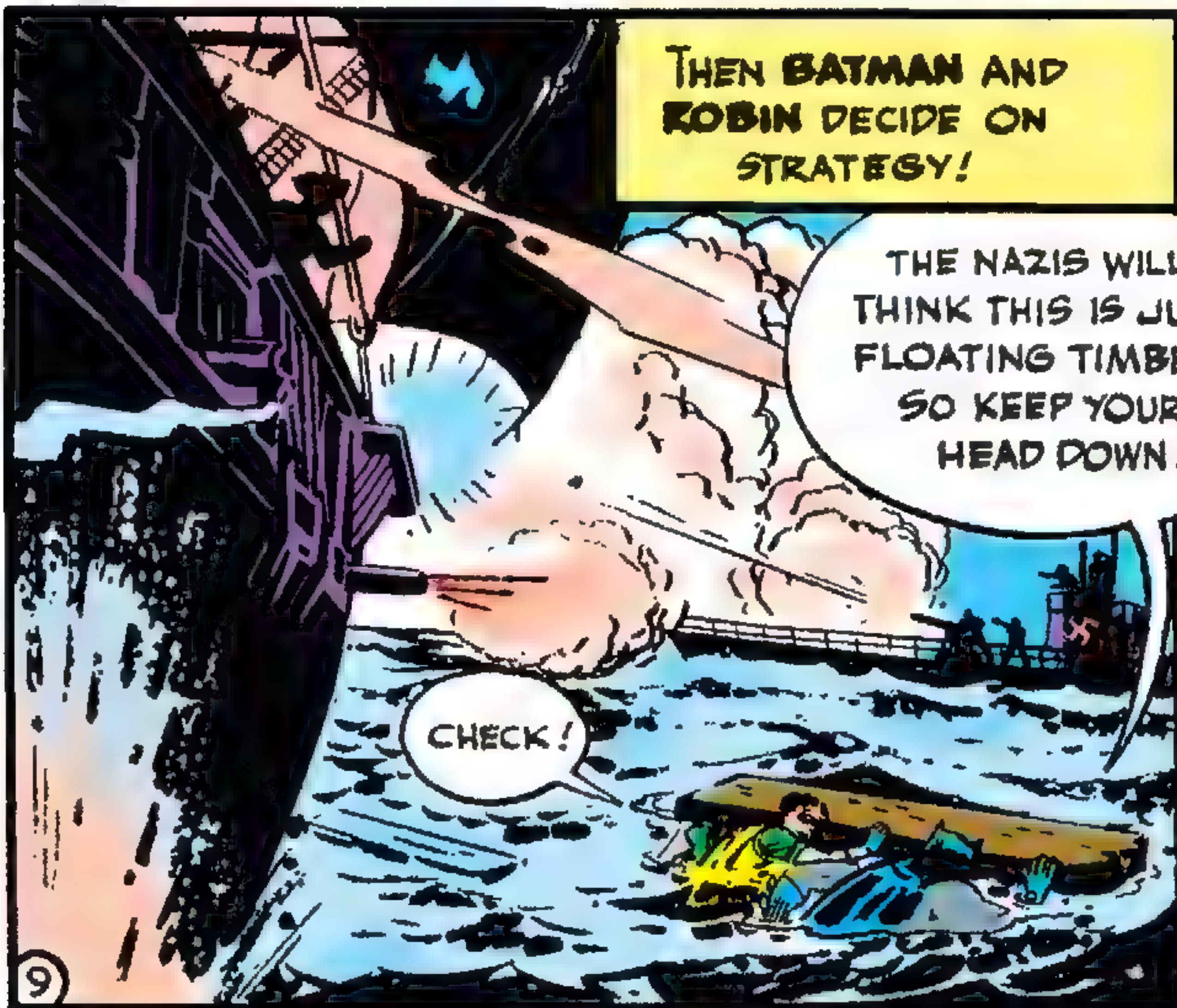
AMERIKANER !
GIF UP OR I
BLOW YOU OUT
OF DER
WATER !

SUDDENLY TO THE MIND OF ACTOR JONES,
COMES A RECOLLECTION OF A HISTORY
LESSON OF CHILDHOOD DAYS... THE
REMEMBRANCE OF THE IMMORTAL WORDS
OF JOHN PAUL JONES HIMSELF...



GIVE UP? I'VE NOT YET BEGUN
TO FIGHT !

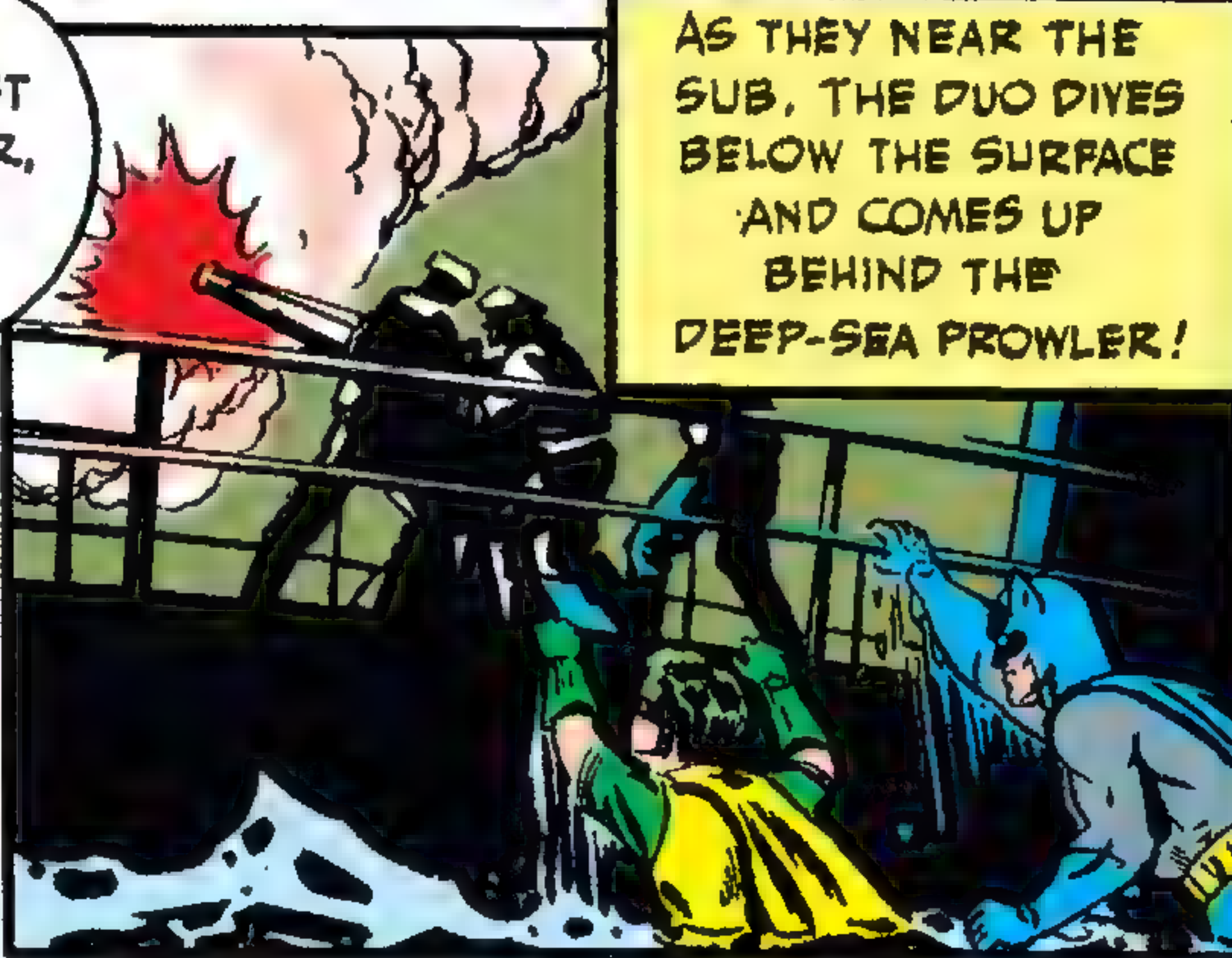
THEN BATMAN AND
ROBIN DECIDE ON
STRATEGY!

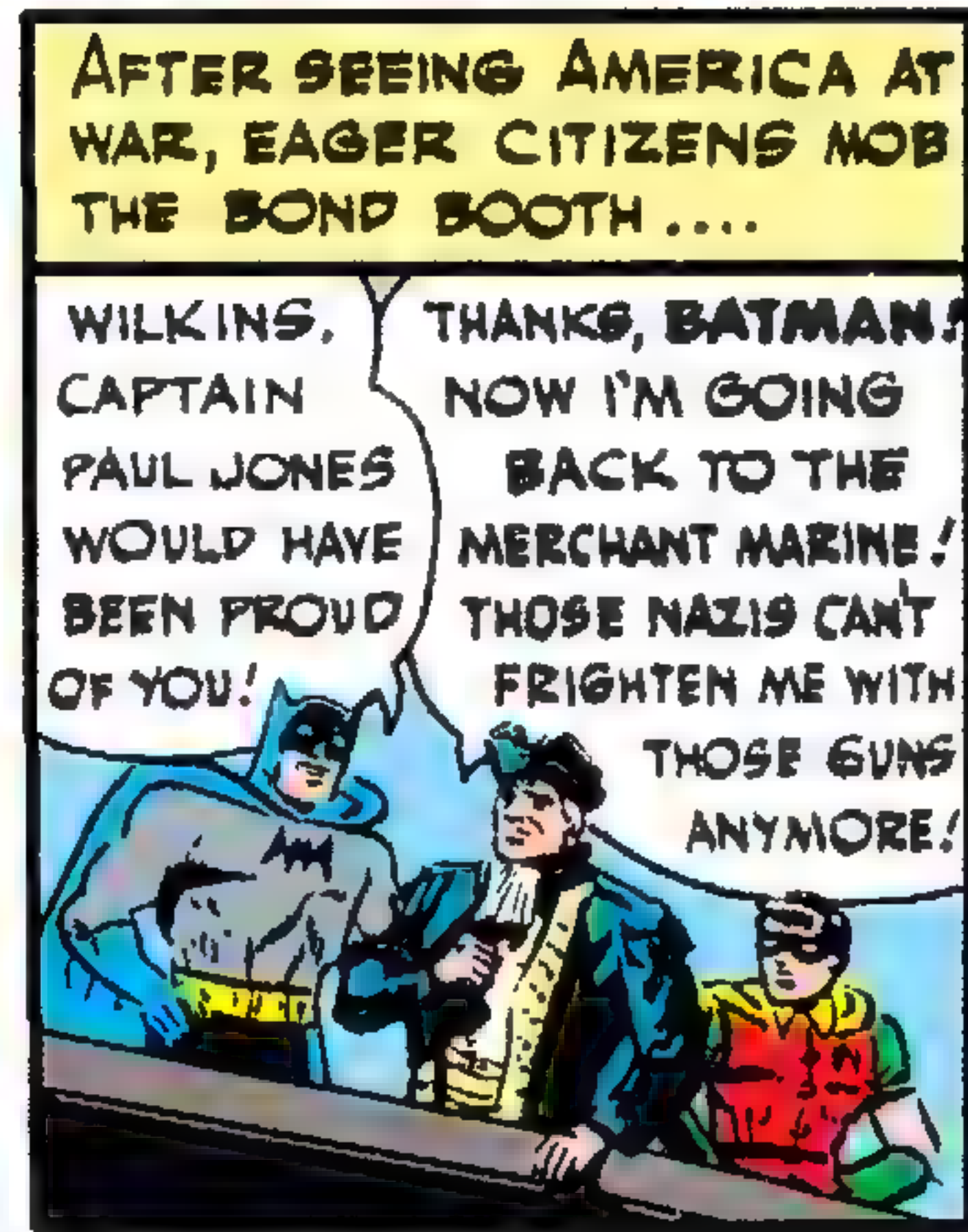
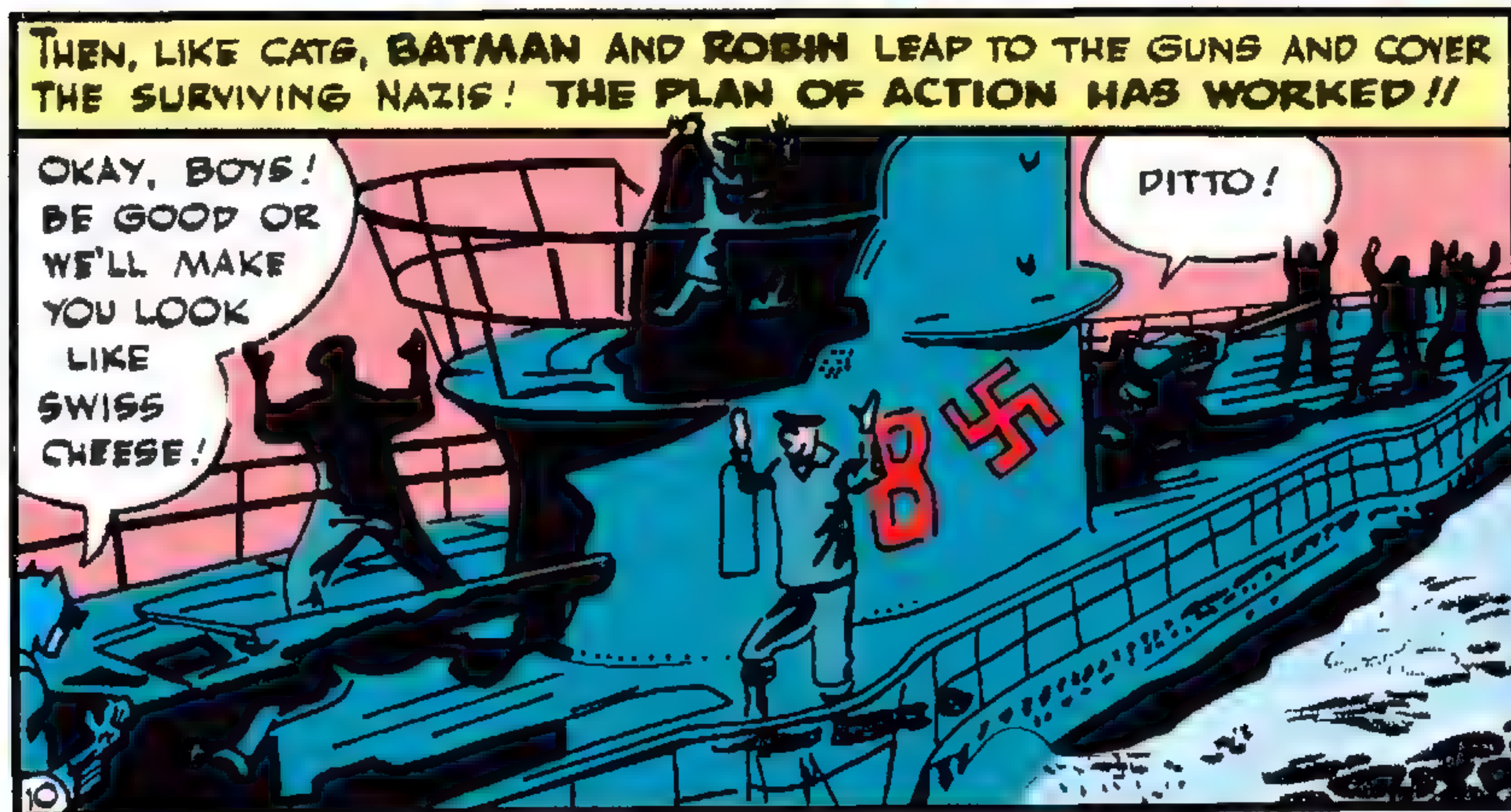
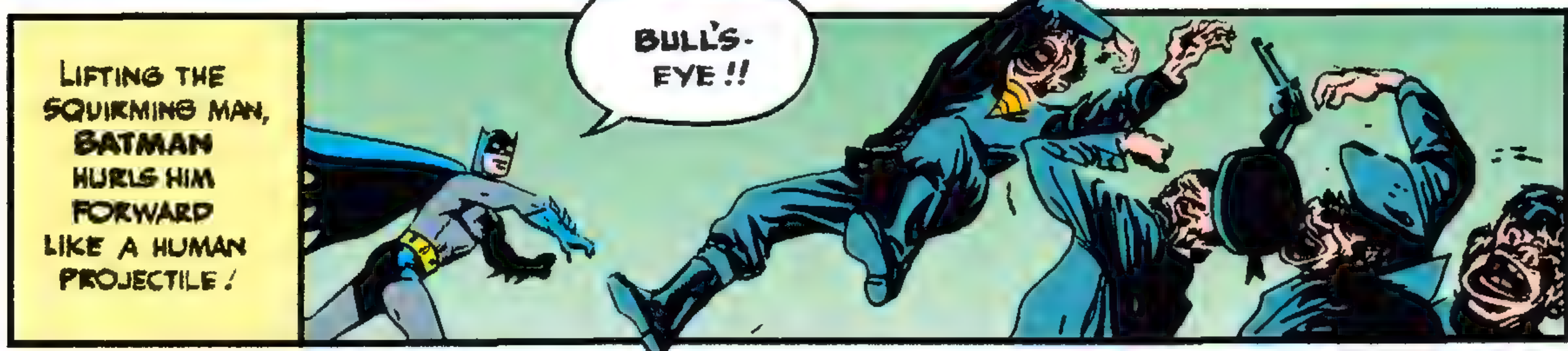
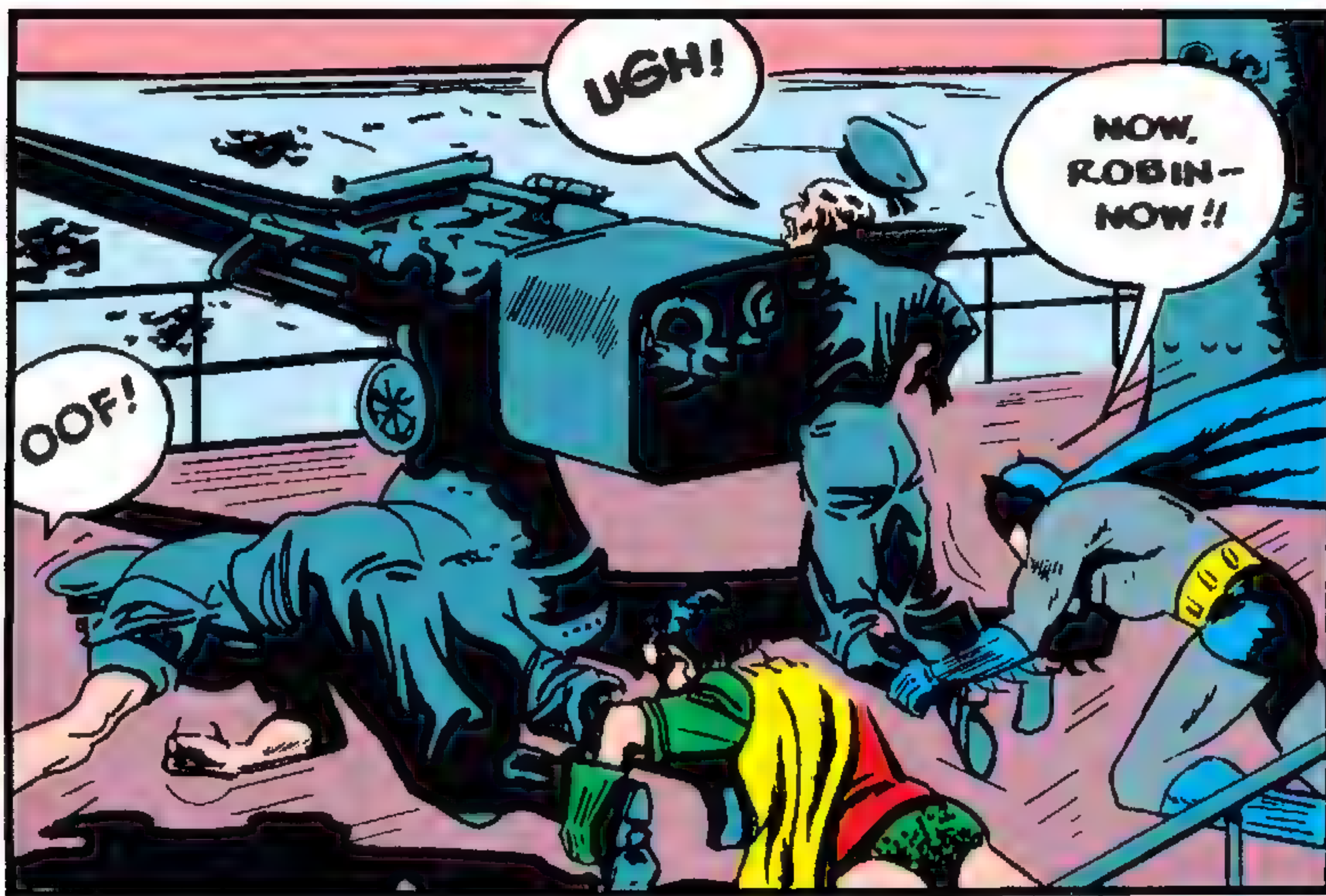


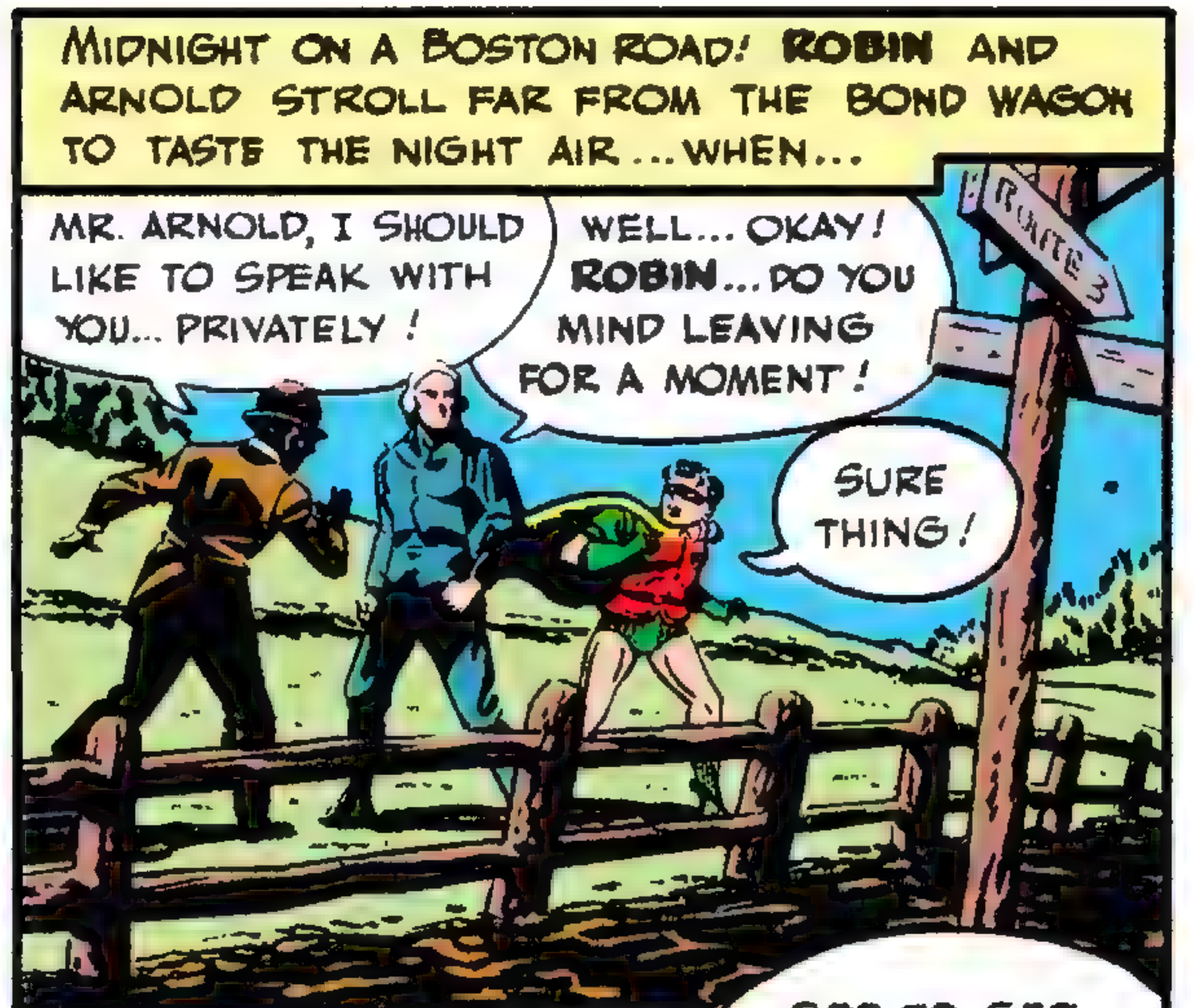
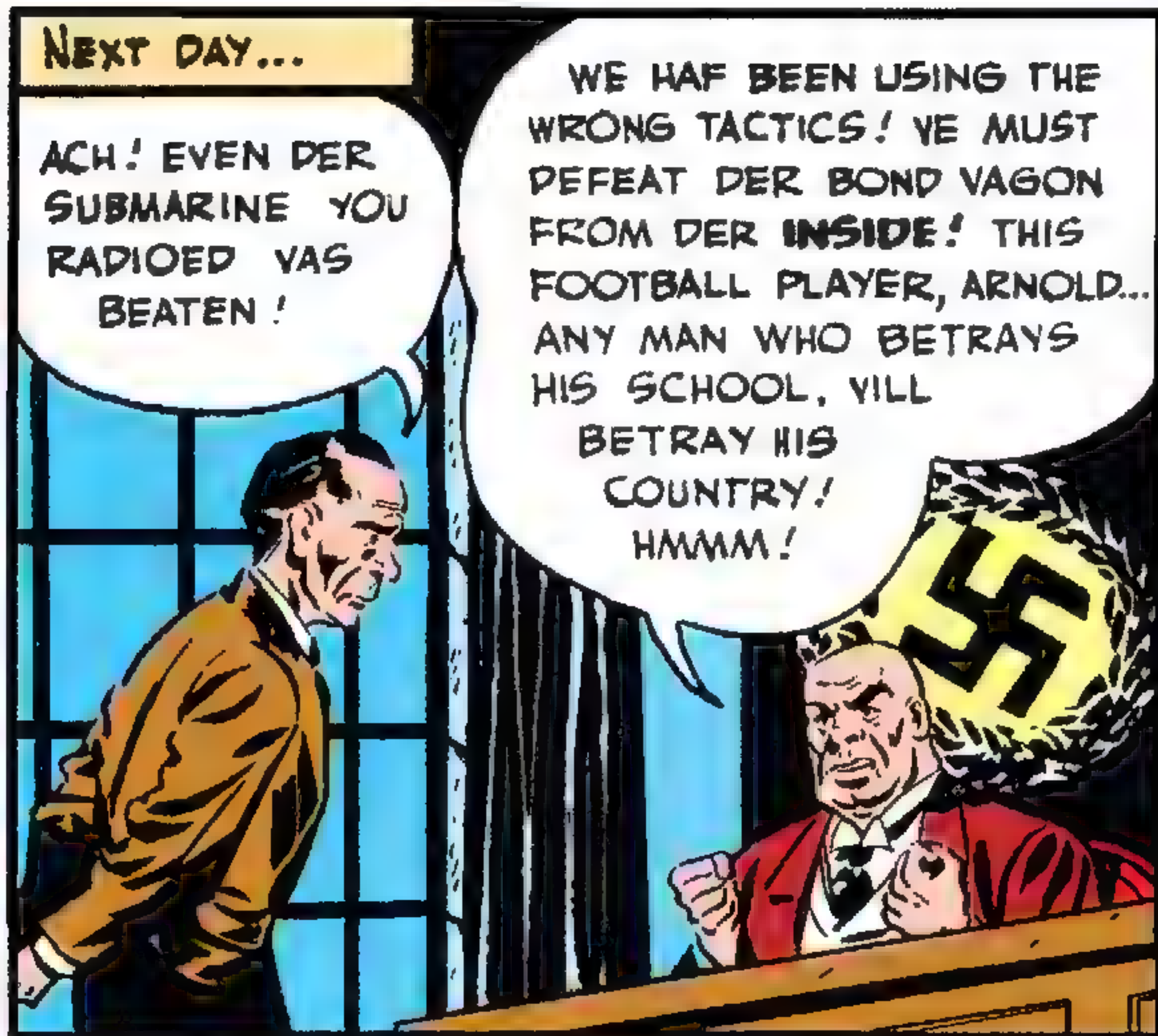
THE NAZIS WILL
THINK THIS IS JUST
FLOATING TIMBER,
SO KEEP YOUR
HEAD DOWN !

CHECK !

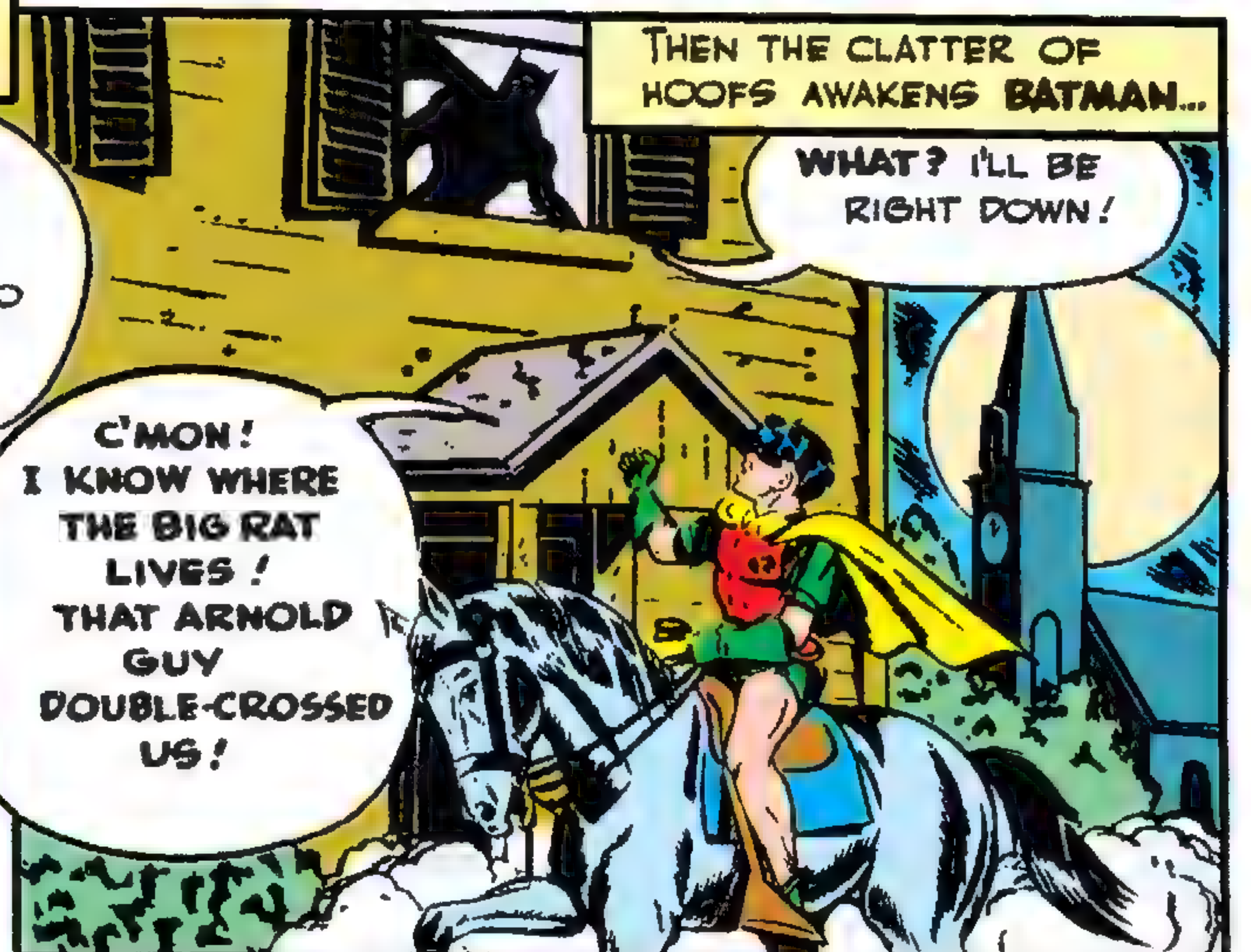
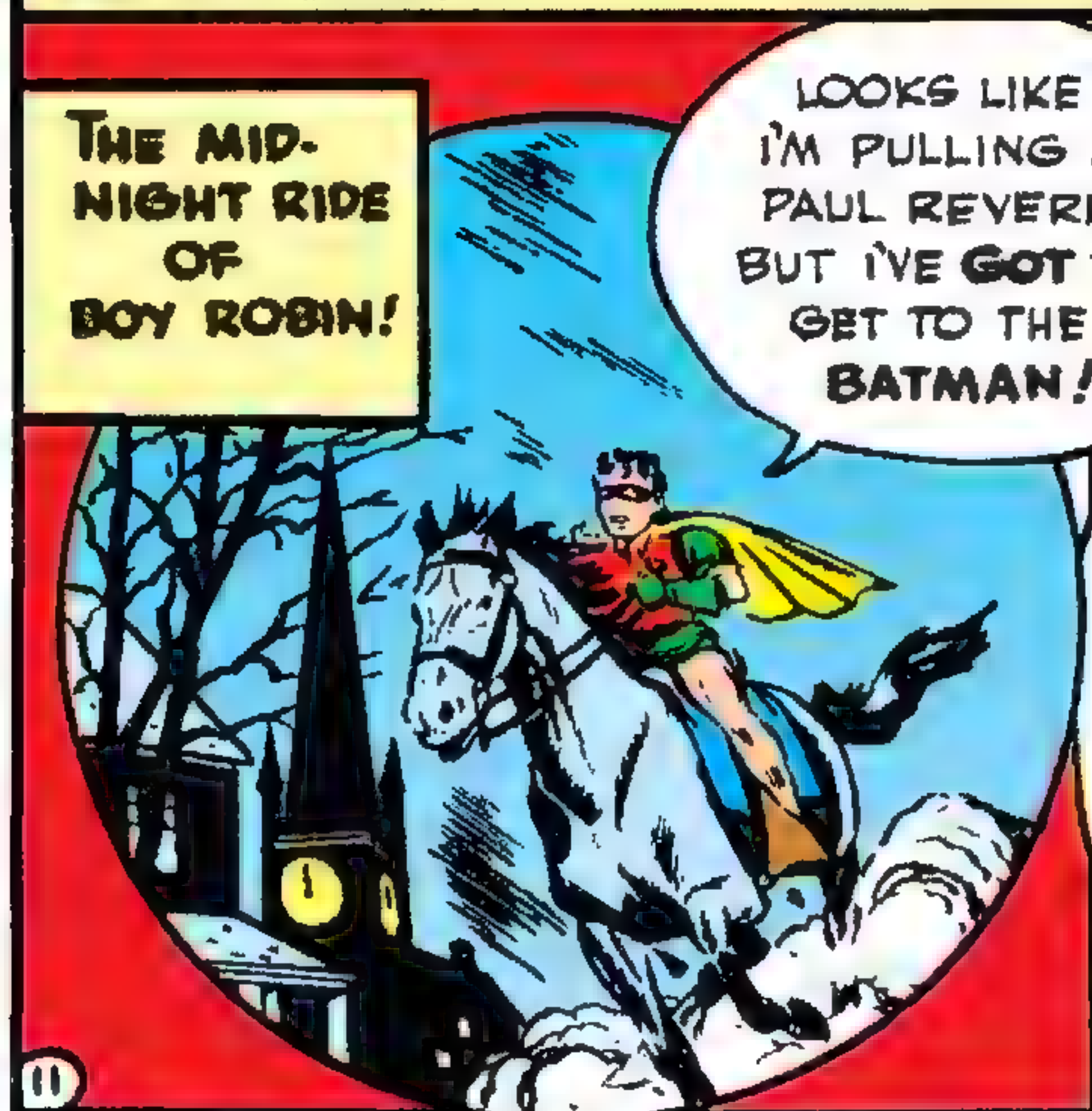
AS THEY NEAR THE
SUB, THE DUO DIVES
BELOW THE SURFACE
AND COMES UP
BEHIND THE
DEEP-SEA PROWLER !



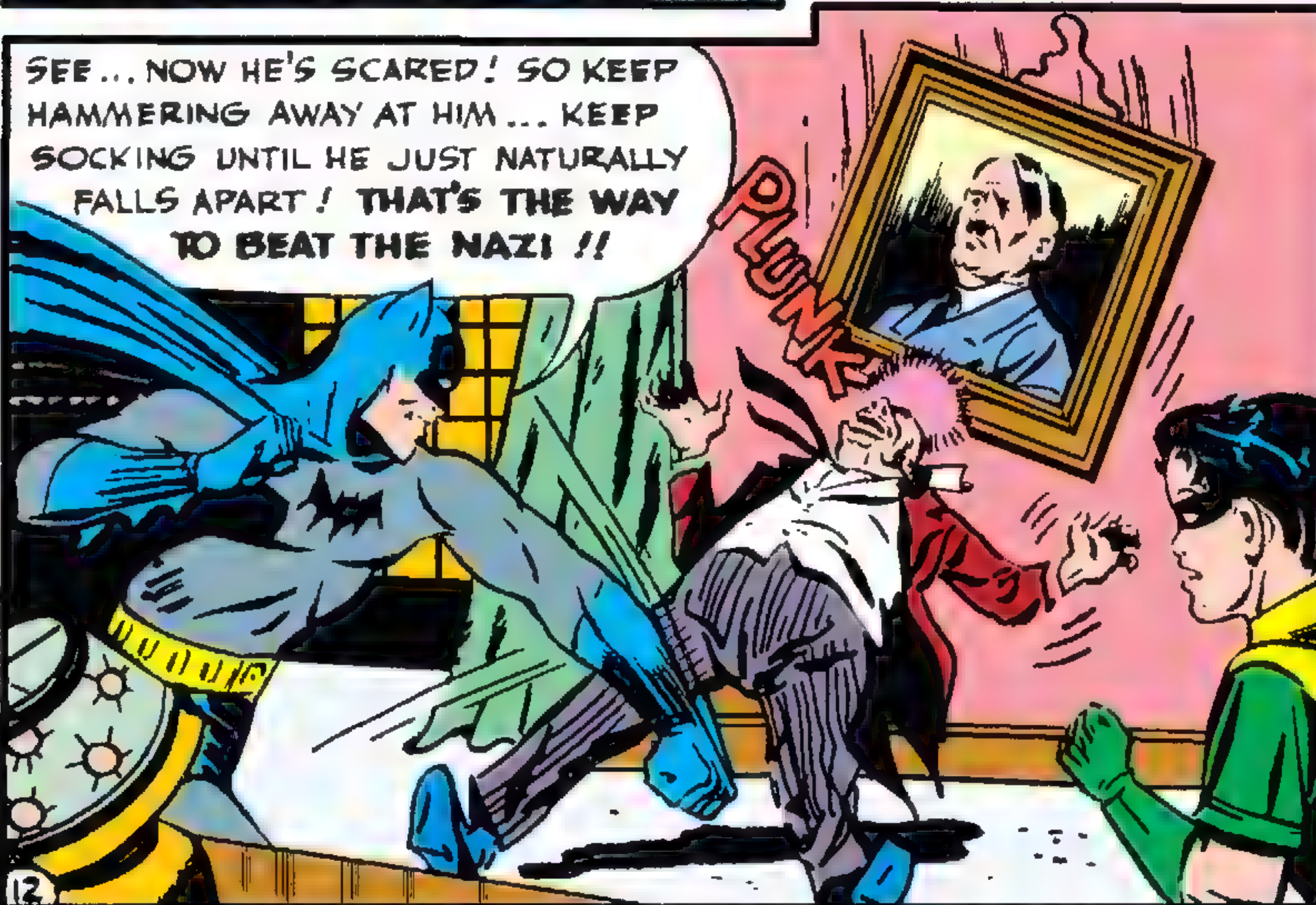
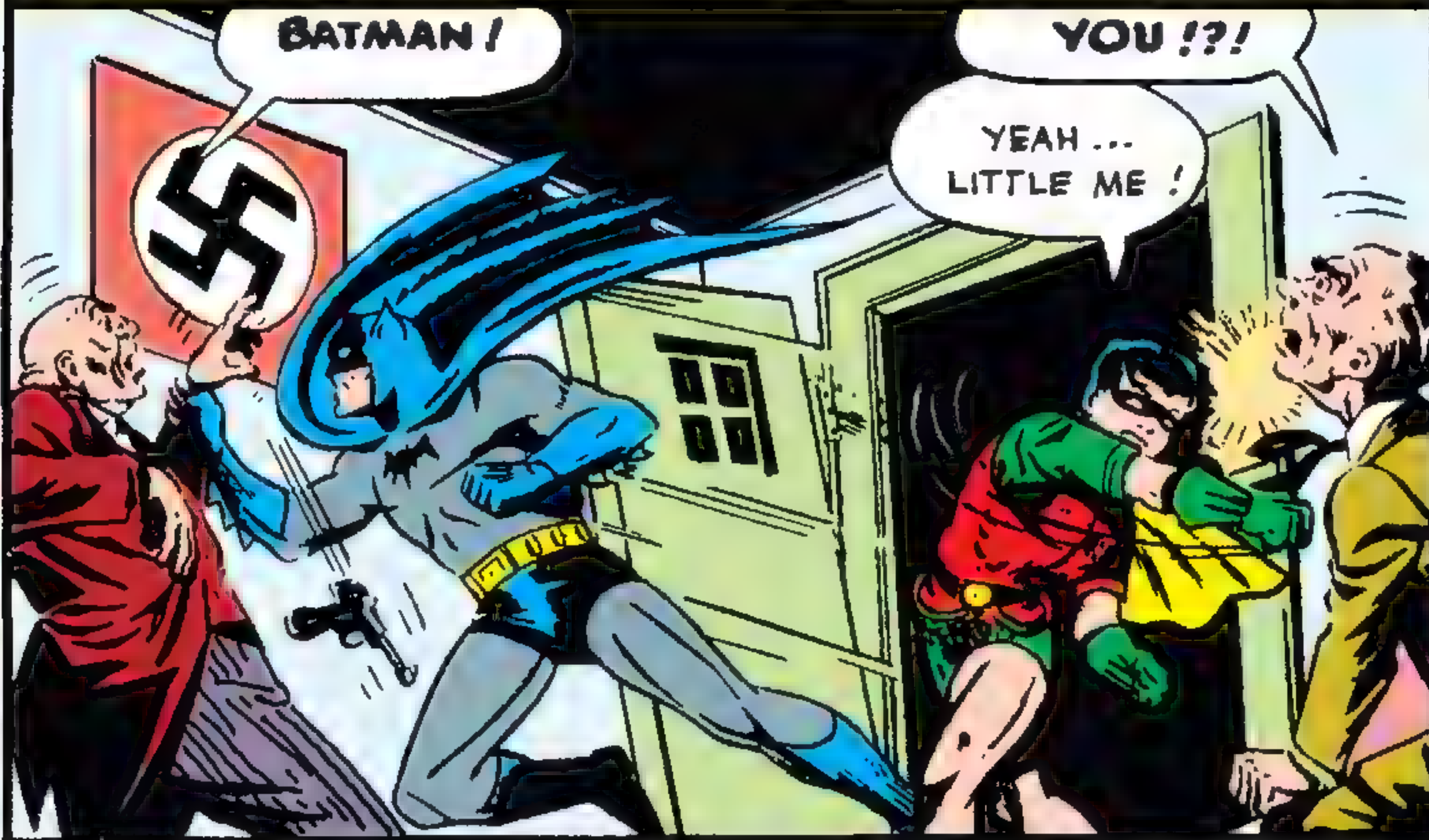




BUT ROBIN KNOWS-- FOR ONE OF HIS CRIME-FIGHTING WEAPONS IS THE READING OF LIPS!



MINUTES LATER! THEN TWO GLAMMING FRAMES CRASH THE SAB-OTEUR STRONGHOLD!



THE NEXT DAY,.. ARNOLD EXPLAINS!

I WASN'T GOING TO DOUBLE-CROSS YOU! KARPFF WAS GOING TO TAKE ME TO THE BIG RAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR! SO I PRETENDED TO THROW IN WITH THEM!



BUT I GUESS I ASKED TOO MANY QUESTIONS! THEY GOT SUSPICIOUS ... AND SHOT ME!

ARNOLD, I'M GLAD I PICKED YOU TO PLAY NATHAN HALE! YOU'RE AN OKAY FELLA!



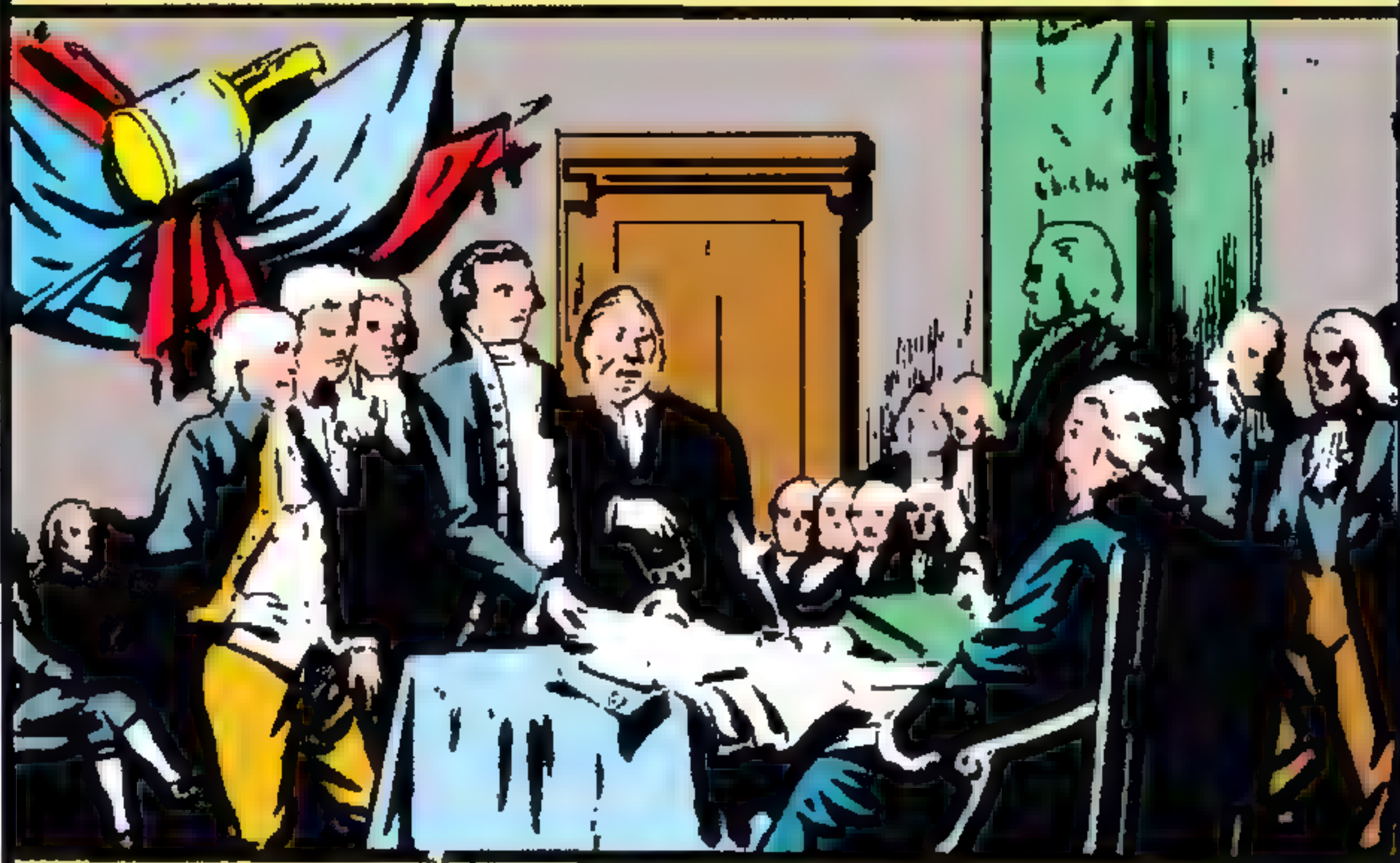
AND WHEN THE PRESS LEARNS, AND ARNOLD'S SCHOOLMATES LEARN THE TRUTH, A SPECIAL COMMITTEE INVADES THE HOSPITAL!

I GUESS YOU OUGHT TO HAVE THIS! THE SPORTS WRITERS OF ALL PAPERS HAVE VOTED YOU AS HALF-BACK ON THE ALL-AMERICAN TEAM!

ALL AMERICAN!
GEE... GEE...



AND SO THE BOND WAGON ROLLS ON... TO INDEPENDENCE HALL IN PHILADELPHIA... WHERE EAGER SPECTATORS WATCH -



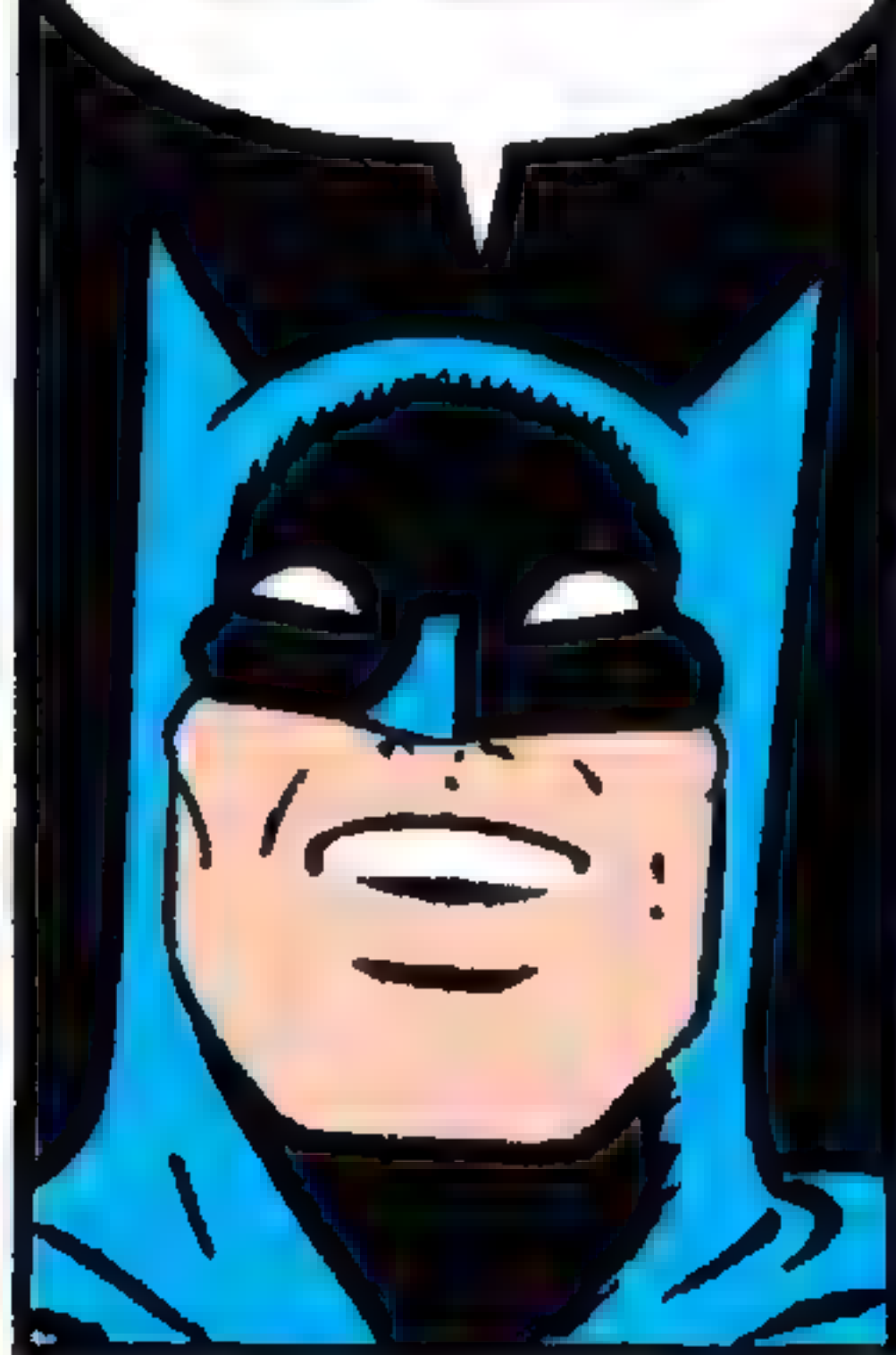
THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE!!

AFTER THE STIRRING SPECTACLE, BATMAN ADDRESSES THE PEOPLE CROWDING THE HALL...

FELLOW AMERICANS, YOU TOO, CAN SIGN A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE... INDEPENDENCE FROM SLAVERY TO SCHICKELGRUBER... FOR SHOULD THE AXIS WIN, AMERICANS WILL BE SLAVES IN BONDAGE!



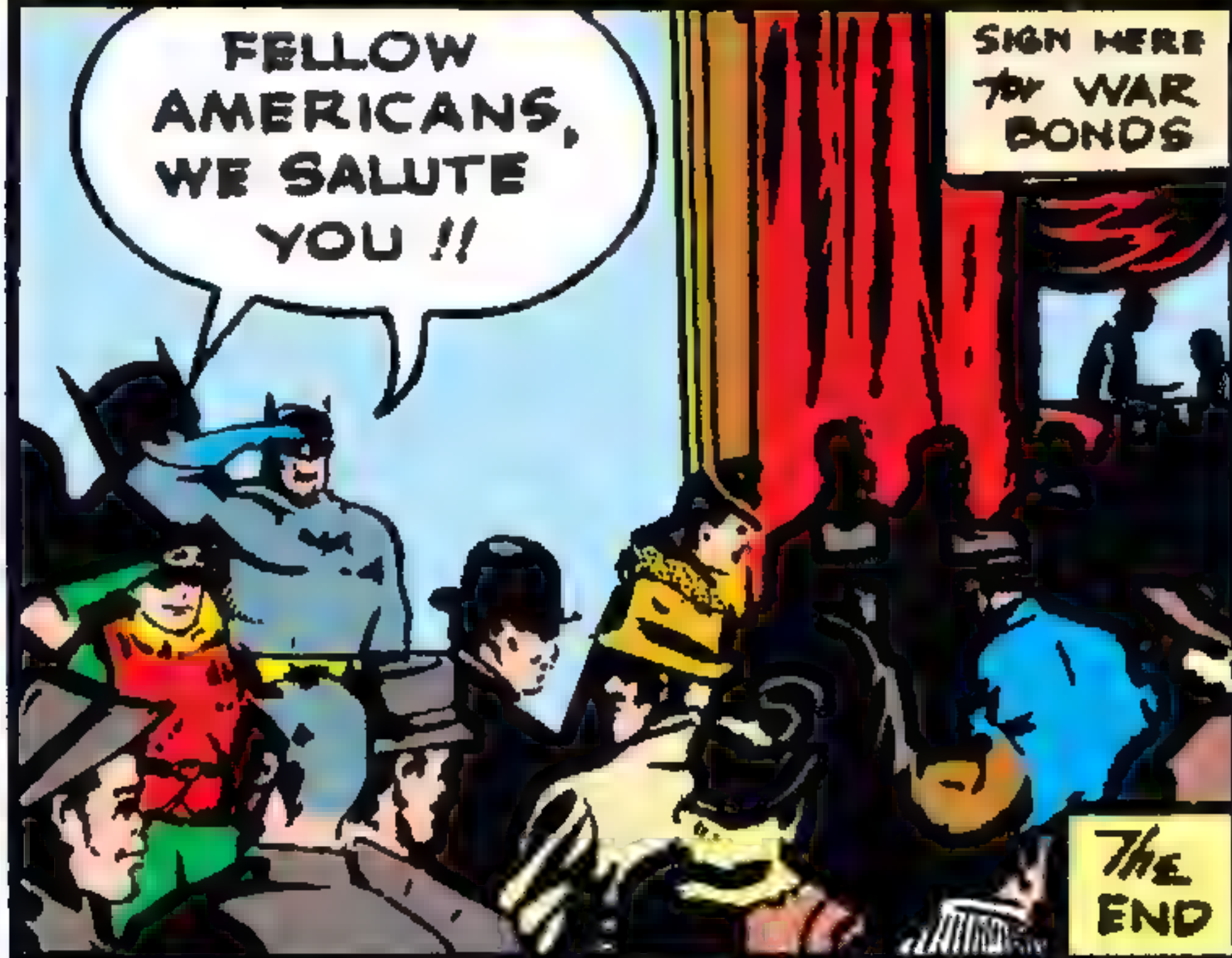
FELLOW AMERICANS! WHICH IS IT TO BE -- BONDAGE OR WAR BONDS?



AND SO A NEW DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE IS SIGNED... ANOTHER DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE FROM SLAVERY... A DECLARATION TO BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS!

FELLOW AMERICANS, WE SALUTE YOU!!

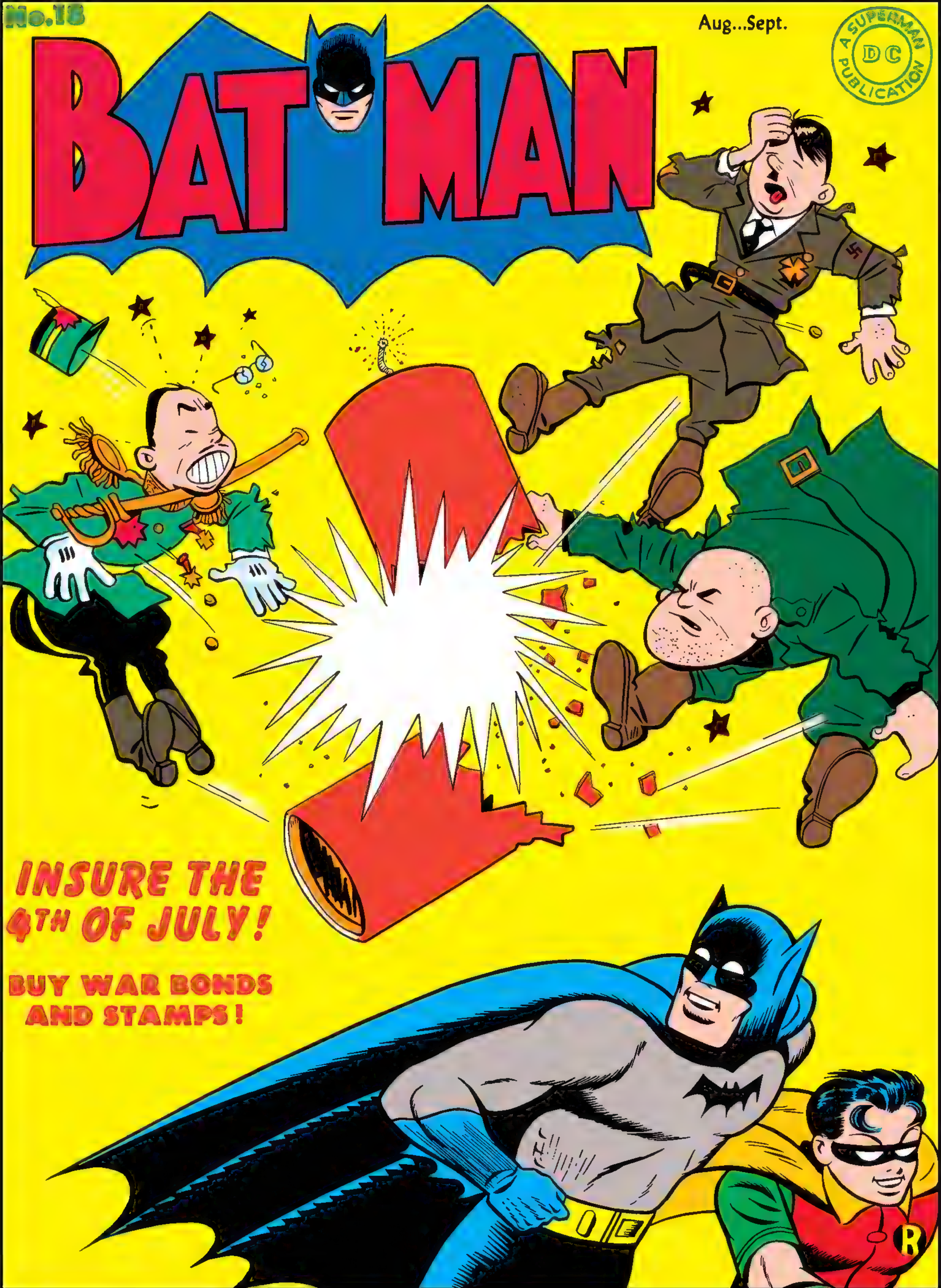
SIGN HERE
FOR WAR
BONDS



THE
END

No. 13

Aug...Sept.



BATMAN

WITH

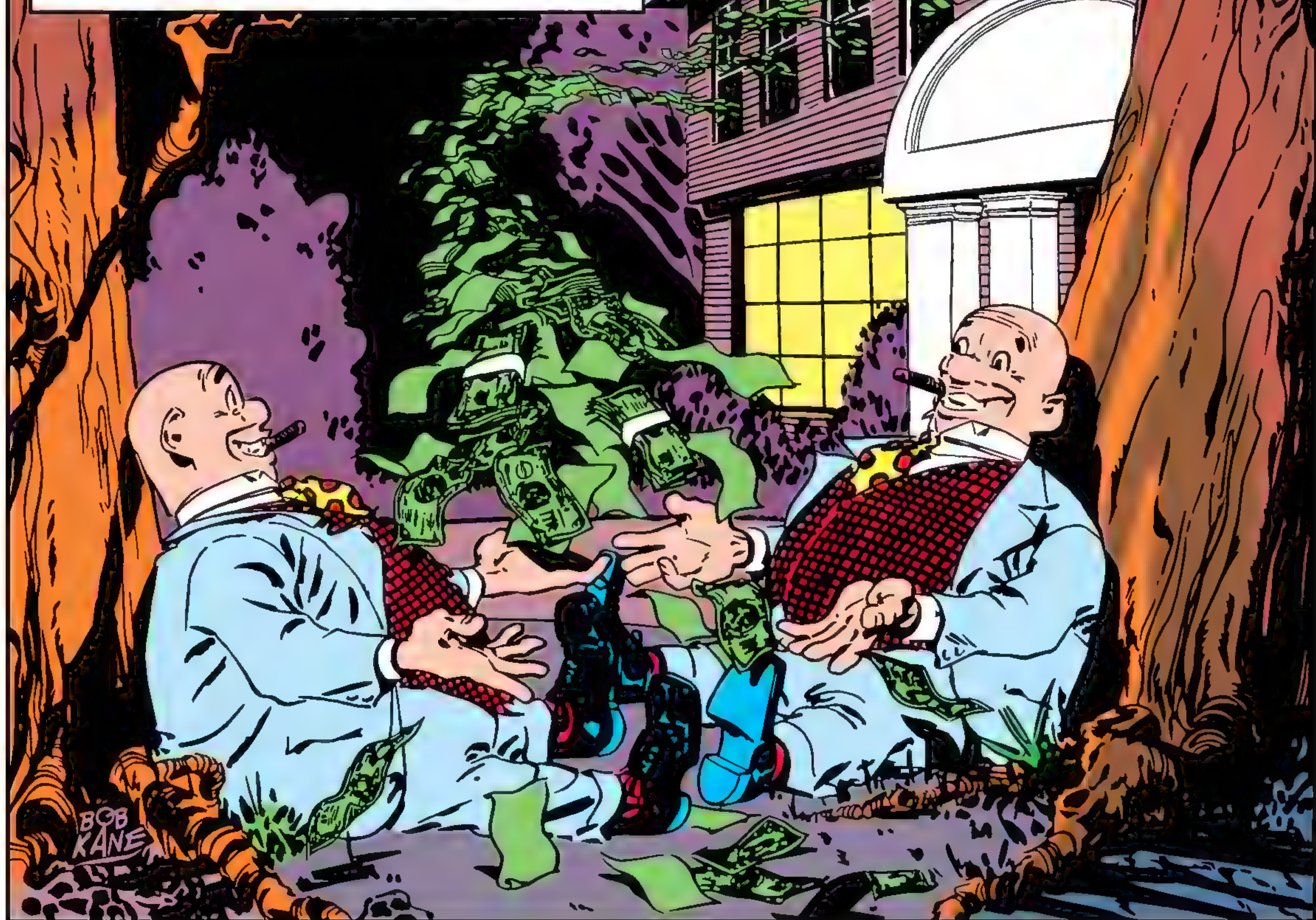
ROBIN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

BY WONDER -

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A HOUSE WITH TWO SIDES TO ITS CHARACTER? YOU HAVEN'T? THEN COME ALONG WITH MIGHTY **BATMAN** AND DARING YOUNG **ROBIN** AND MEET A TWO-FACE AMONG BUILDINGS, A DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE IN WOOD AND STONE! AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, GET REACQUAINTED WITH THOSE ROTUND RASCALS, THAT CORPULENT DUO KNOWN AS **TWEEDLEDUM** AND **TWEEDLEDEE**... AS THE MANTLED CRIME-FIGHTERS DO WHEN THEY SEEK TO UNRID-

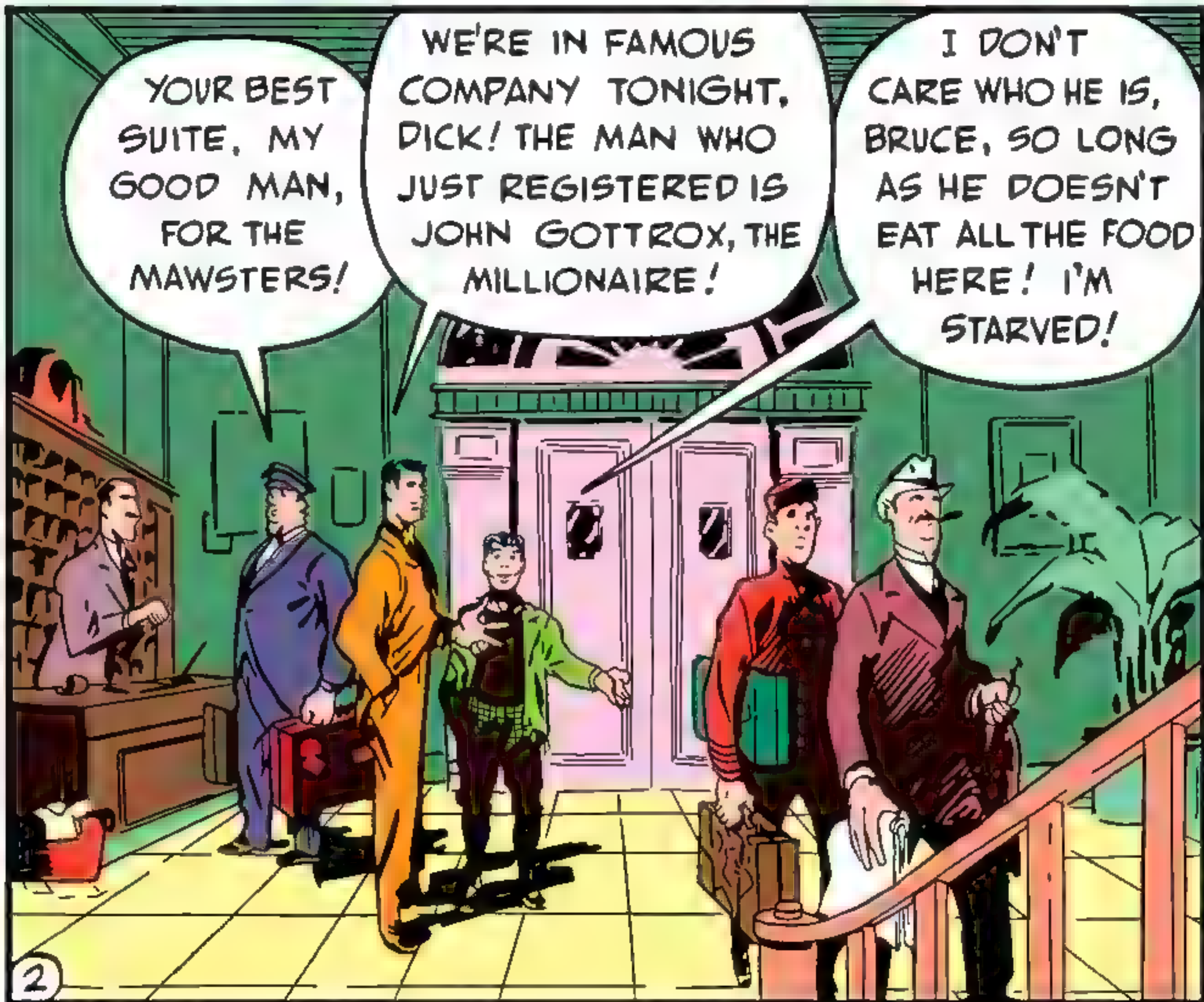
DLE...
"THE SECRET OF HUNTER'S INN!"



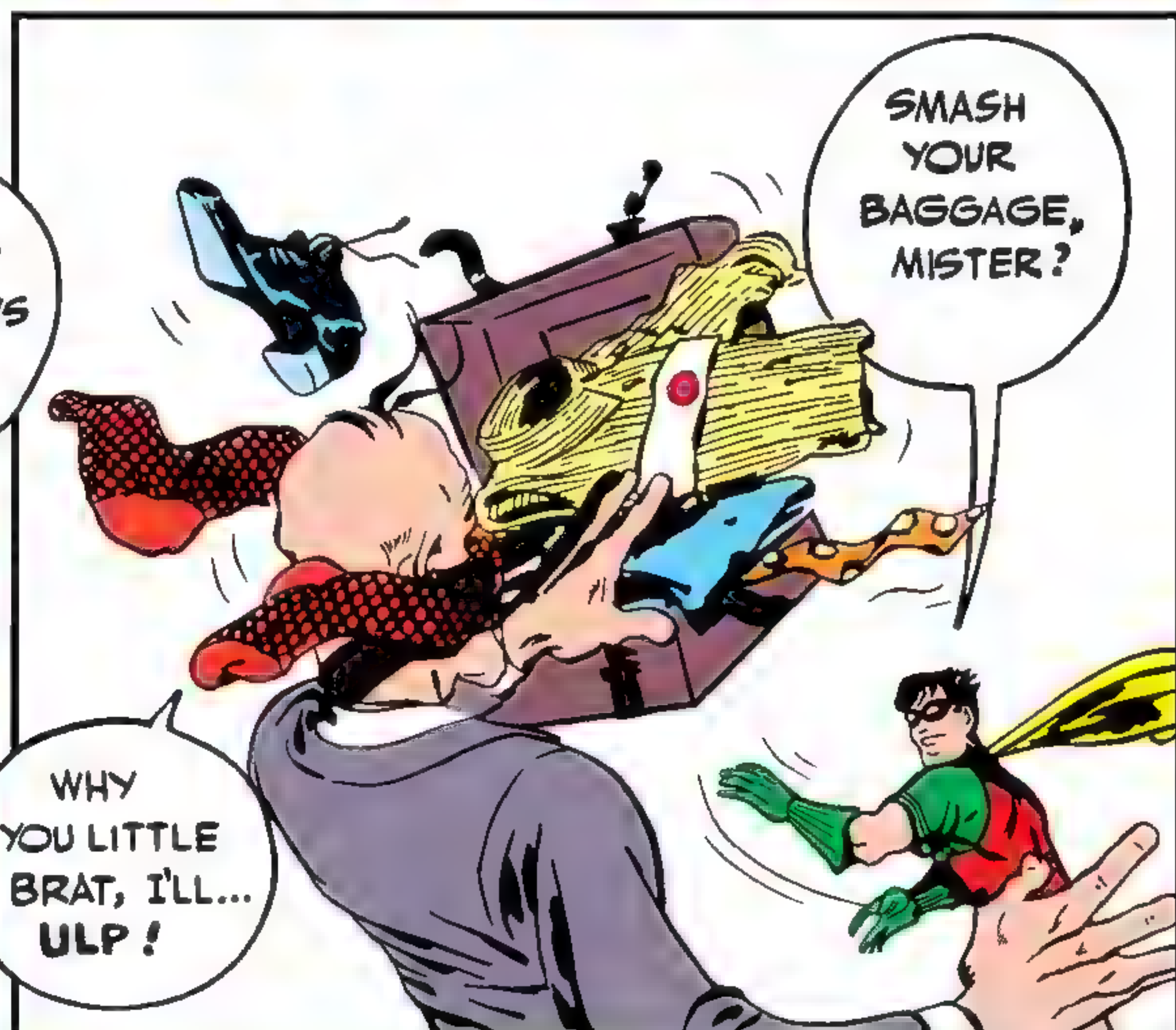
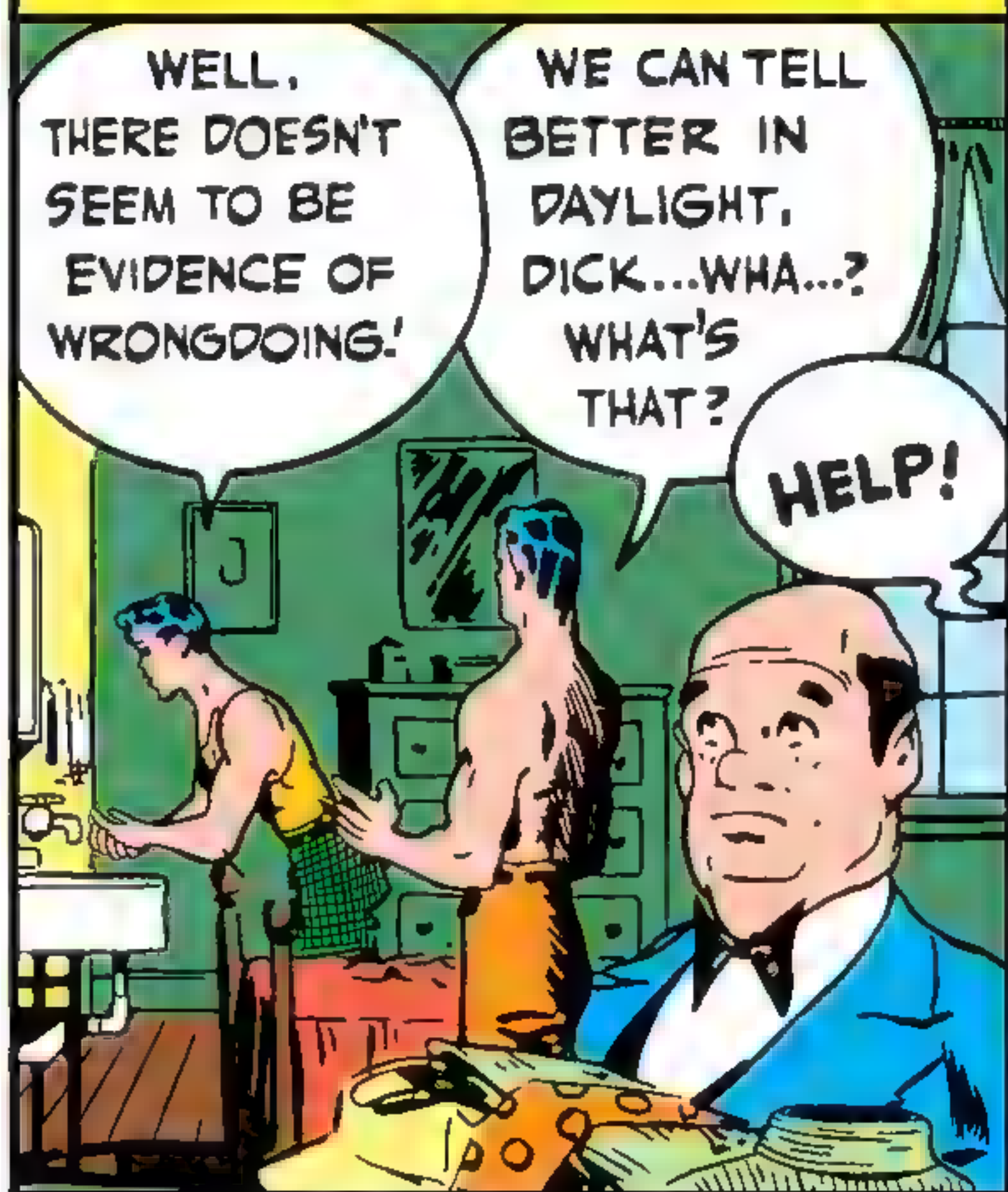
BOB KANE

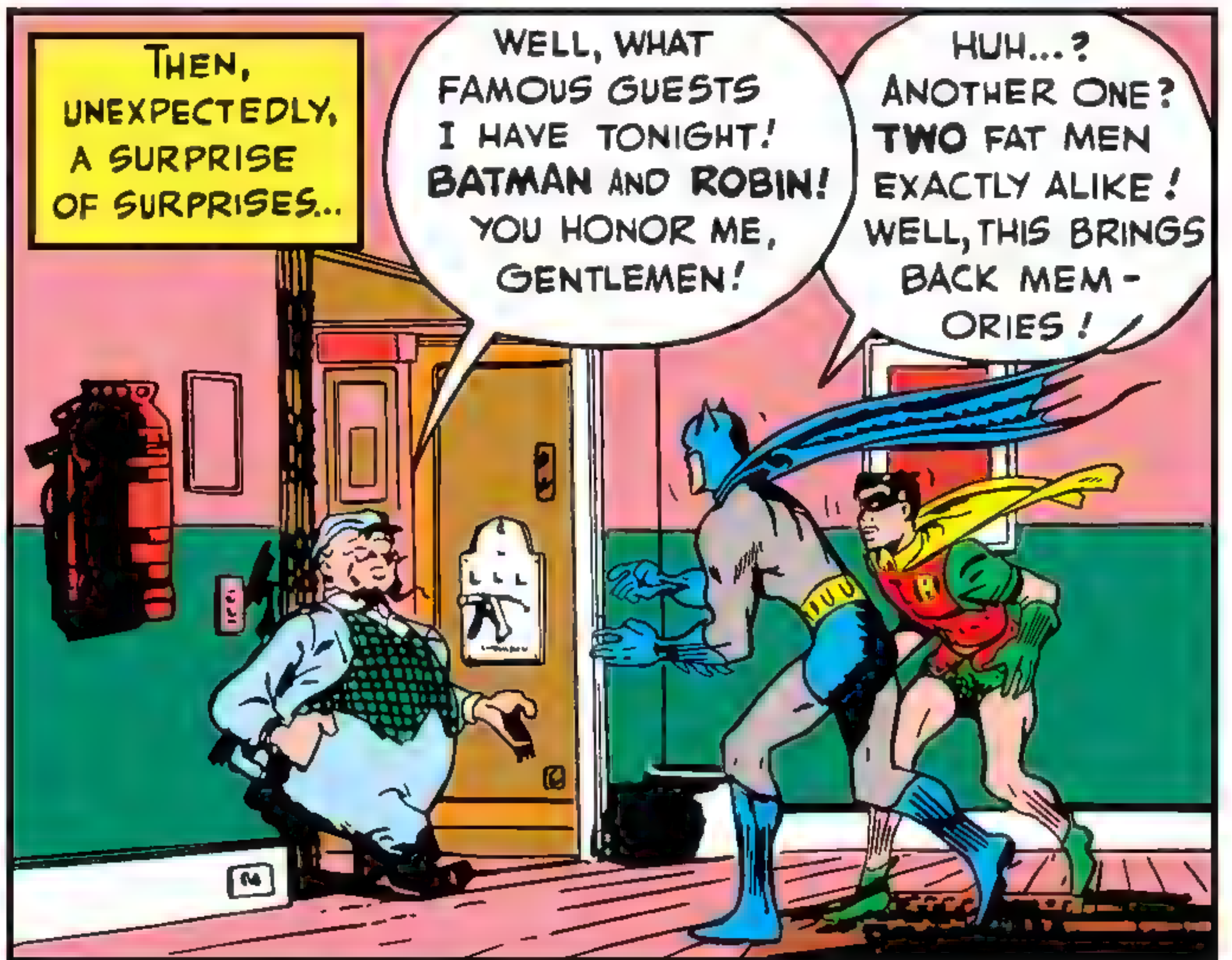
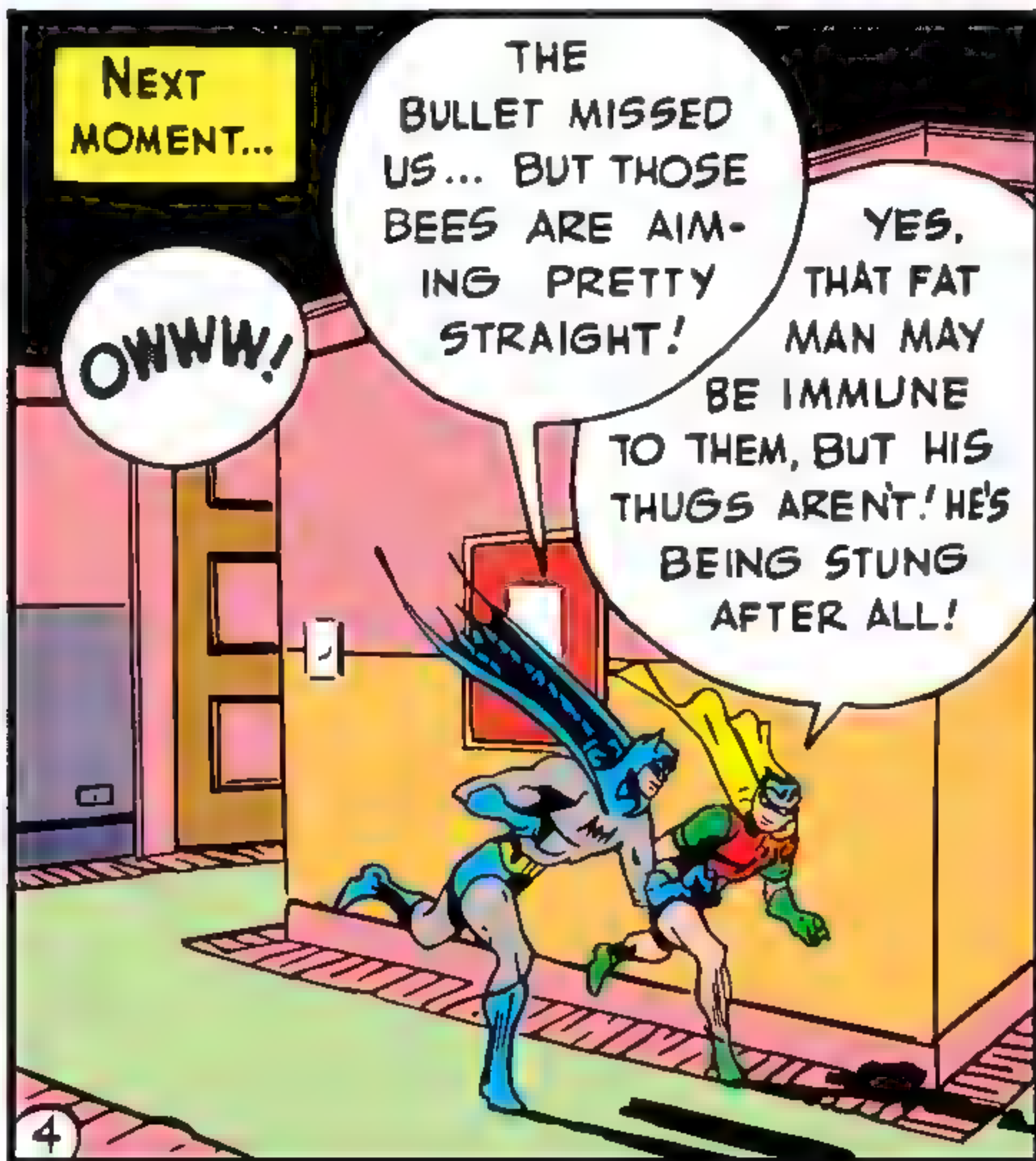
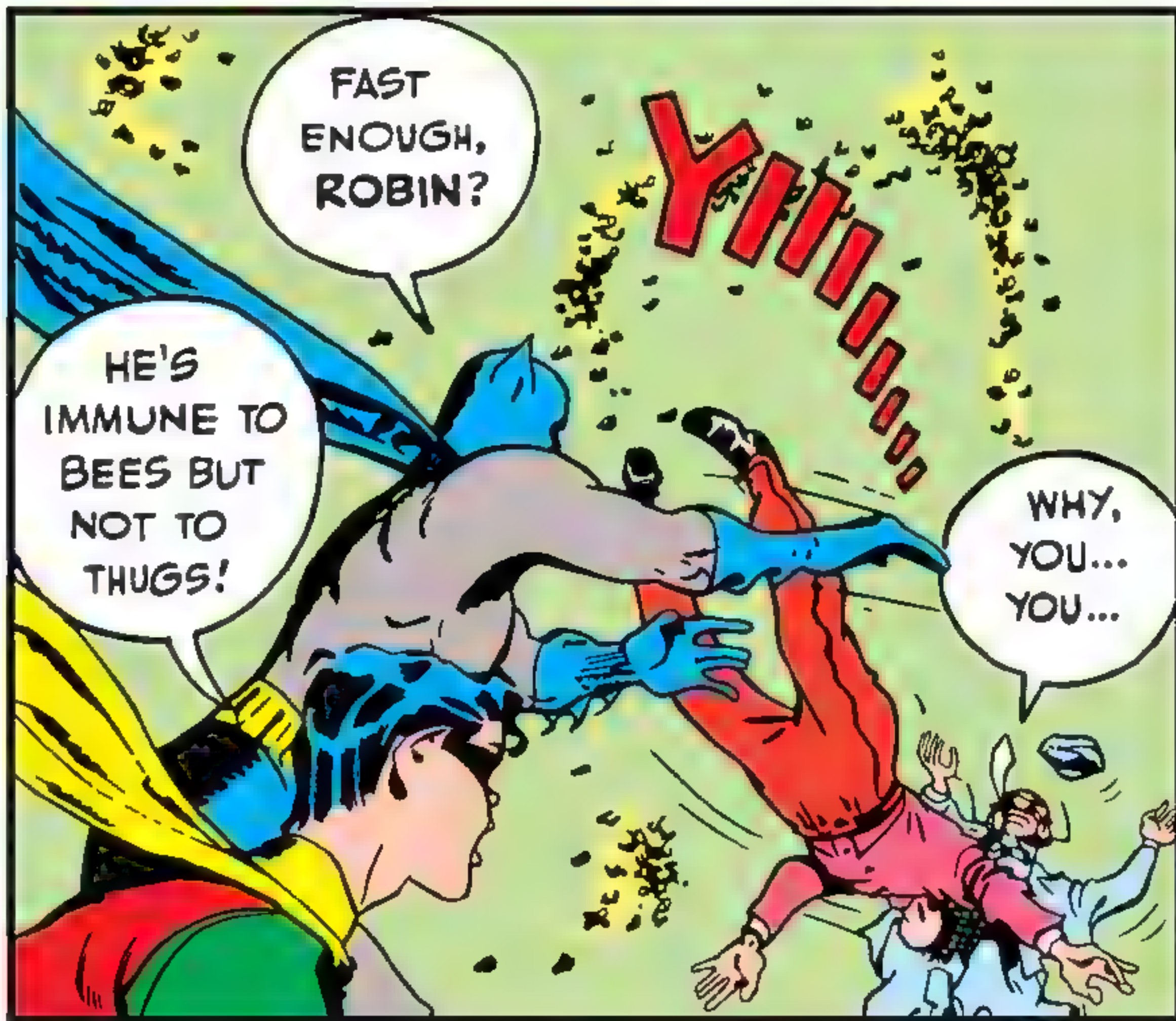
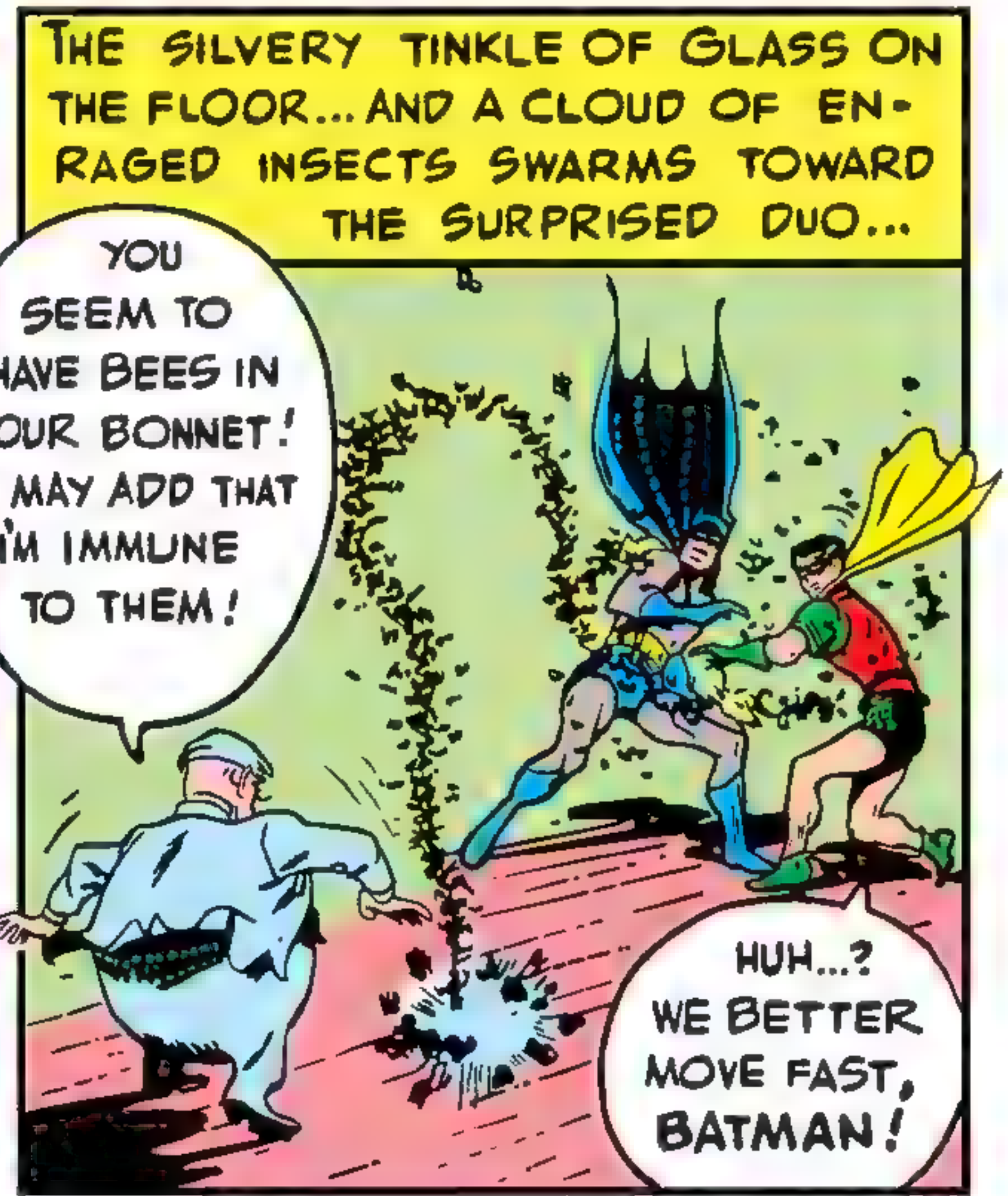


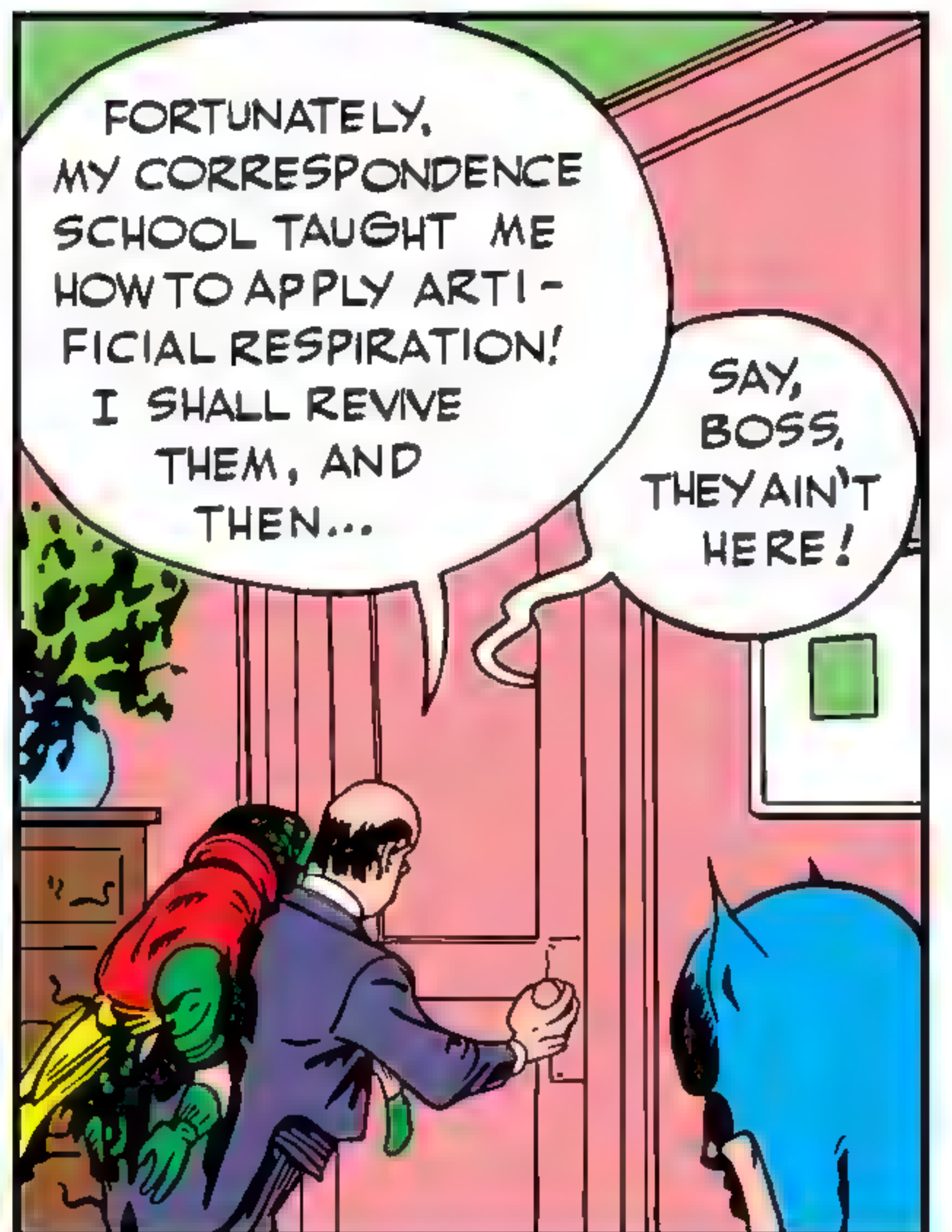
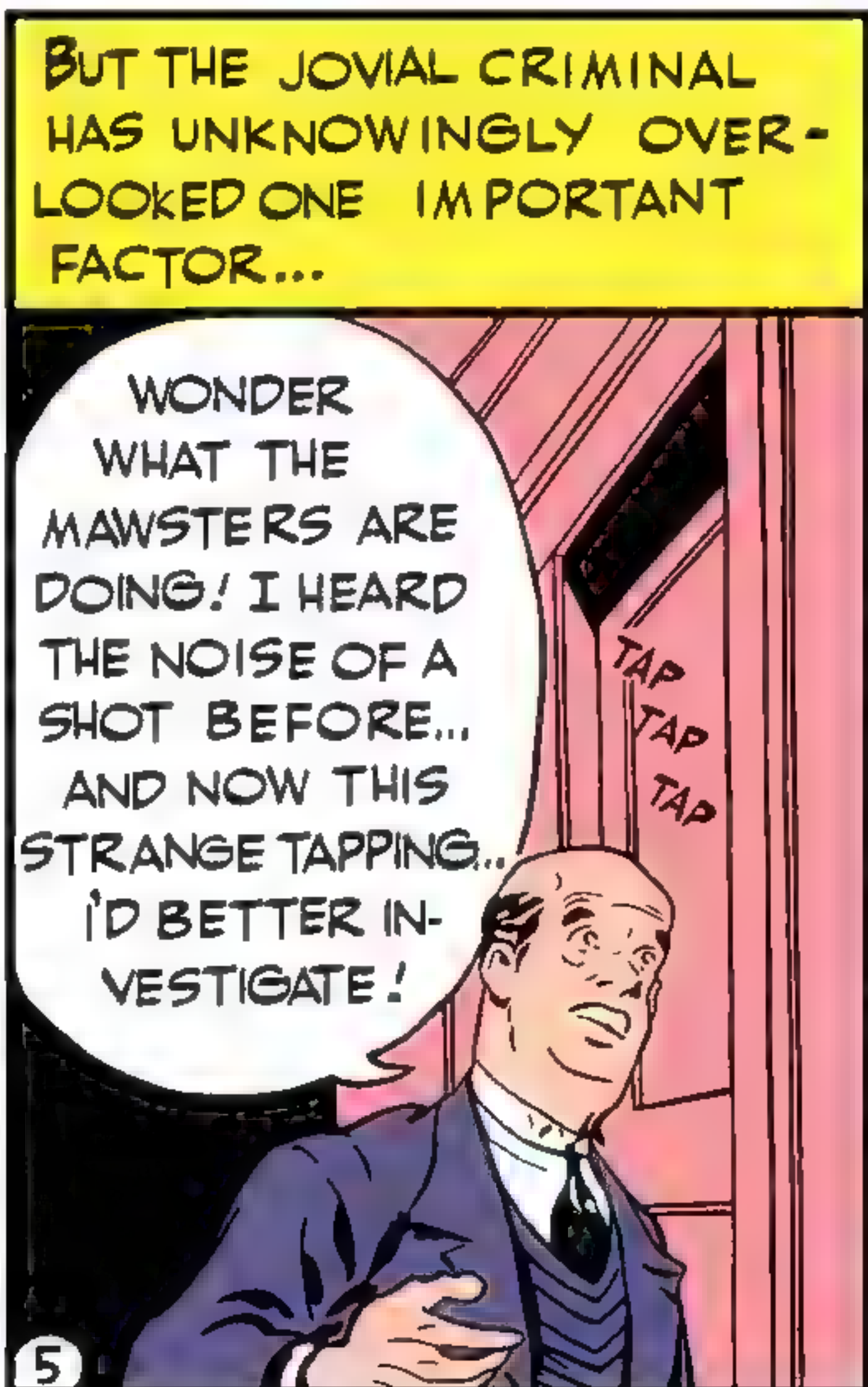
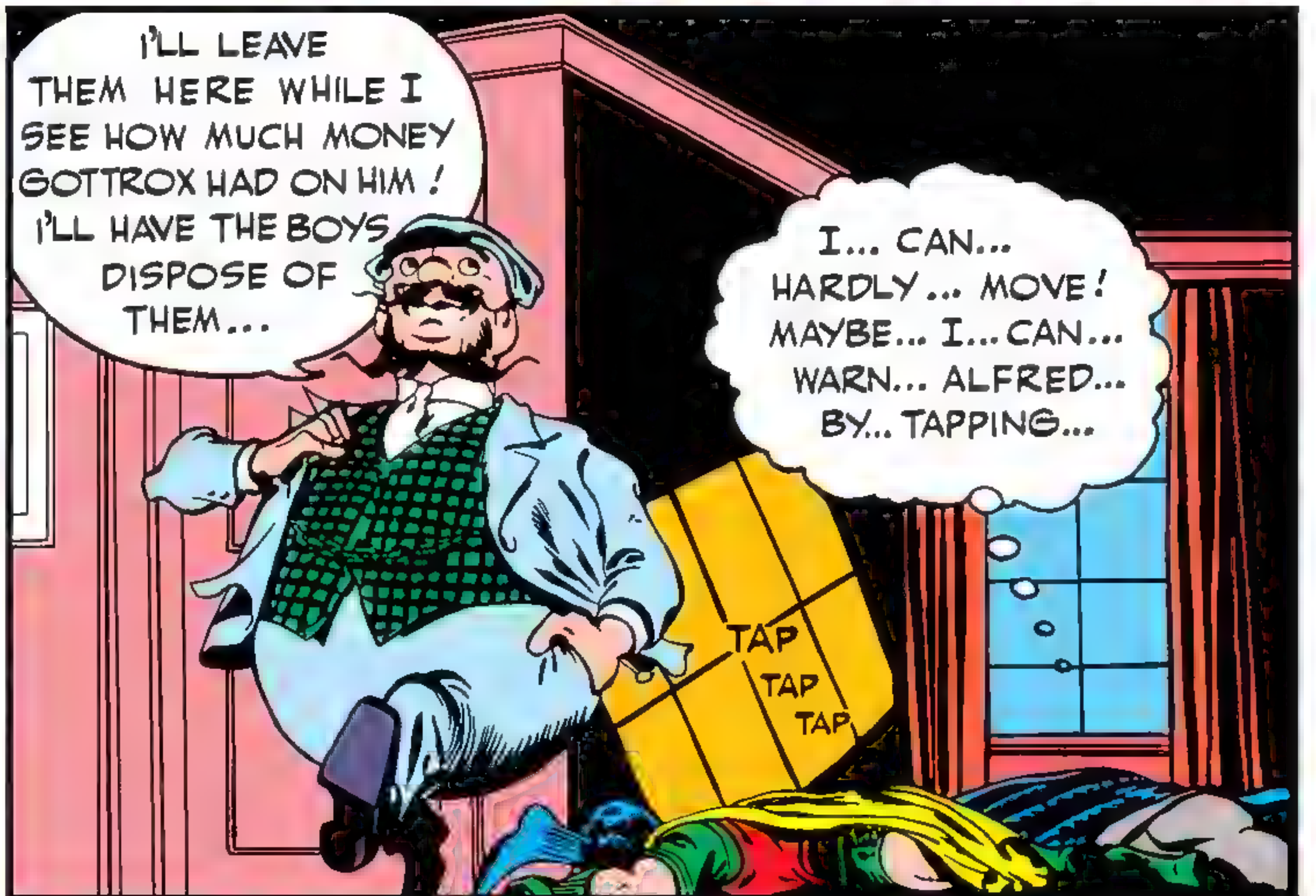
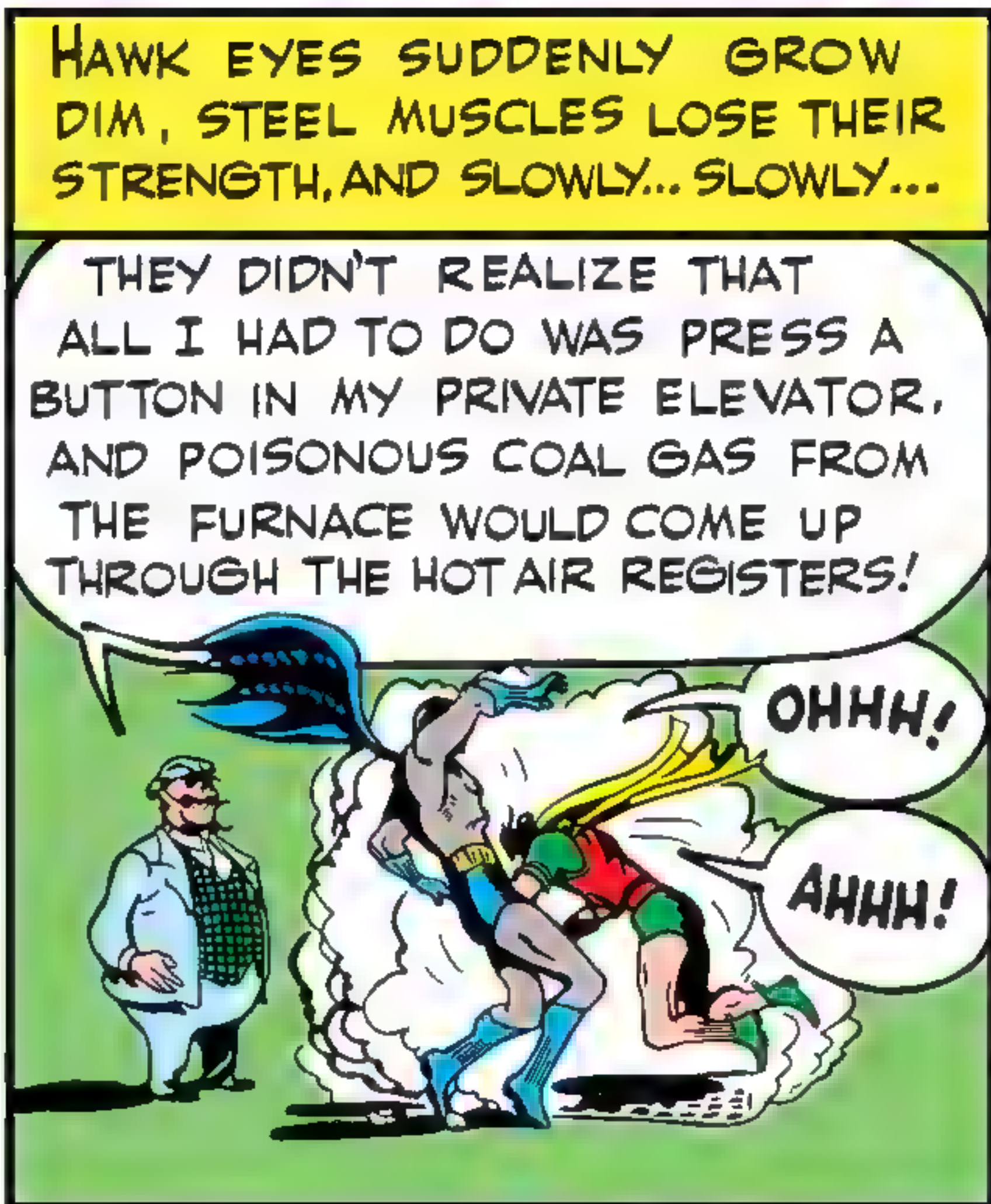
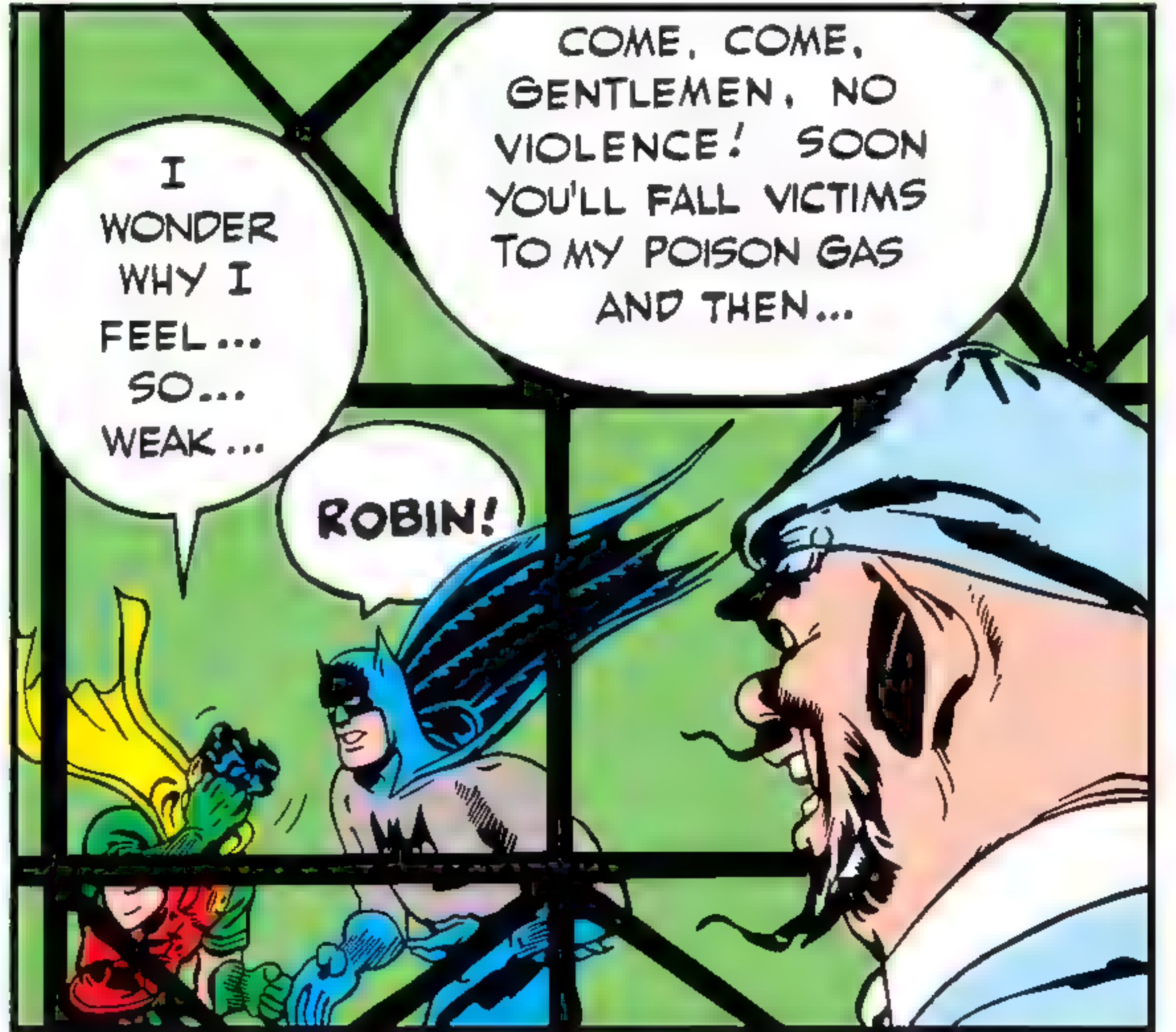
NO ORDINARY TRAVELERS THESE! WITHIN THE LIMOUSINE, IN THEIR EVERYDAY GUISE, REPOSE THAT DYNAMIC DUO, **BATMAN AND ROBIN**, ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR BUTLER AND FACTOTUM, ALFRED- THE ONLY MAN WHO KNOWS THE TRUE IDENTITIES OF **BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON!**



SOON, THE PUZZLED PAIR ASCEND TO THEIR SUITE ...









THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE BODIES HAS BEEN NOTED! SOON THERE WILL BE QUESTIONS... I MUST USE THE OLD BEAN RAPIDLY, INDEED...

LUCKILY, THERE IS NO ONE OUTSIDE TO OBSERVE ME! NOW TO PACK HURRIEDLY...



AND SOON...

THE MAWSTERS HAVE ALREADY DEPARTED! THE NOISE WAS TOO MUCH FOR THEM! AND THOSE COSTUMED FIGURES RUNNING THROUGH THE HALL WERE THE LAST STRAW!

GUESS THEY HAD A LITTLE MORE LIFE LEFT TO THEM THAN YOU THOUGHT, BOSS!



YES, I SEEM TO HAVE UNDERESTIMATED BATMAN!



MOMENTS LATER ...

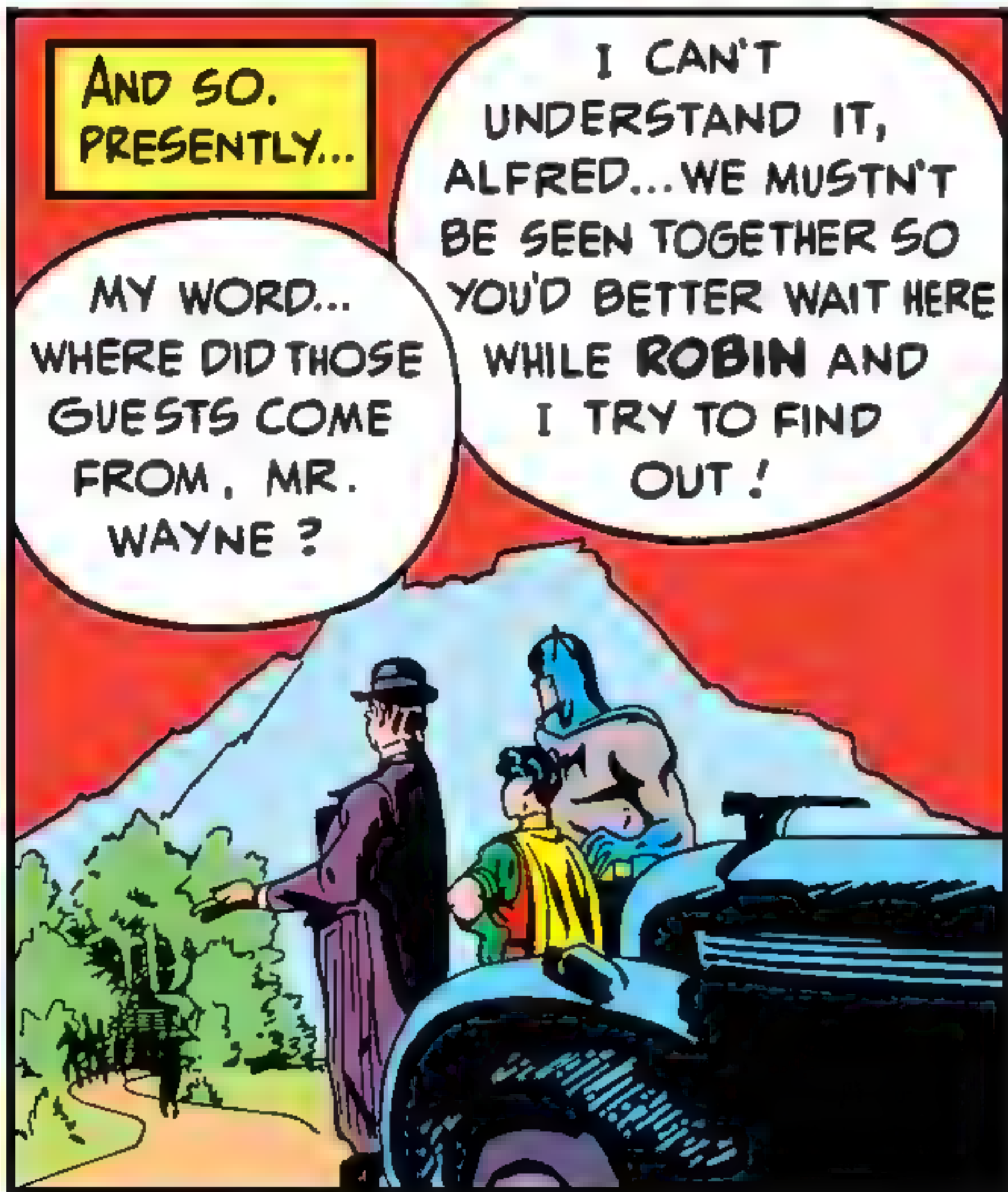
I BELIEVE I HANDLED THE SITUATION QUITE WELL! THE MAWSTERS SHOULD BE PLEASED...

YES, ALFRED, THEY'LL BE VERY MUCH PLEASED TO FIND THEMSELVES ALIVE! NEXT MORNING ...

GOOD MORNING! WHEN I SAW YOU BREATHING NORMALLY, I PERMITTED YOU TO SLEEP THROUGH THE NIGHT WITHOUT INTERRUPTION!

I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO GOTTROX... WE'D BETTER GO BACK, ROBIN... IF THOSE ARE REALLY THE TWEEDS!

THANKS. ALFRED... LUCKY WE HAD YOU!



AND SO, PRESENTLY...

MY WORD... WHERE DID THOSE GUESTS COME FROM, MR. WAYNE?

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT, ALFRED... WE MUSTN'T BE SEEN TOGETHER SO YOU'D BETTER WAIT HERE WHILE ROBIN AND I TRY TO FIND OUT!



THESE PEOPLE LOOK LIKE CROOKS TO ME, BATMAN!

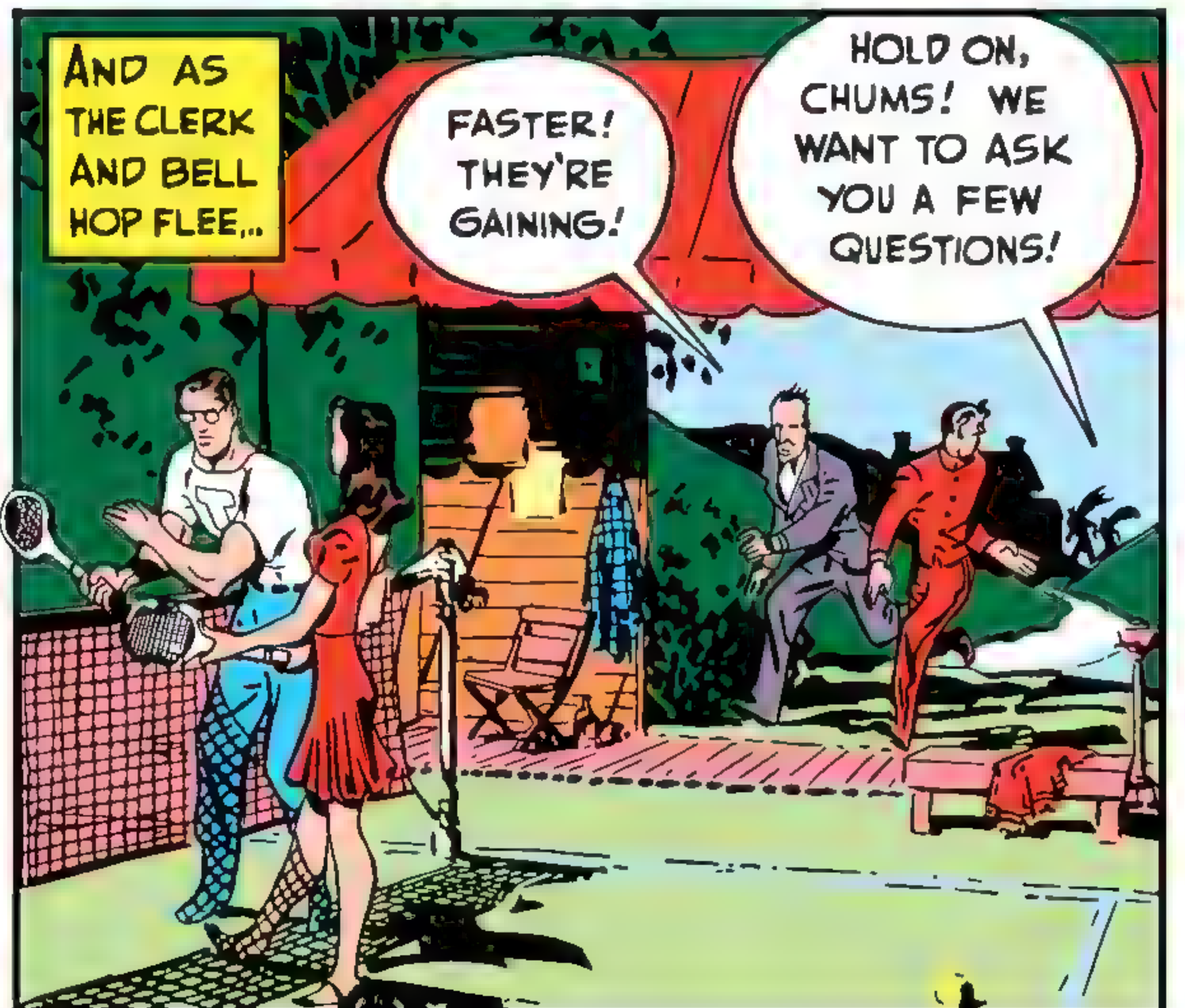
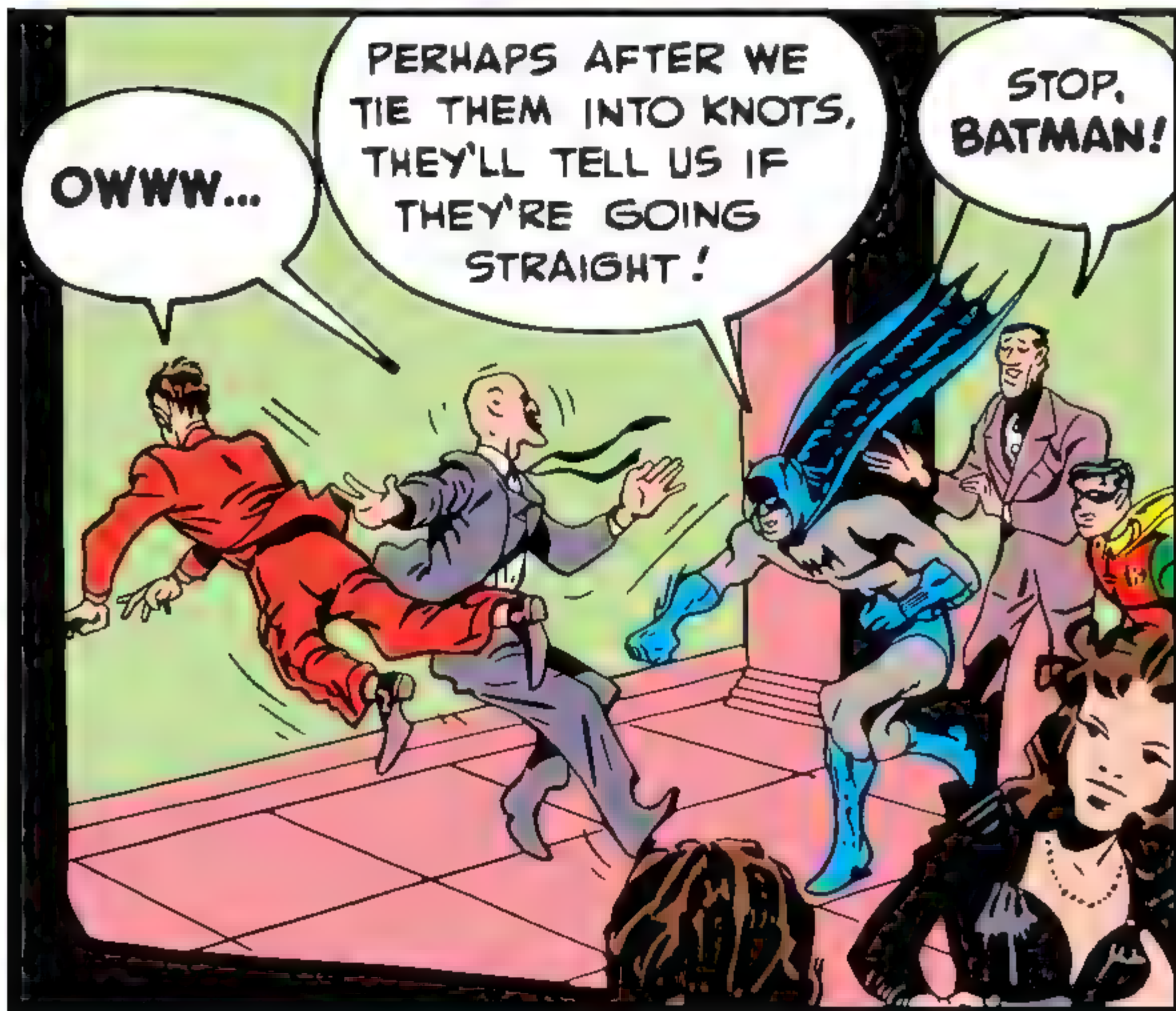
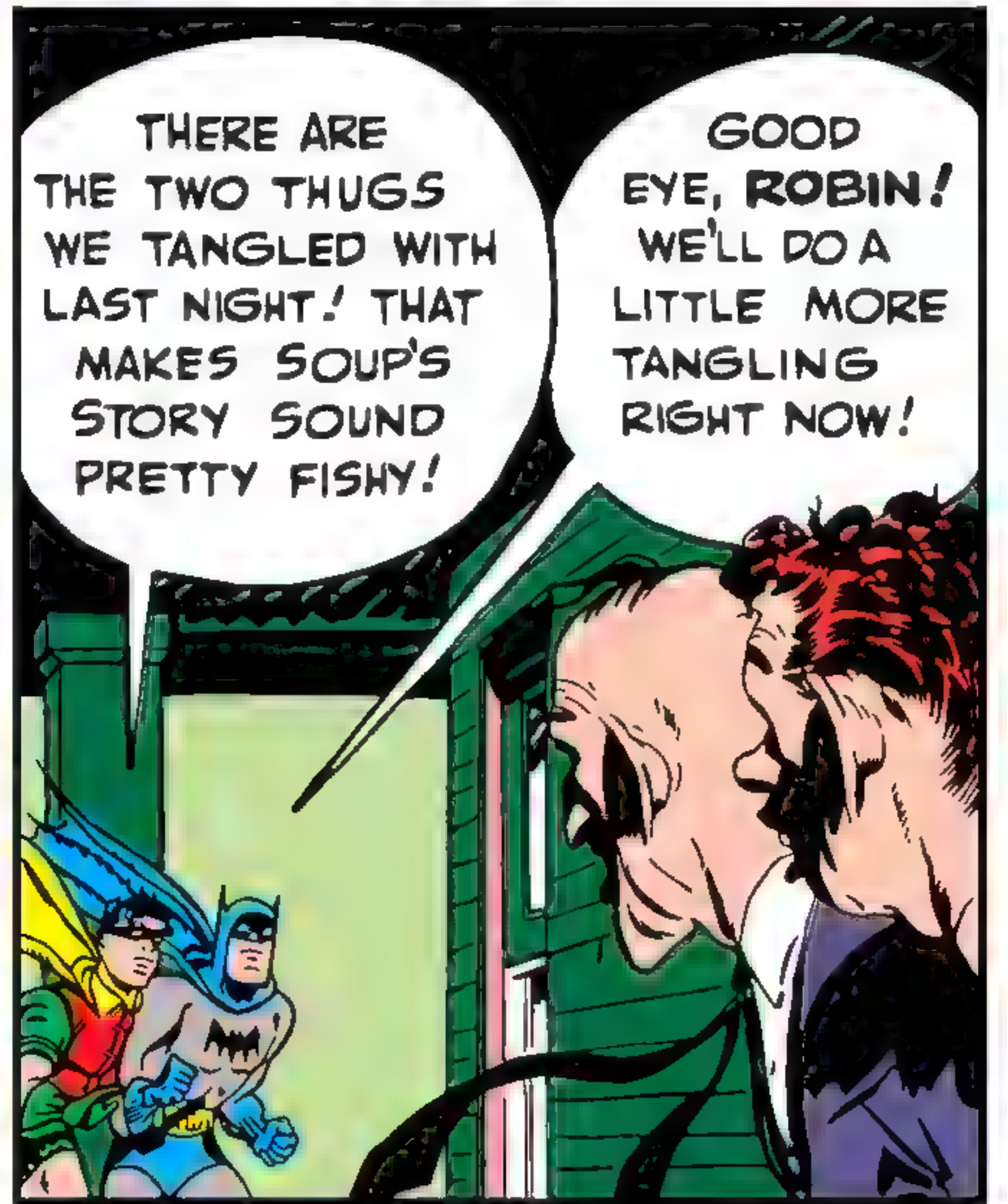
YES, ROBIN... MEET SOUP MCCONELL, SING SING'S FAVORITE GRADUATE!

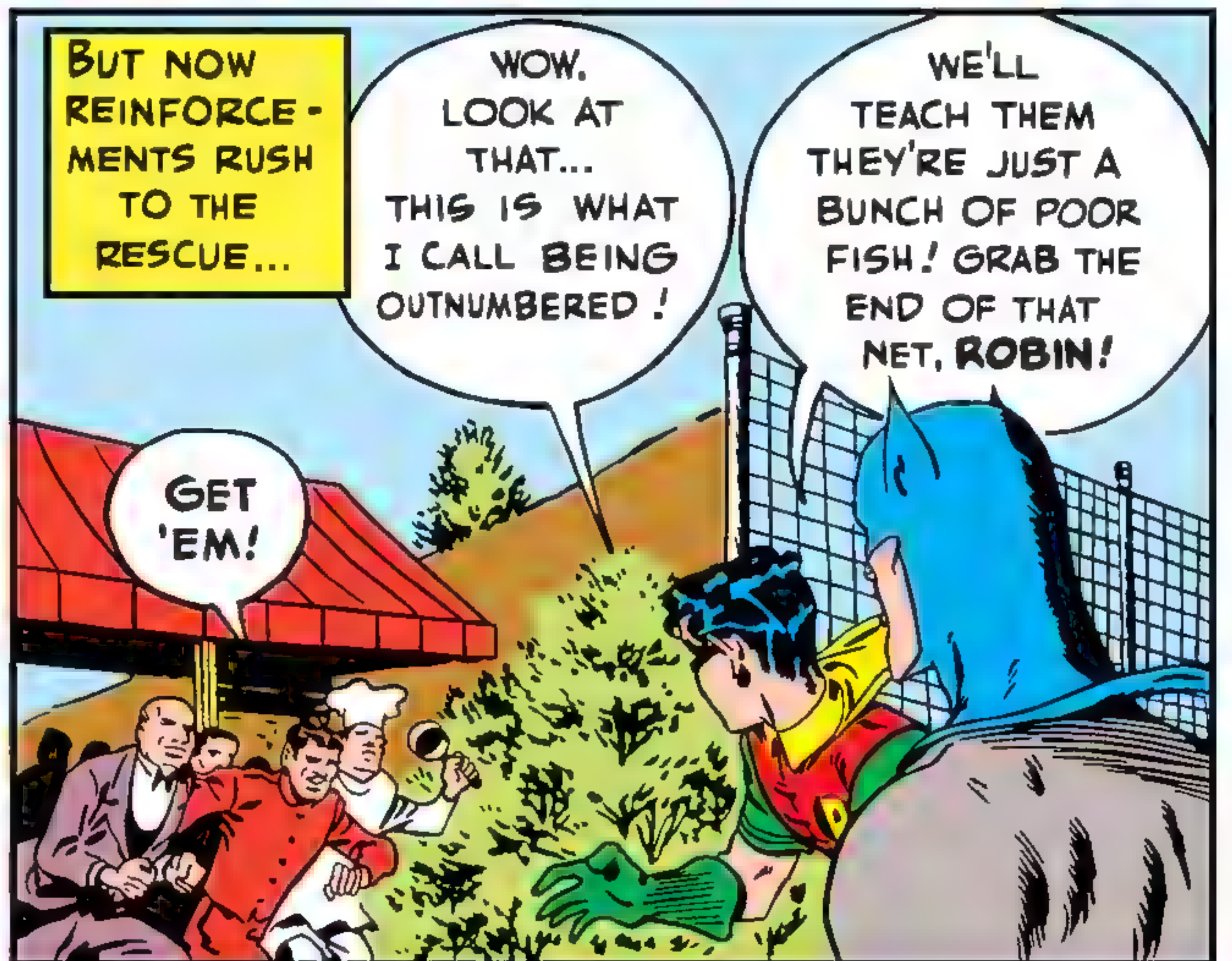
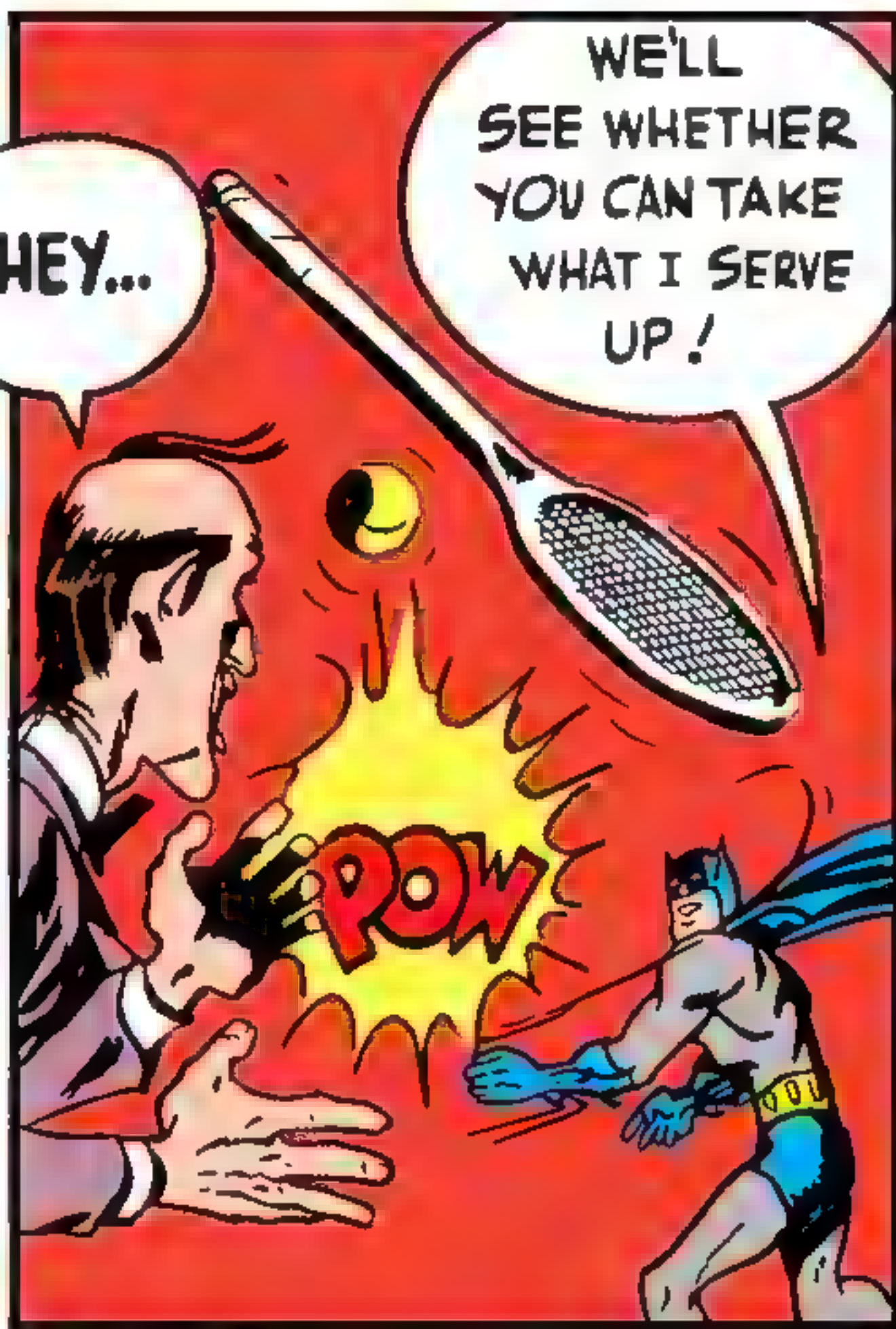
BATMAN!

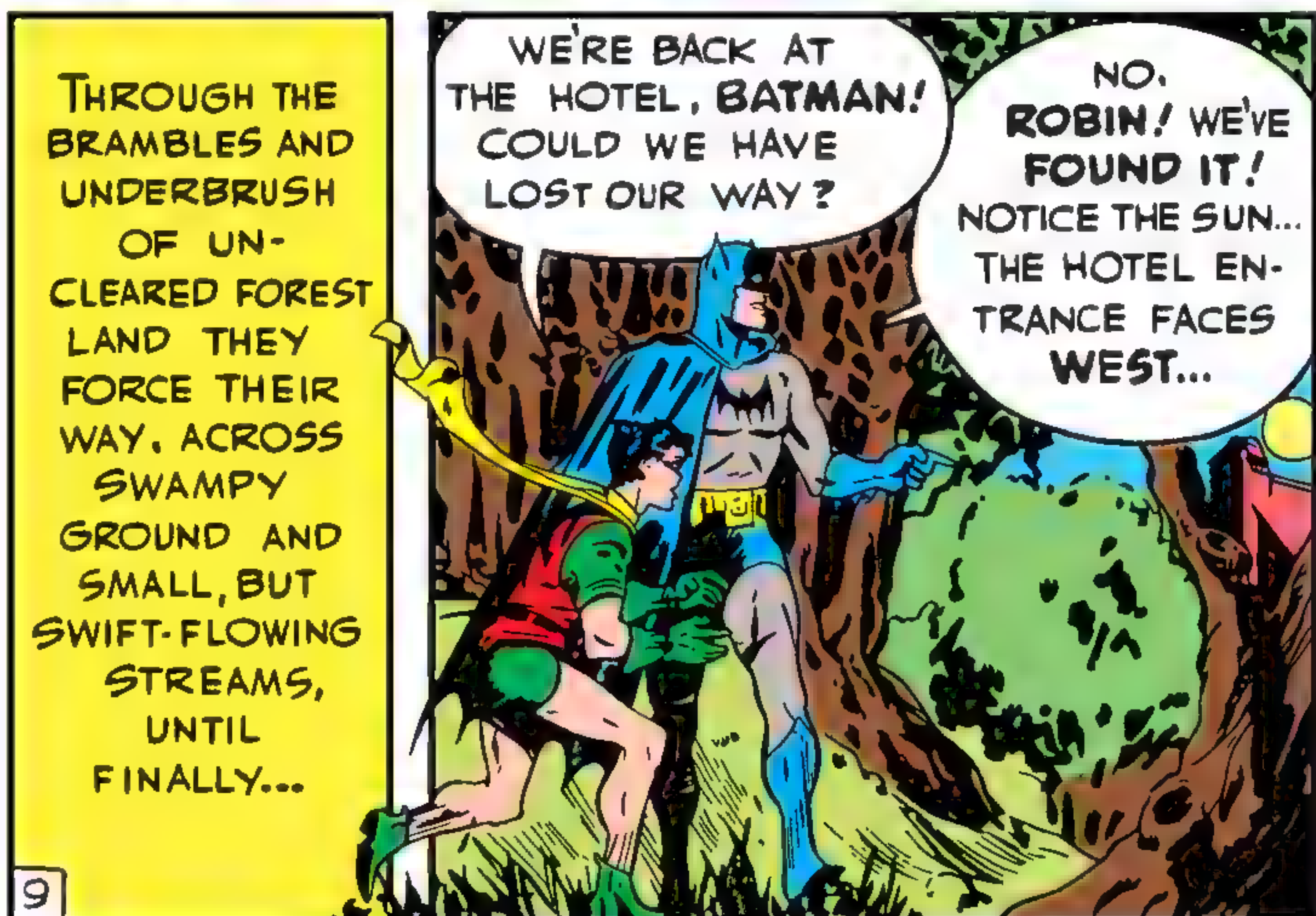
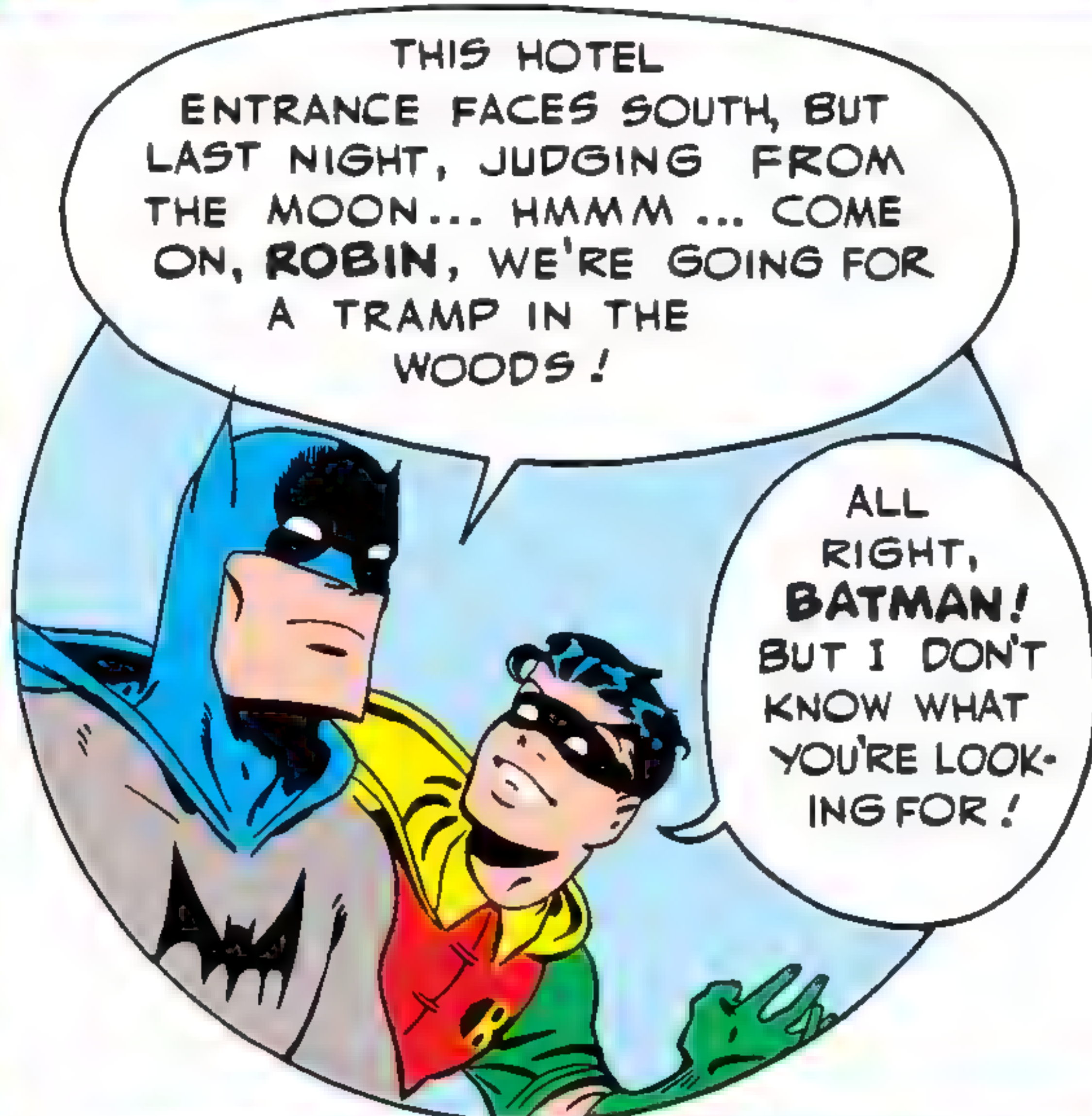
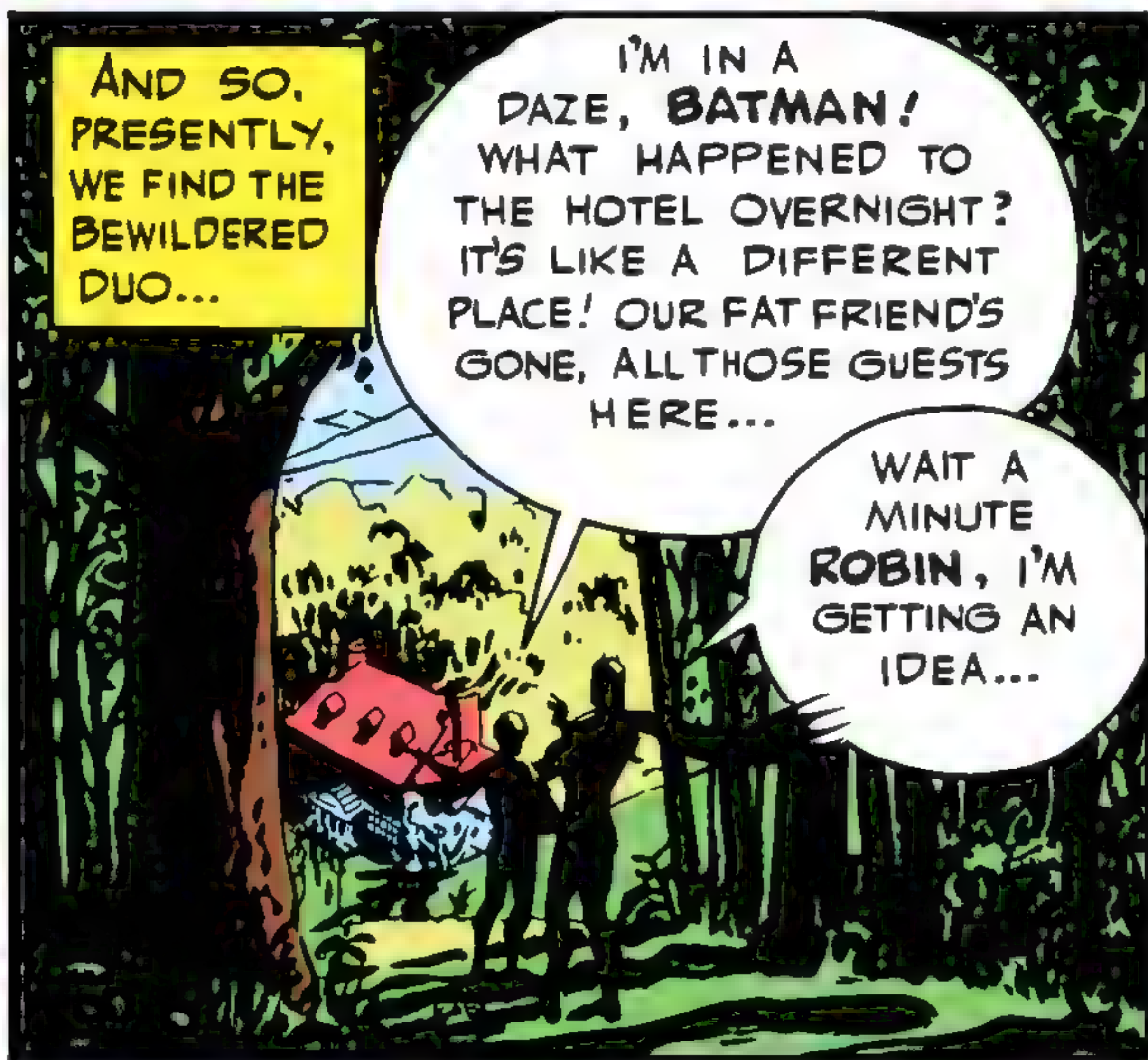
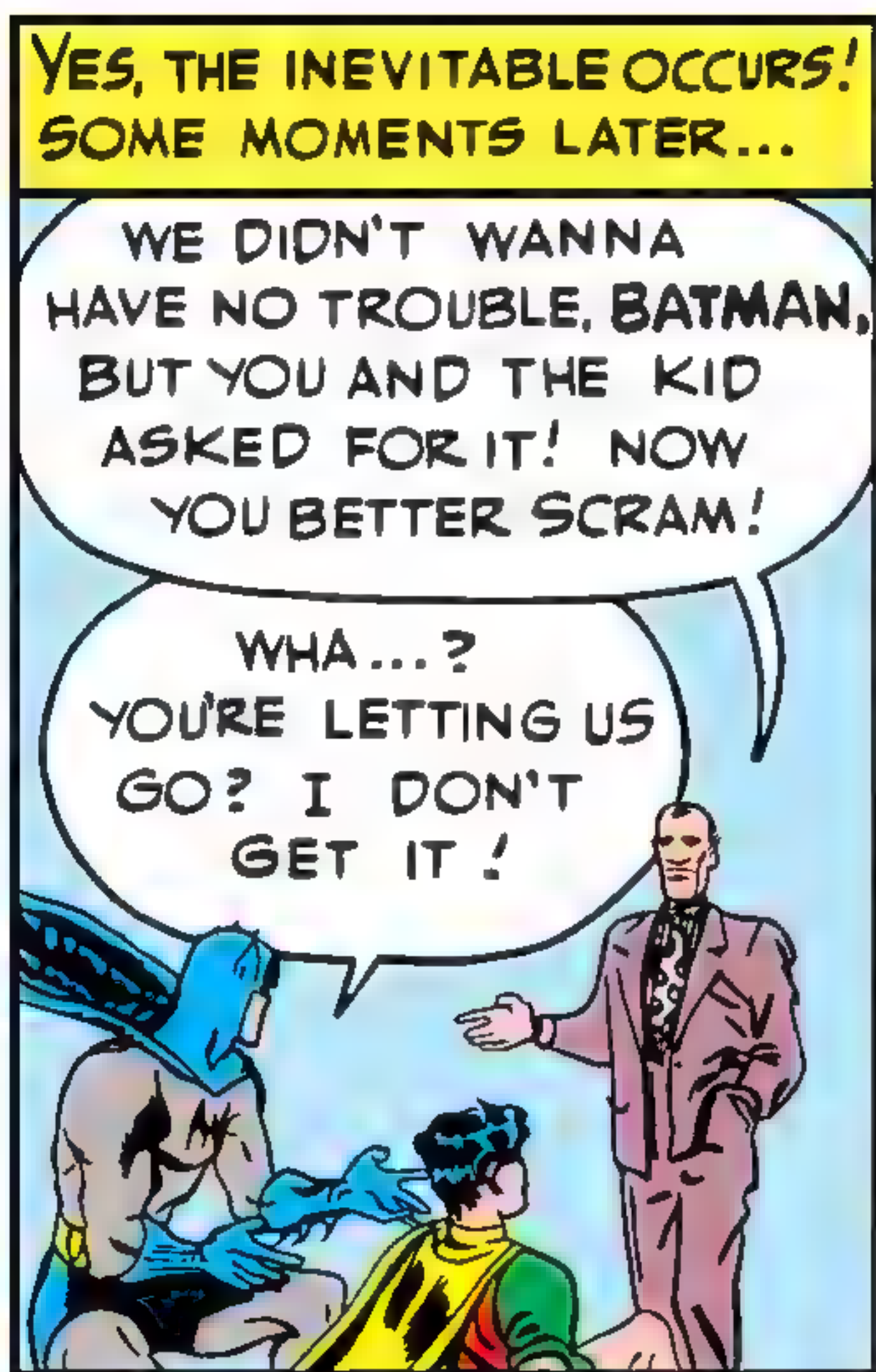


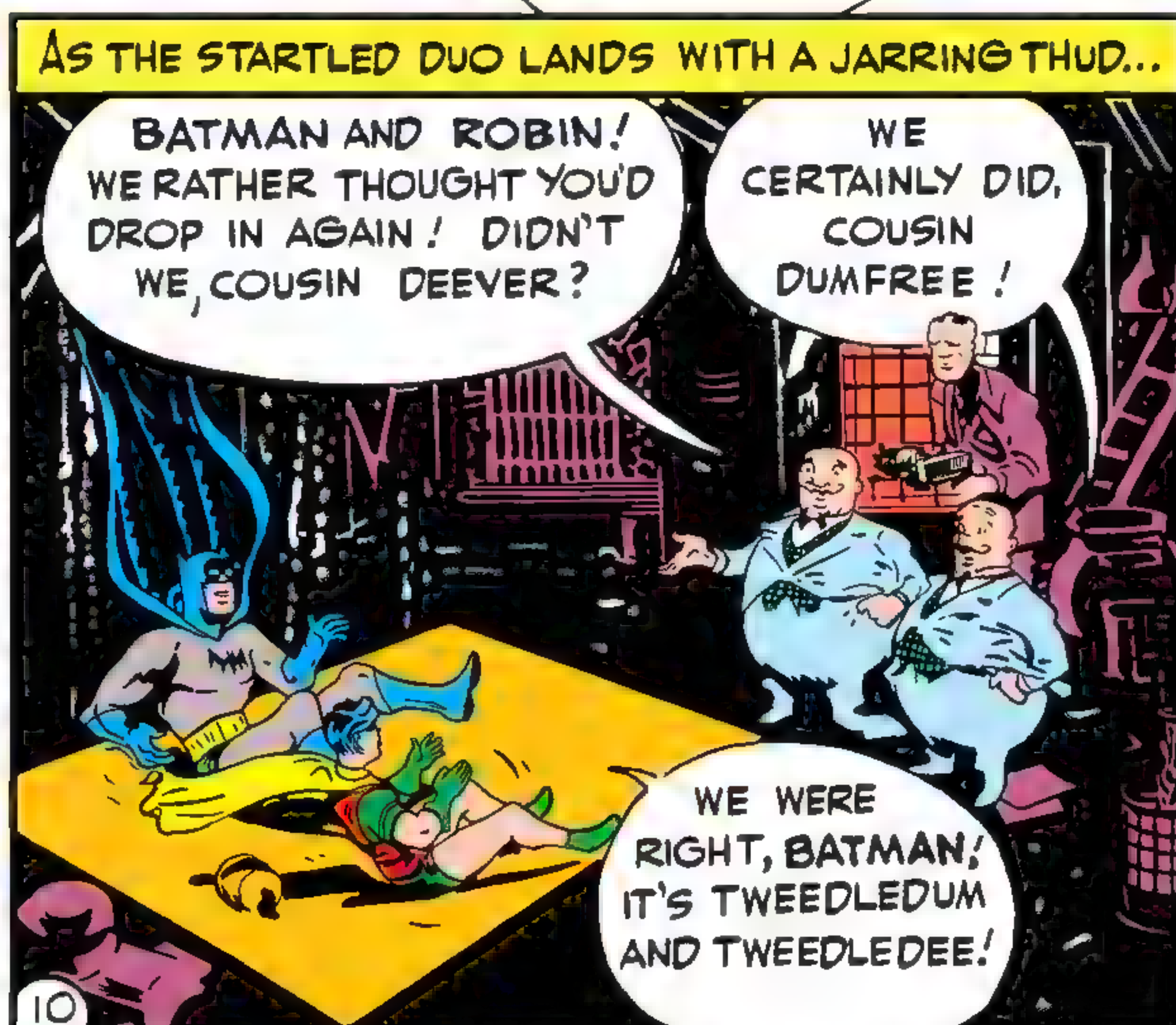
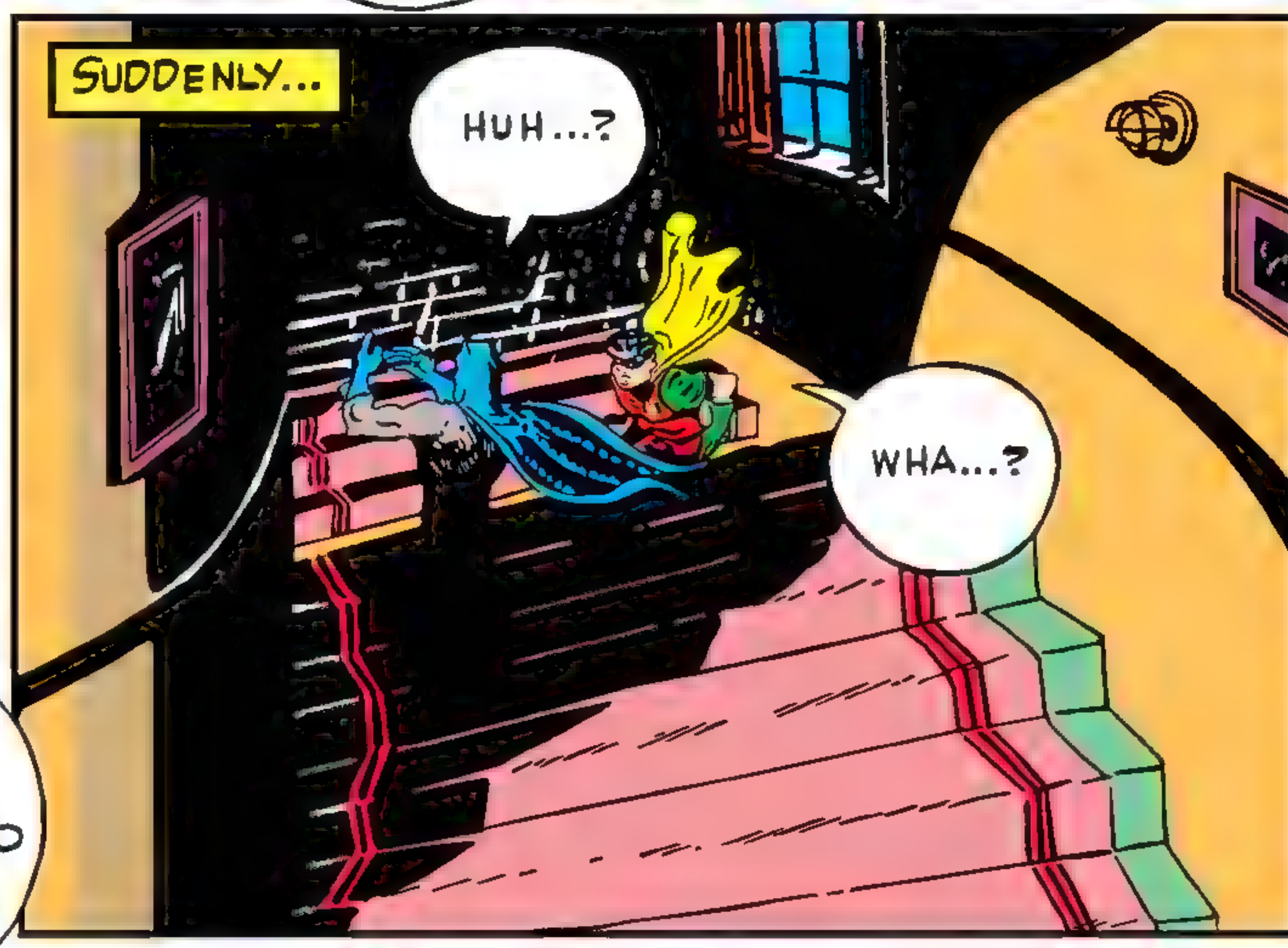
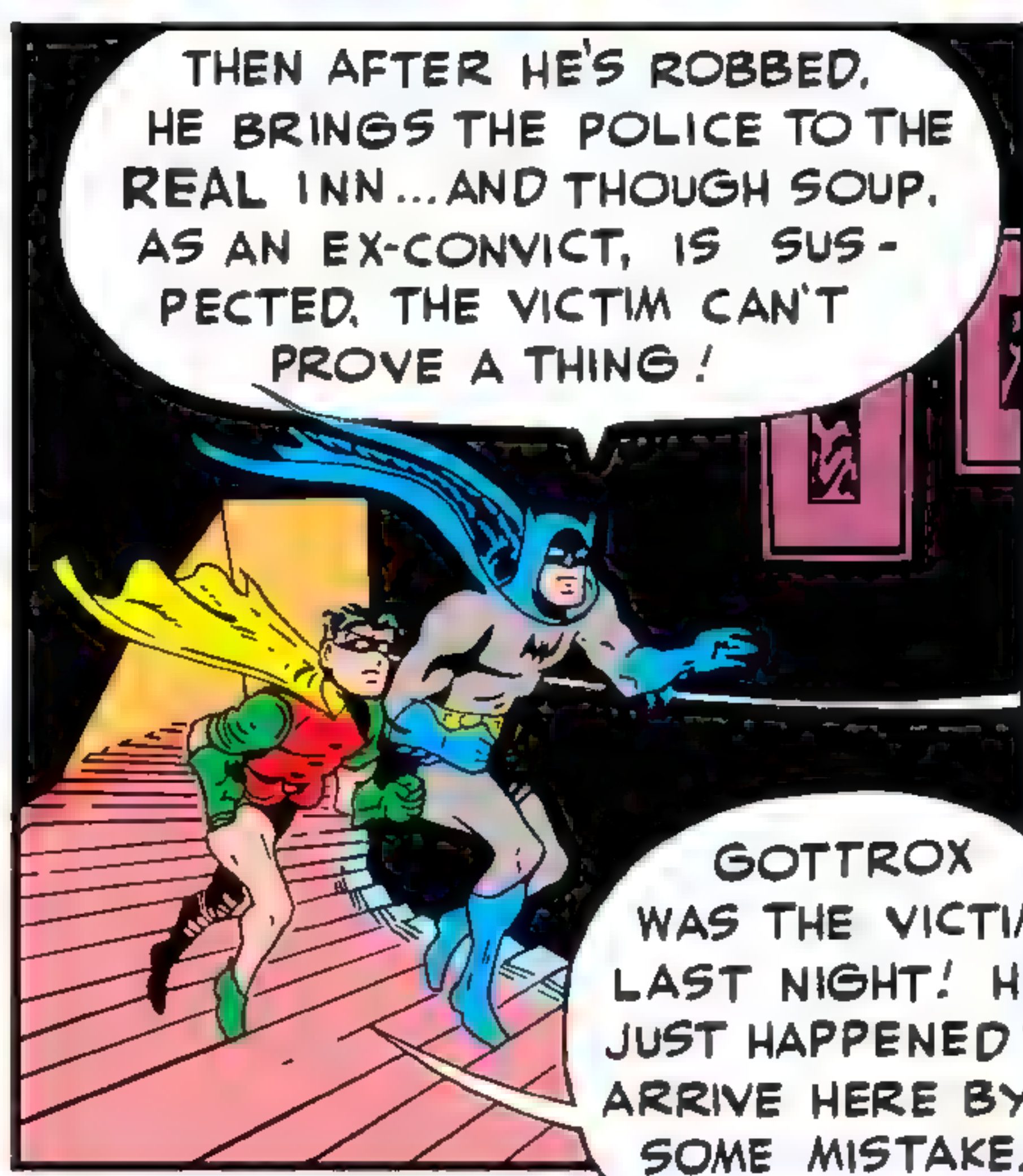
SO YOU'RE WORKING WITH THE TWEEDS NOW!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN! I'VE BEEN GOING STRAIGHT EVER SINCE I GOT OUTTA STIR! NOBODY'D GIVE ME A JOB, SO I WENT INTO BUSINESS FOR MYSELF!

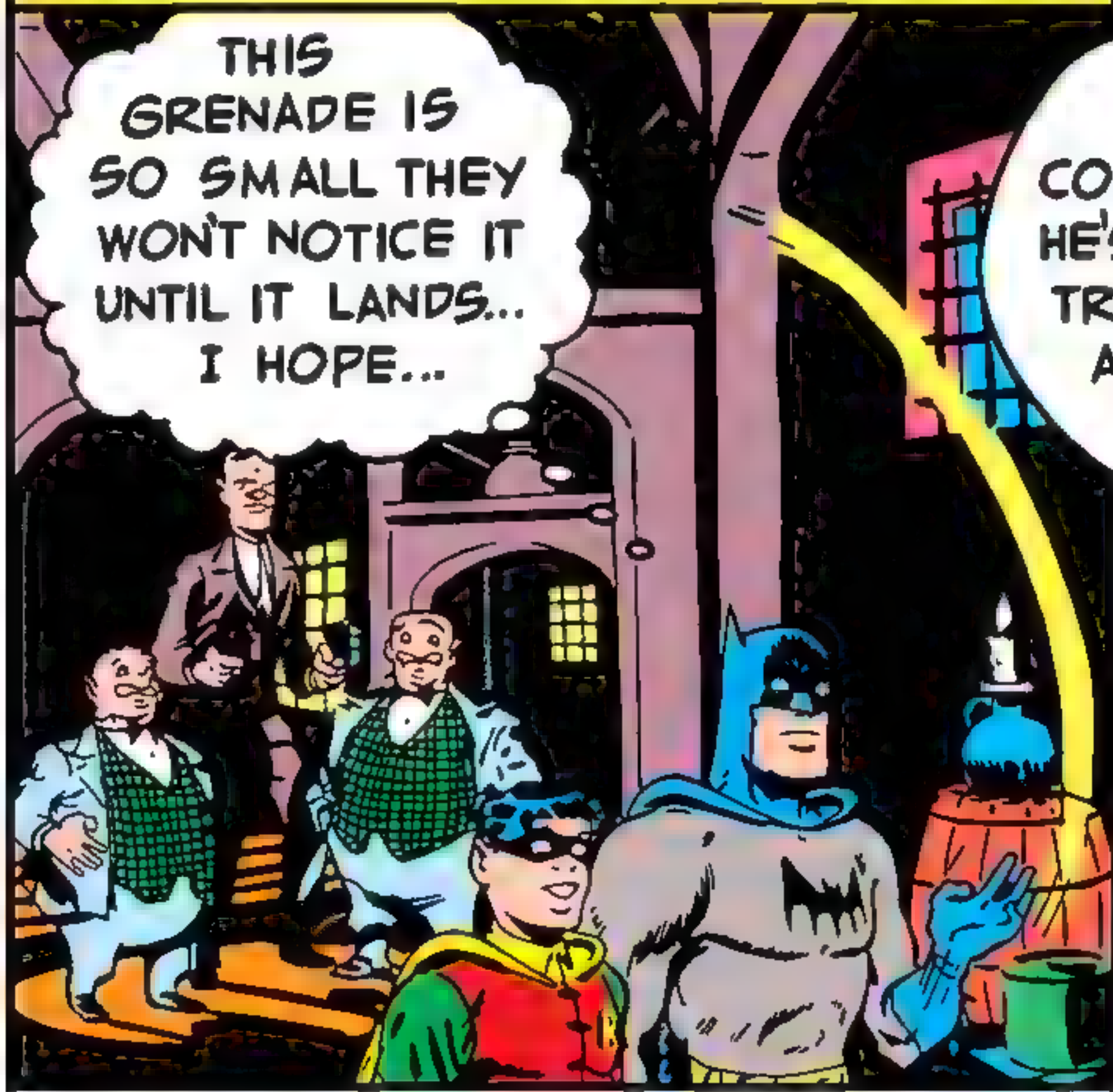








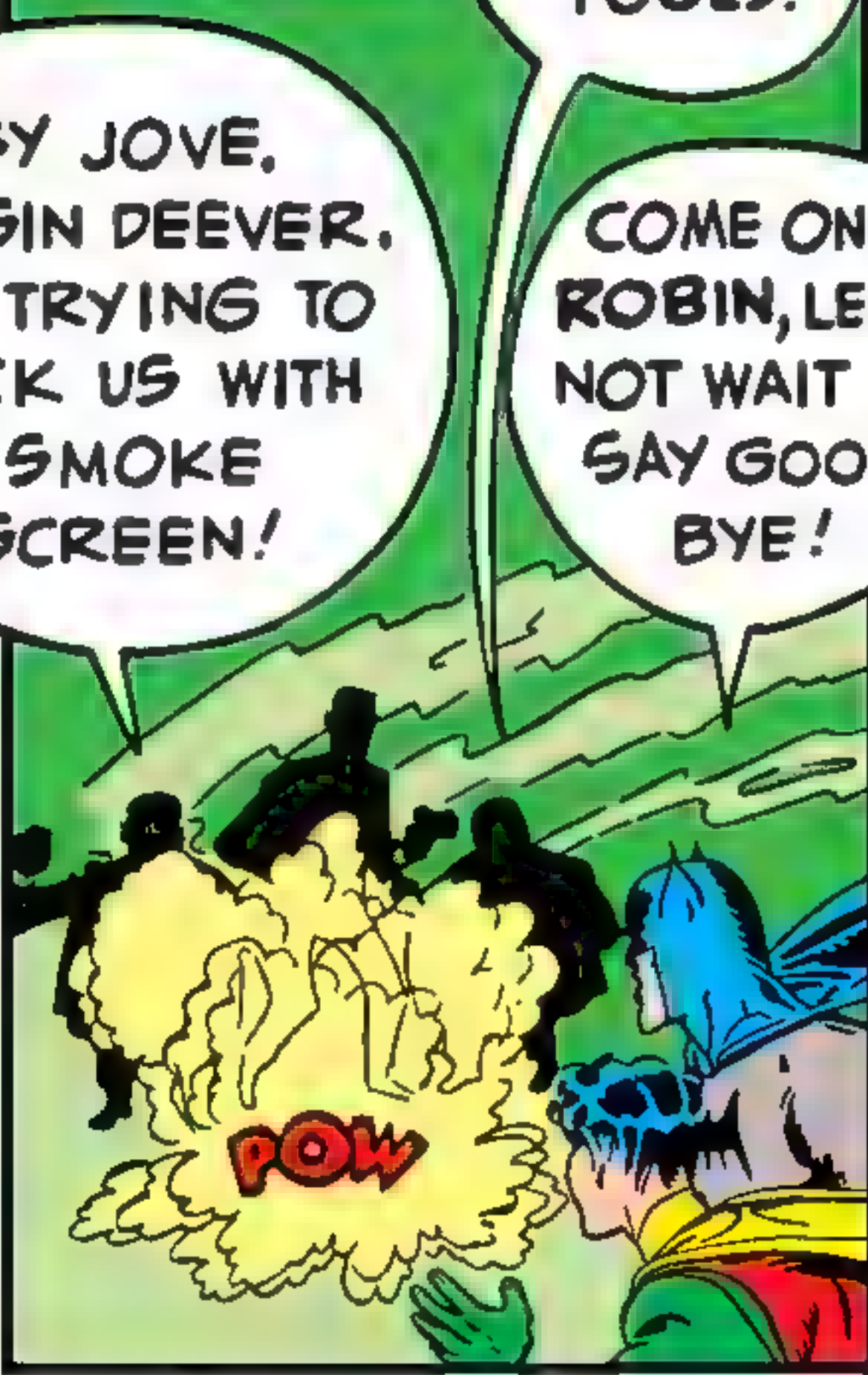
BUT AS BATMAN TURNS, FINGERS FUMBLE FURTIVELY AT HIS UTILITY BELT..A QUICK FLIP OF THE WRIST, AND...



THIS GRENADE IS SO SMALL THEY WON'T NOTICE IT UNTIL IT LANDS... I HOPE...

BY JOVE, COUSIN DEEVER, HE'S TRYING TO TRICK US WITH A SMOKE SCREEN!

NEXT MOMENT...



SHOOT QUICKLY, FOOLS!

COME ON, ROBIN, LET'S NOT WAIT TO SAY GOOD-BYE!

TWO CAPED FIGURES MAKE A MAD DASH FOR A WAITING ELEVATOR CAR...



TROUBLE AHEAD, ROBIN!

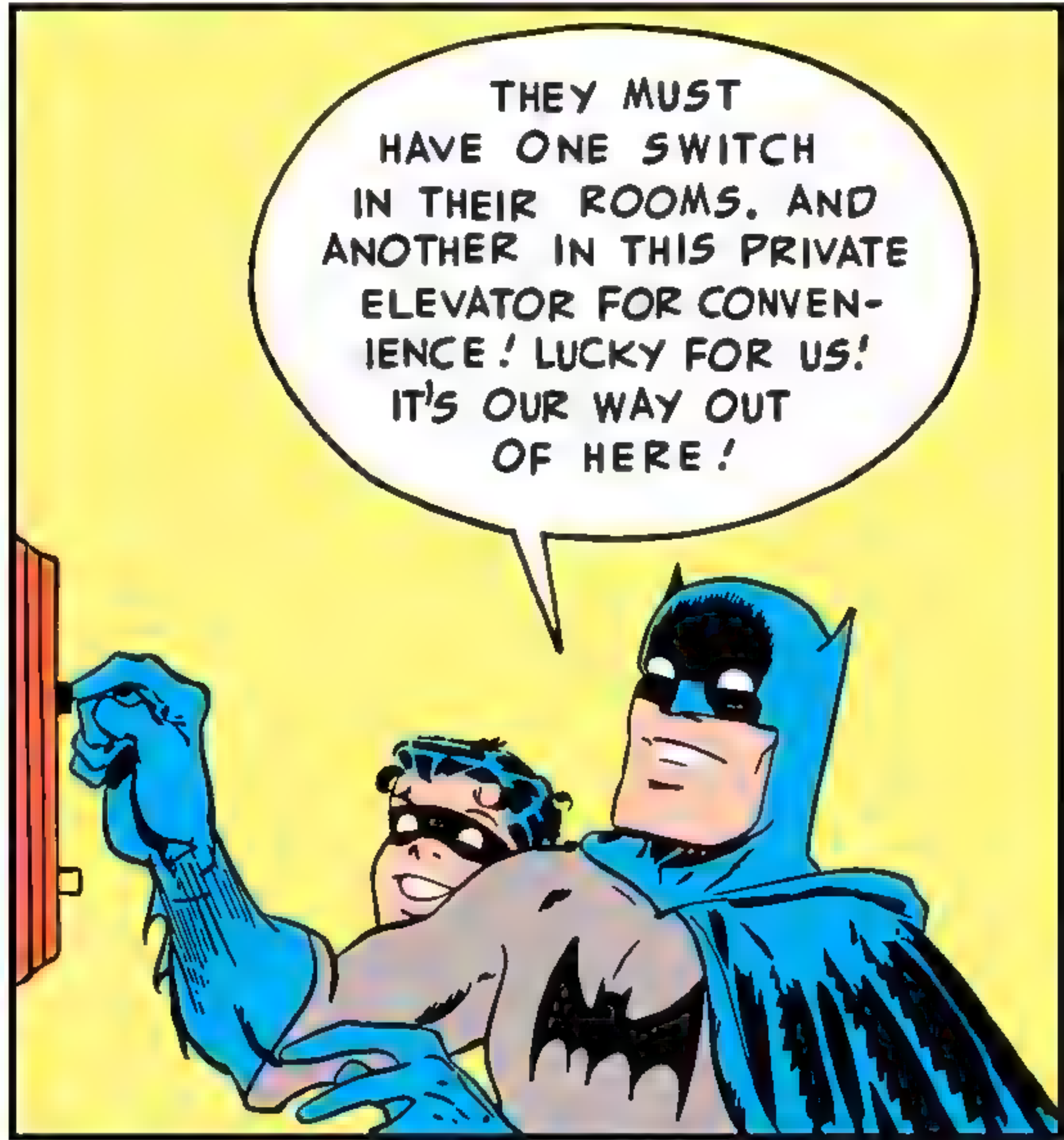
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY! WE GOT GUYS ON THE OTHER FLOORS!

AND HOW!... BUT WHAT'S THIS!



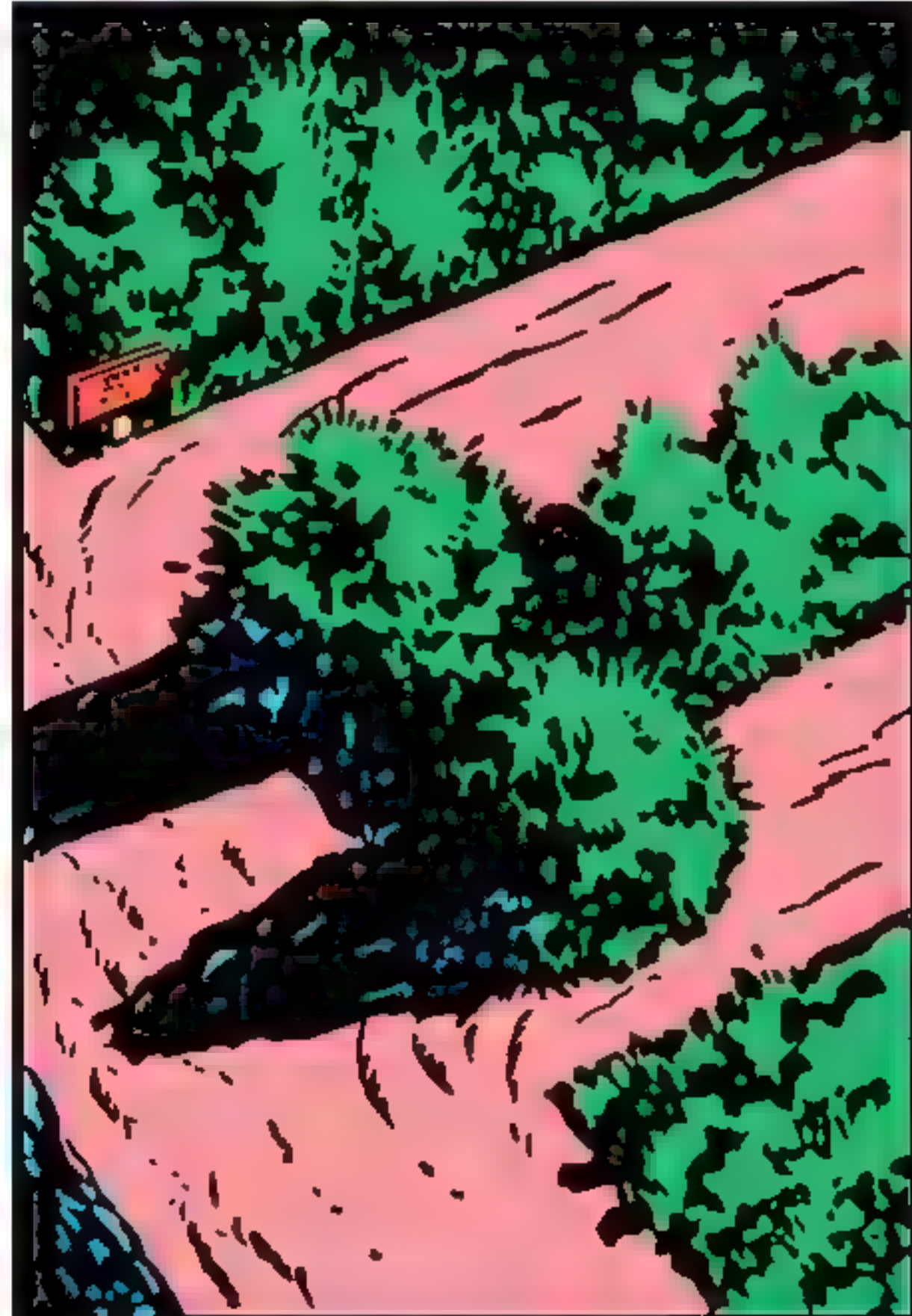
THIS SWITCH MUST ACTUALLY CHANGE THE ROADS!

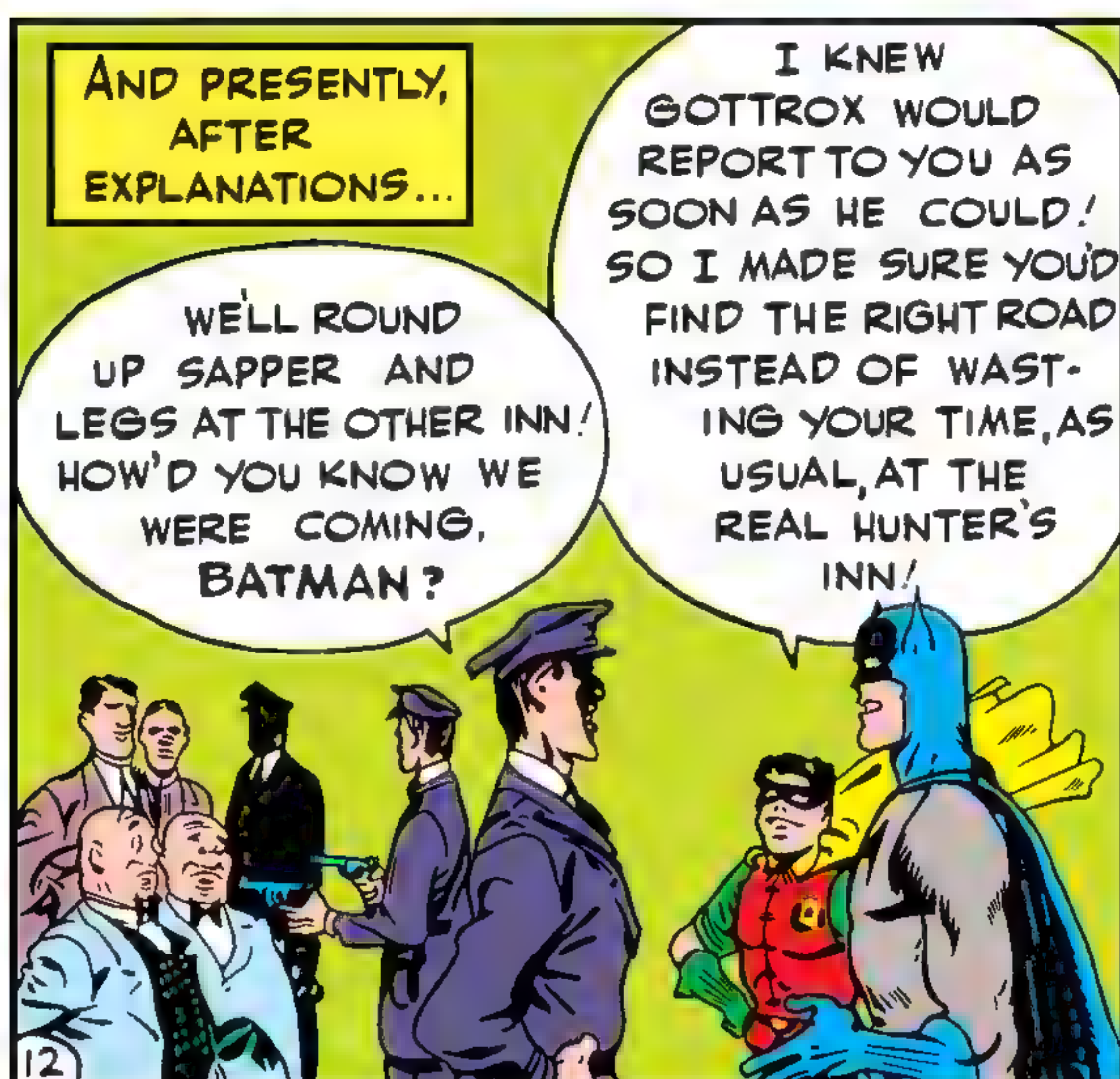
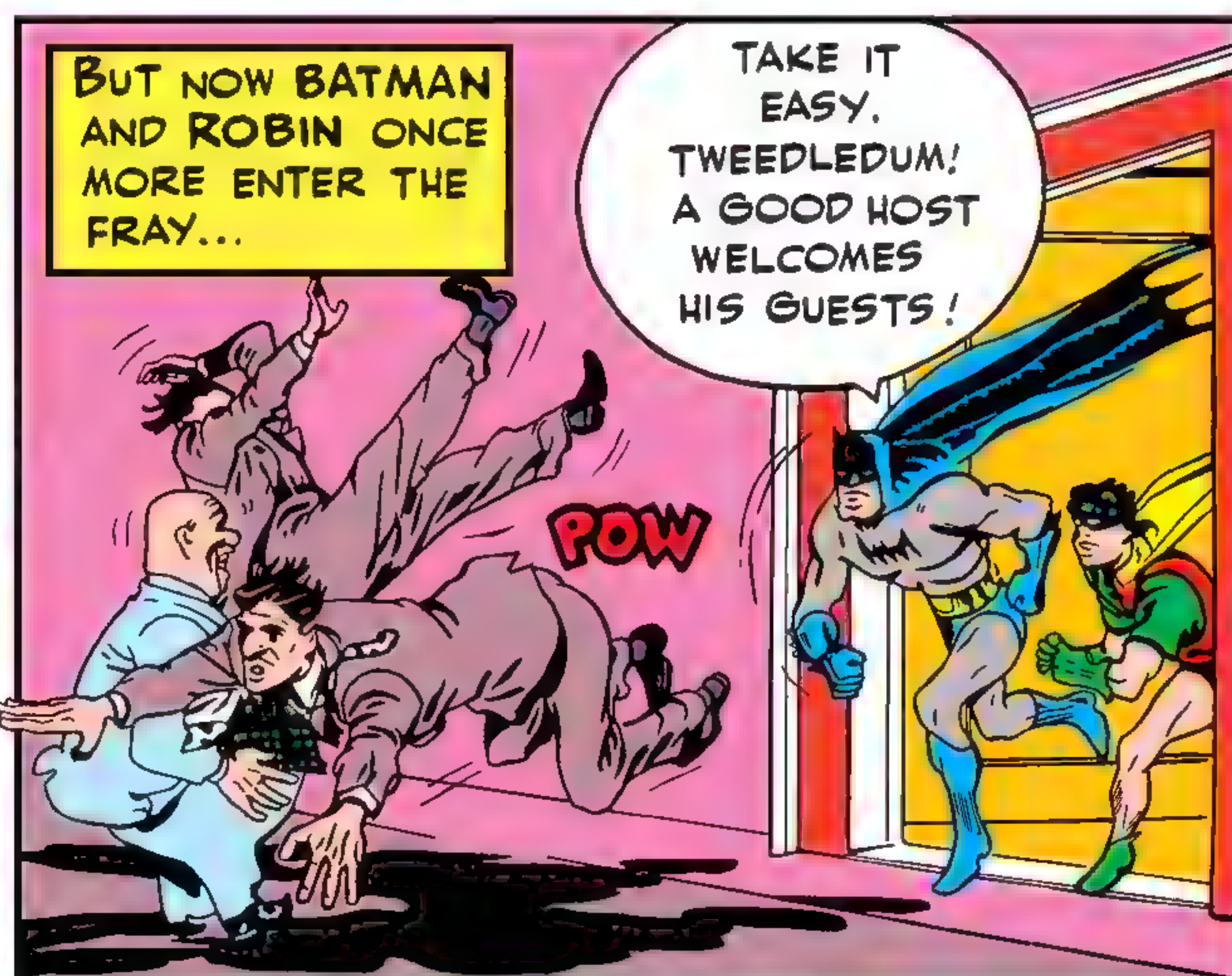
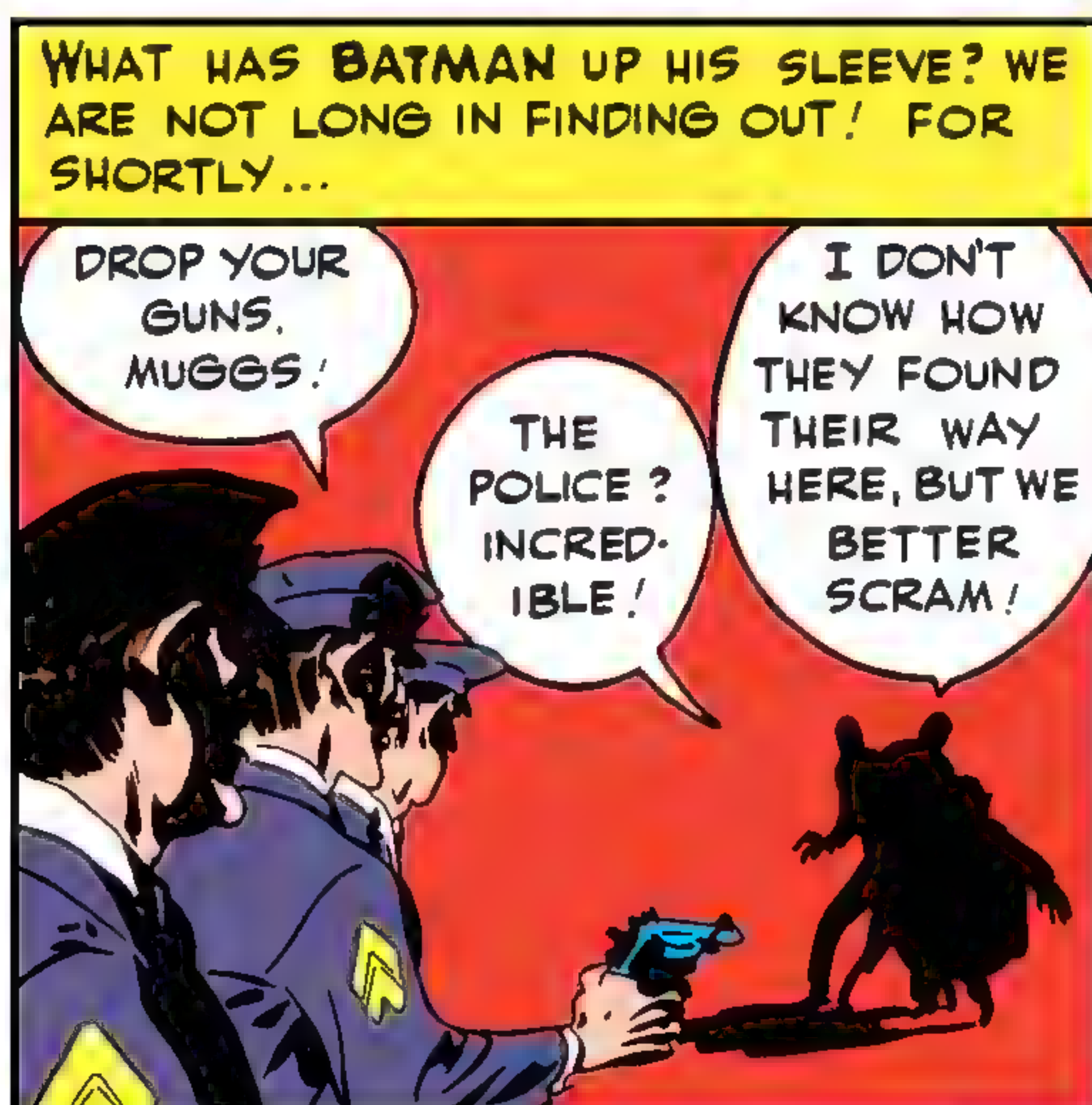
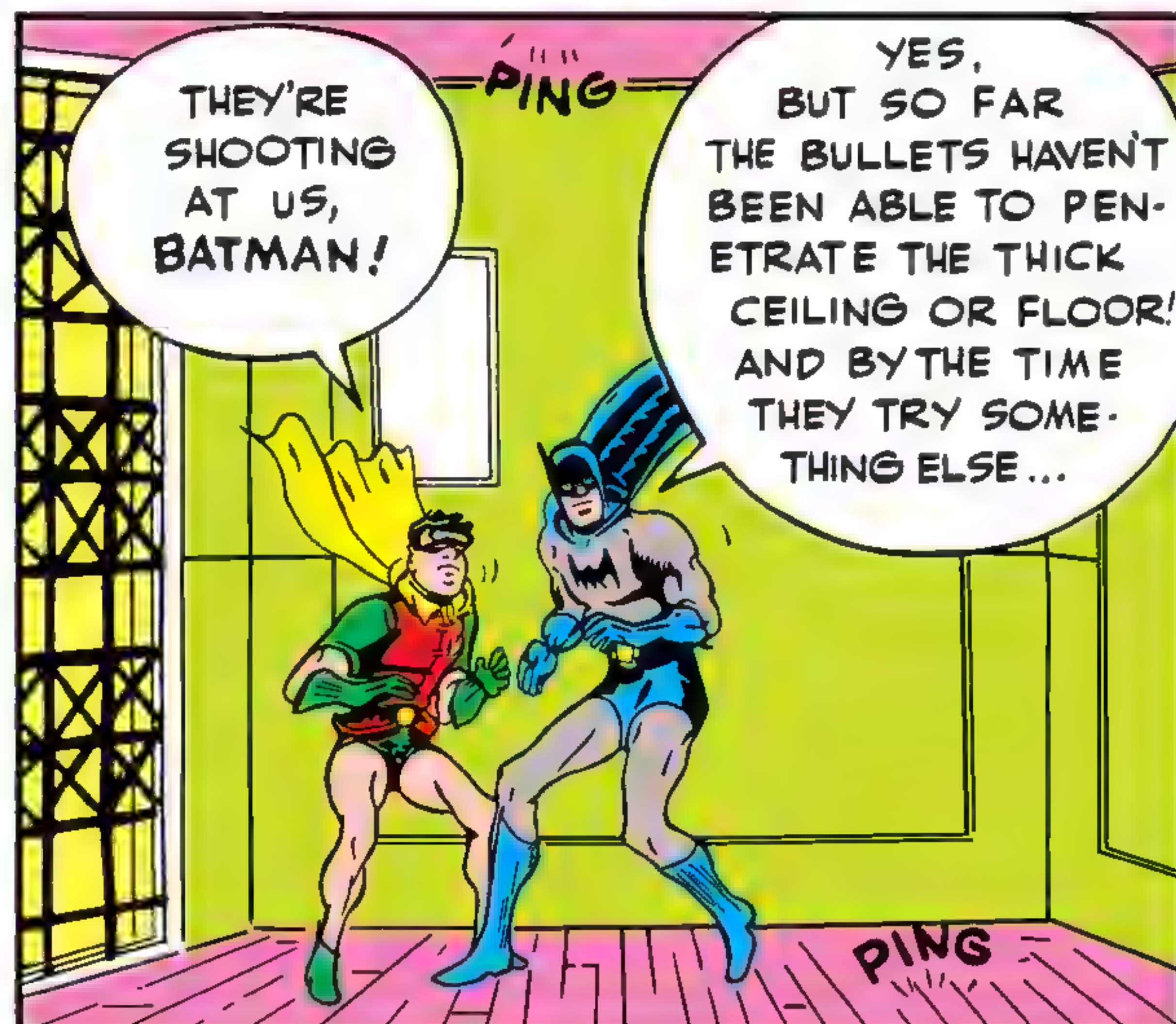
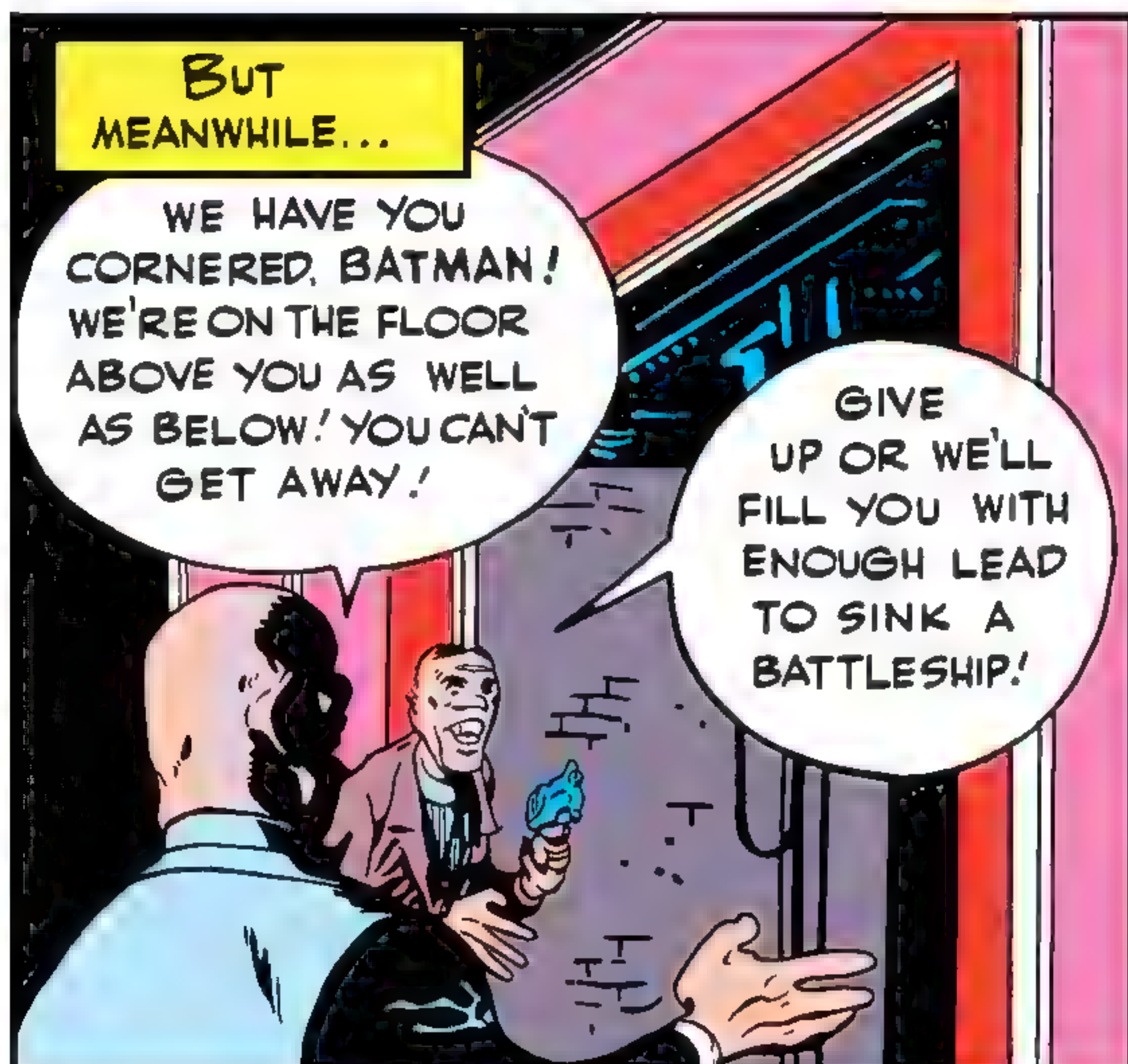
THAT'S HOW THE TWEED BROTHERS GET PEOPLE TO COME HERE WHENEVER THEY WANT TO!



THEY MUST HAVE ONE SWITCH IN THEIR ROOMS, AND ANOTHER IN THIS PRIVATE ELEVATOR FOR CONVENIENCE! LUCKY FOR US! IT'S OUR WAY OUT OF HERE!

AND NOW, A MILE AWAY FROM THE TRAPPED DUO, A GIANT STAGE IS SET AS HUGE IMITATION TREES SWING INTO THEIR NEW PLACES...





BATMAN

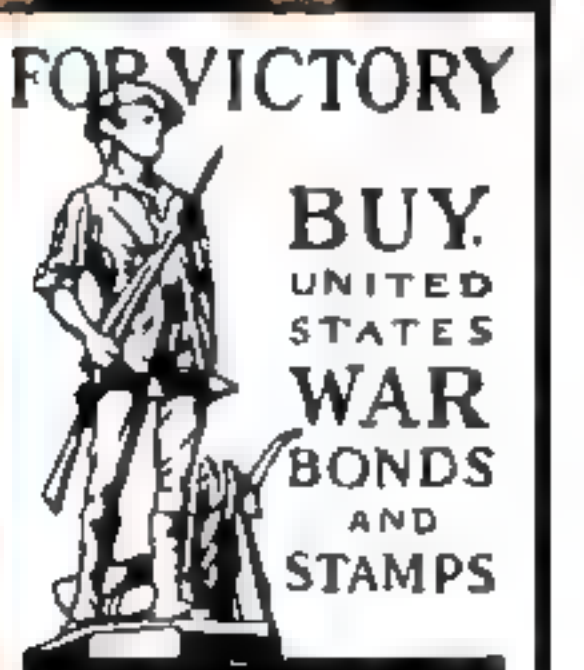
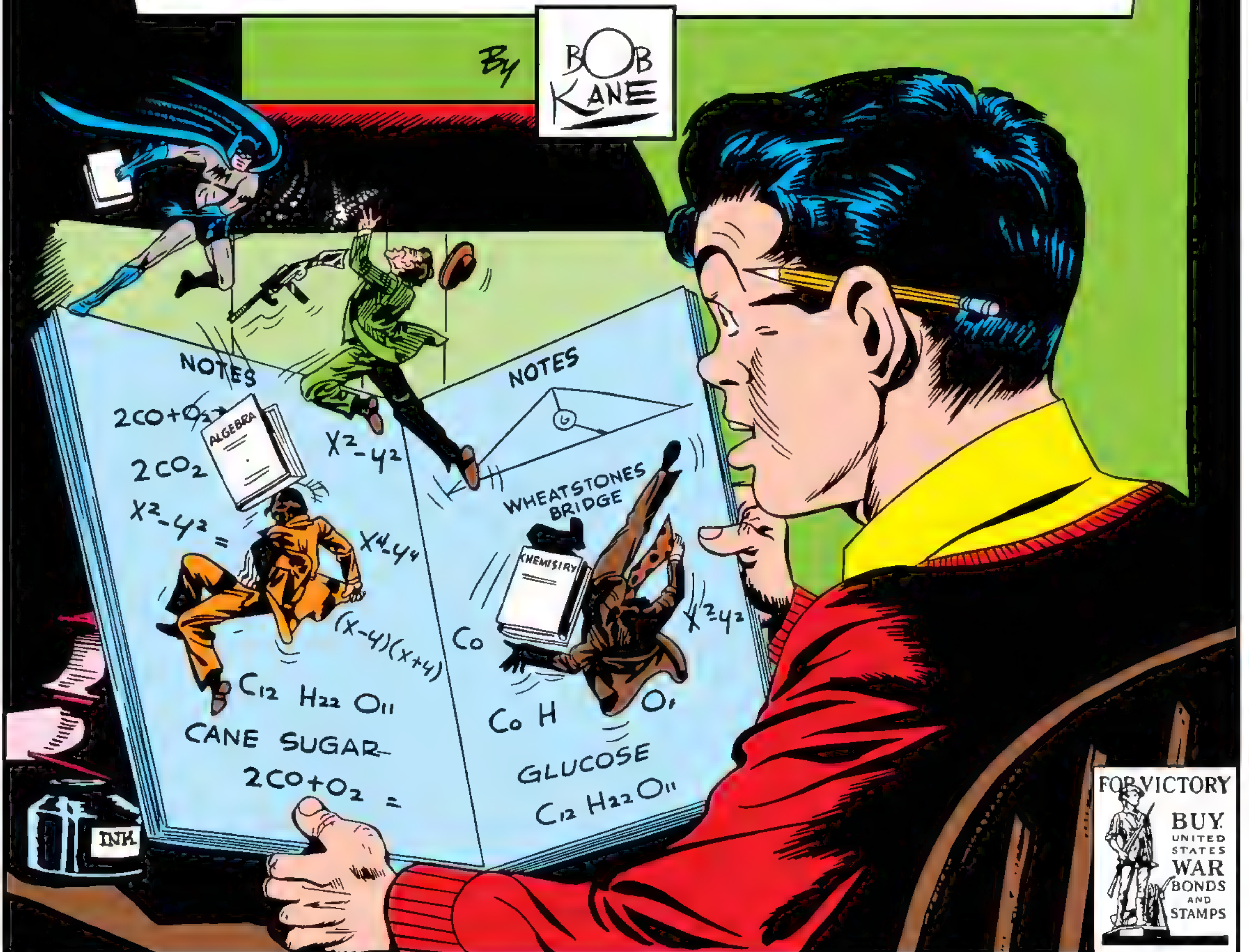
WITH ROBIN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER! THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT NAME! IT TAKES BRAINS AND TRAINED MUSCLES TO BE THE HARD-FISTED LITTLE SCRAPPER YOU'VE SO OFTEN WATCHED IN ACTION! AND IT TAKES A NIMBLE, WIDE-AWAKE MIND TO FIGHT CRIME AND KEEP UP WITH SCHOOL HOME WORK AT THE SAME TIME! BUT WHEN ROBIN BRINGS HOME A SURPRISING REPORT CARD, BATMAN IS FORCED TO SET OUT ALONE AGAINST A TRICKY AND TREACHEROUS GANG OF THUGS WHILE... "ROBIN STUDIES HIS LESSONS!"

By

BOB KANE



LATE AFTERNOON... AND A STRANGELY SILENT LAD TRAMPS WEARILY UP - STAIRS IN THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE...



AT YOUR AGE, NO TROUBLE SHOULD BE REALLY SERIOUS! OUT WITH IT, LAD! TELL ME WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU!



I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! I TRIED TO KEEP MY PROMISE TO YOU! I STUDIED HARD... AND I KNOW MY SUBJECTS! I-I...



BUT, BRUCE, I TELL YOU. I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! I KNOW MY CHEMISTRY, FOR INSTANCE, BACKWARD AND FORWARD...



SORRY, DICK, BUT YOU CAN'T GET AROUND THIS REPORT CARD! YOUR ADVENTURES AS **ROBIN** ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED! FROM NOW ON **BATMAN** WORKS ALONE, UNTIL...



... UNTIL YOU PASS EVERY ONE OF THOSE SUBJECTS! YOU ARE GOING TO STUDY EVERY NIGHT... AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL YOU LEAVE THIS HOUSE!

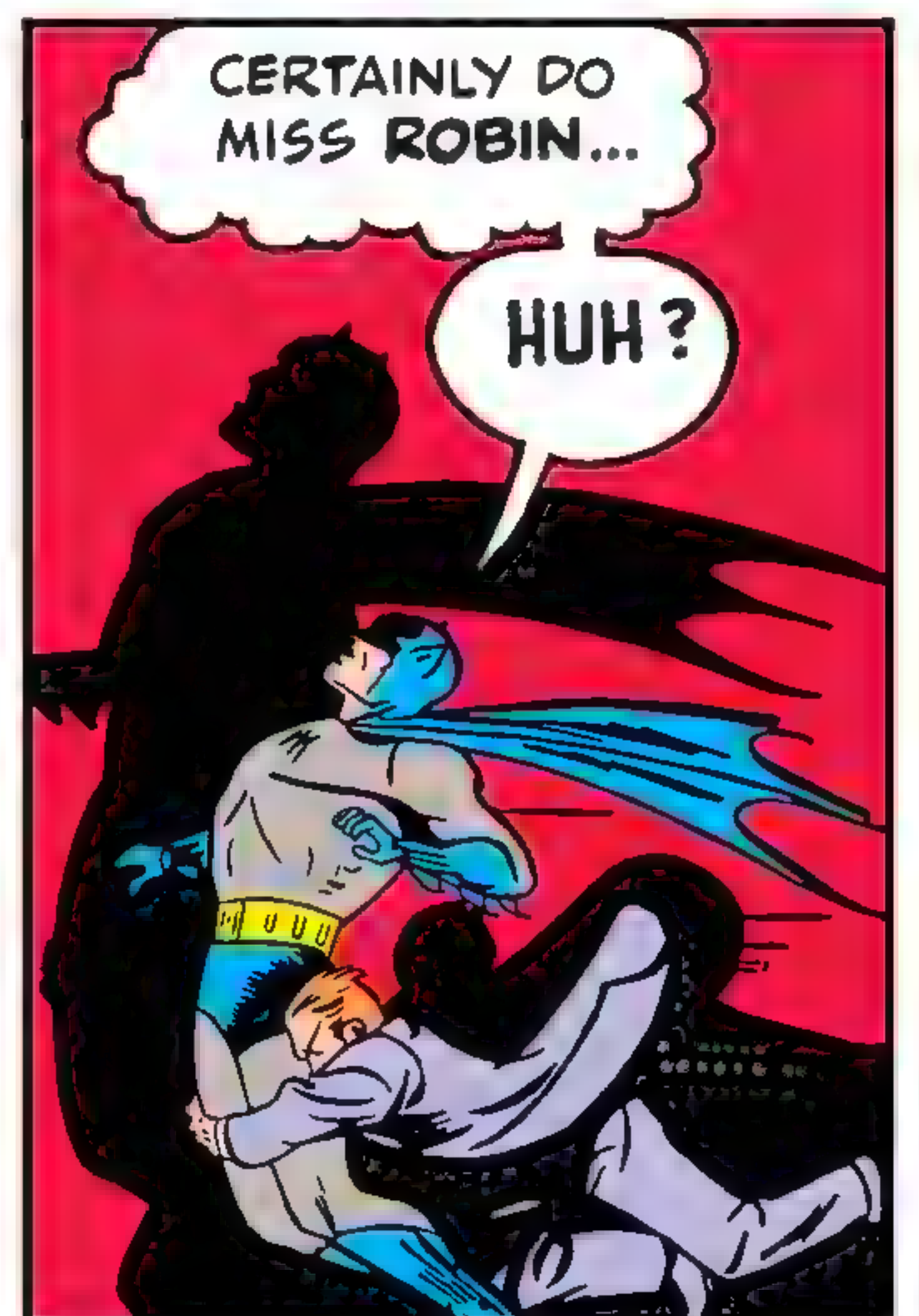
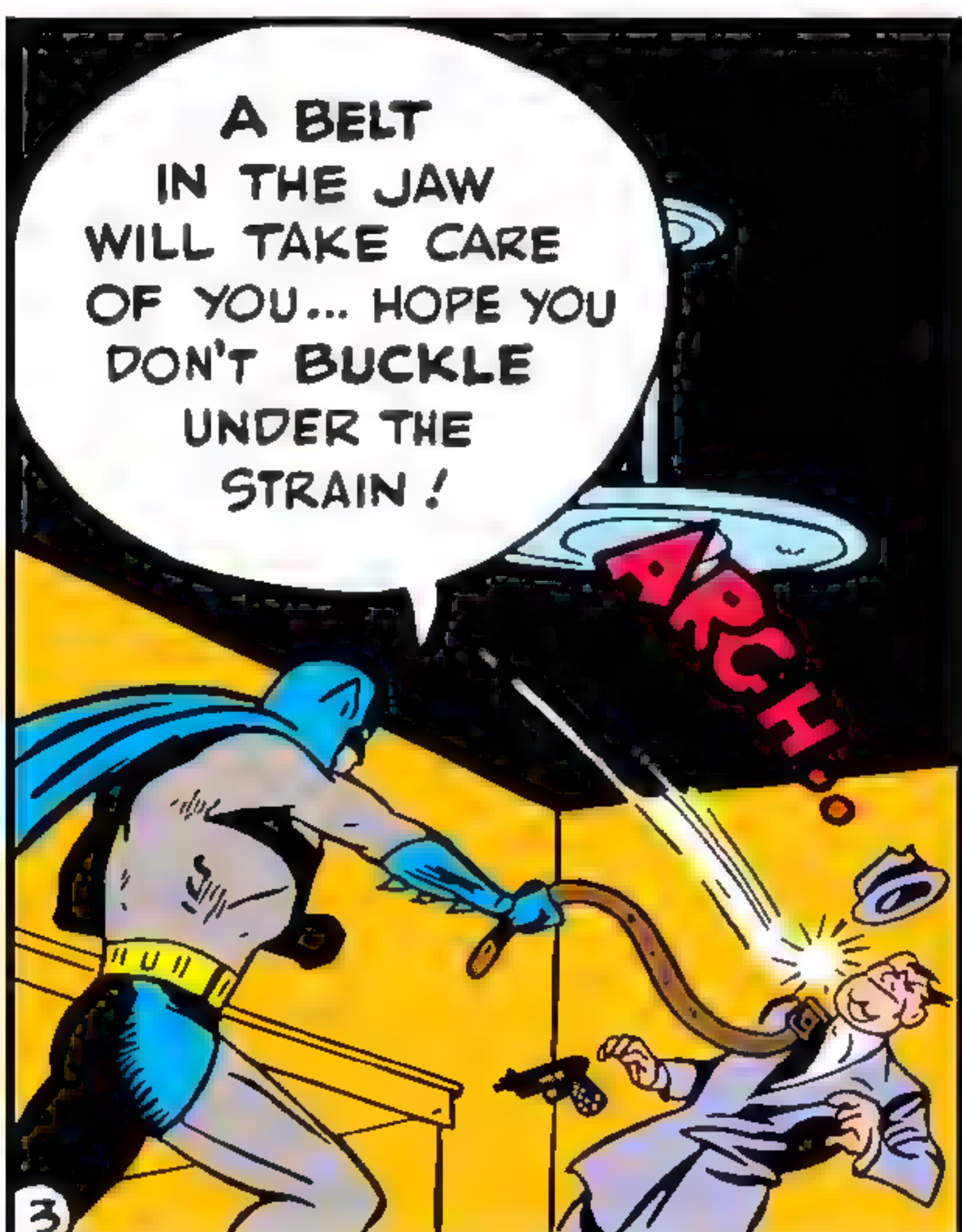
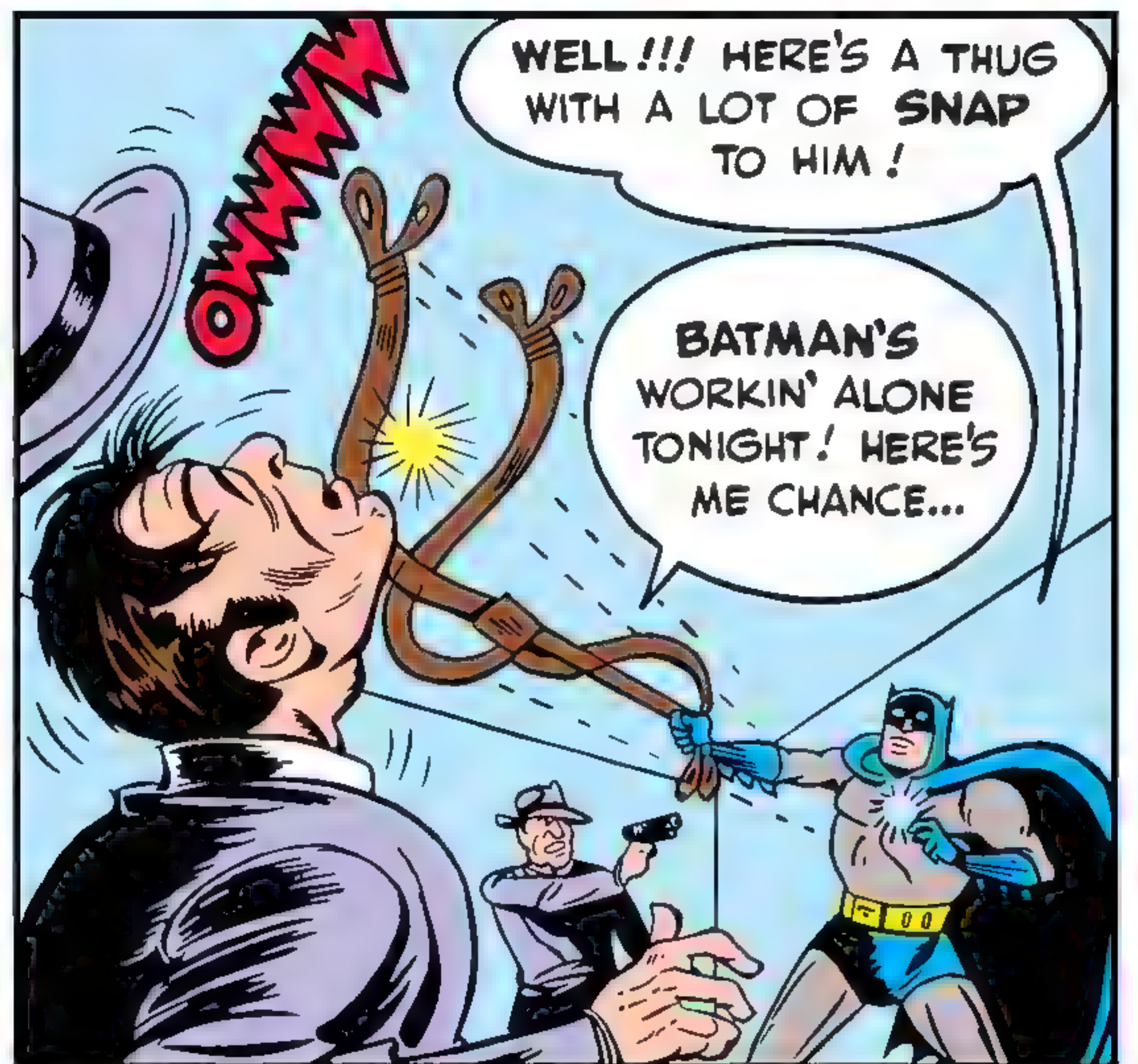
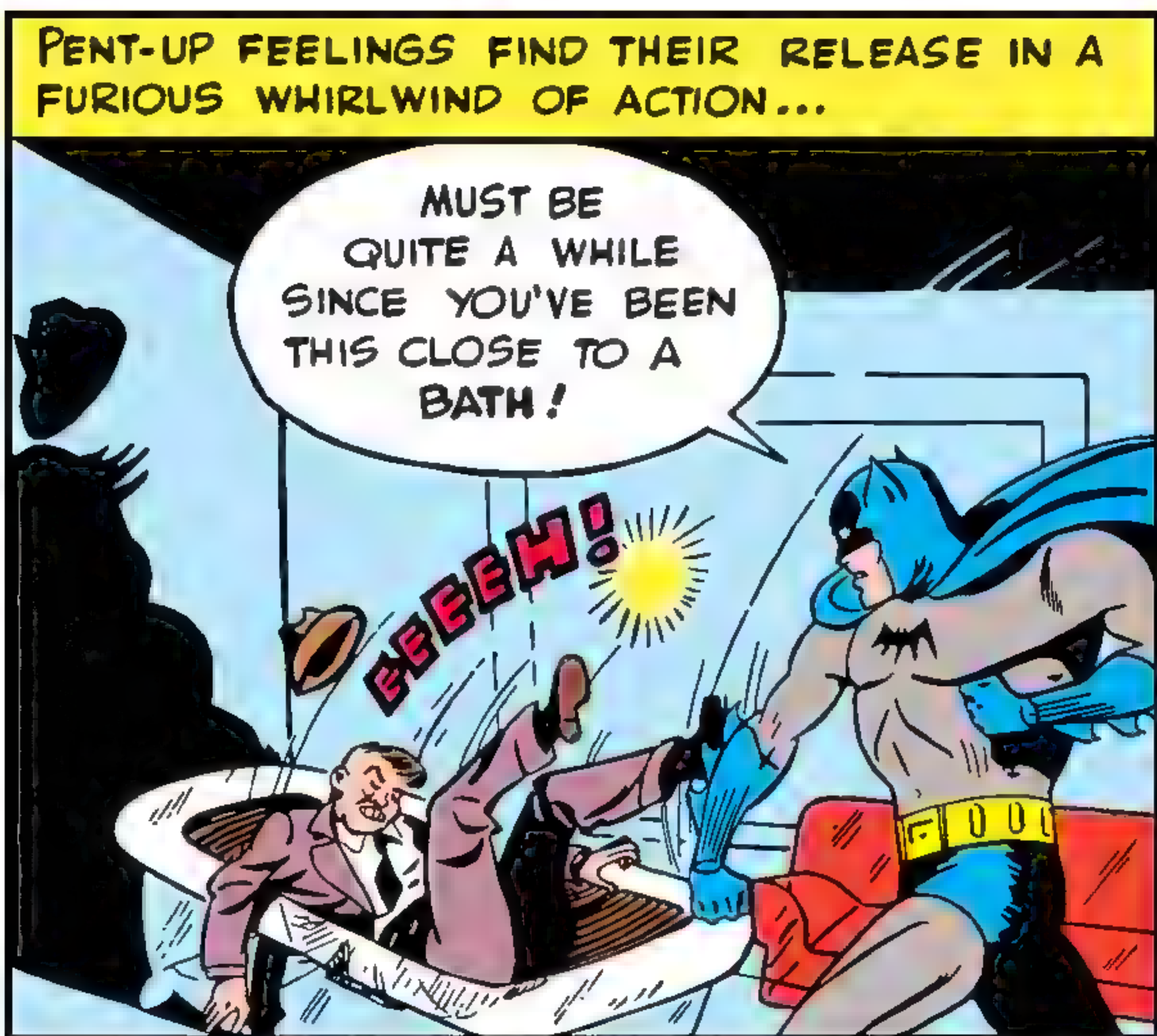
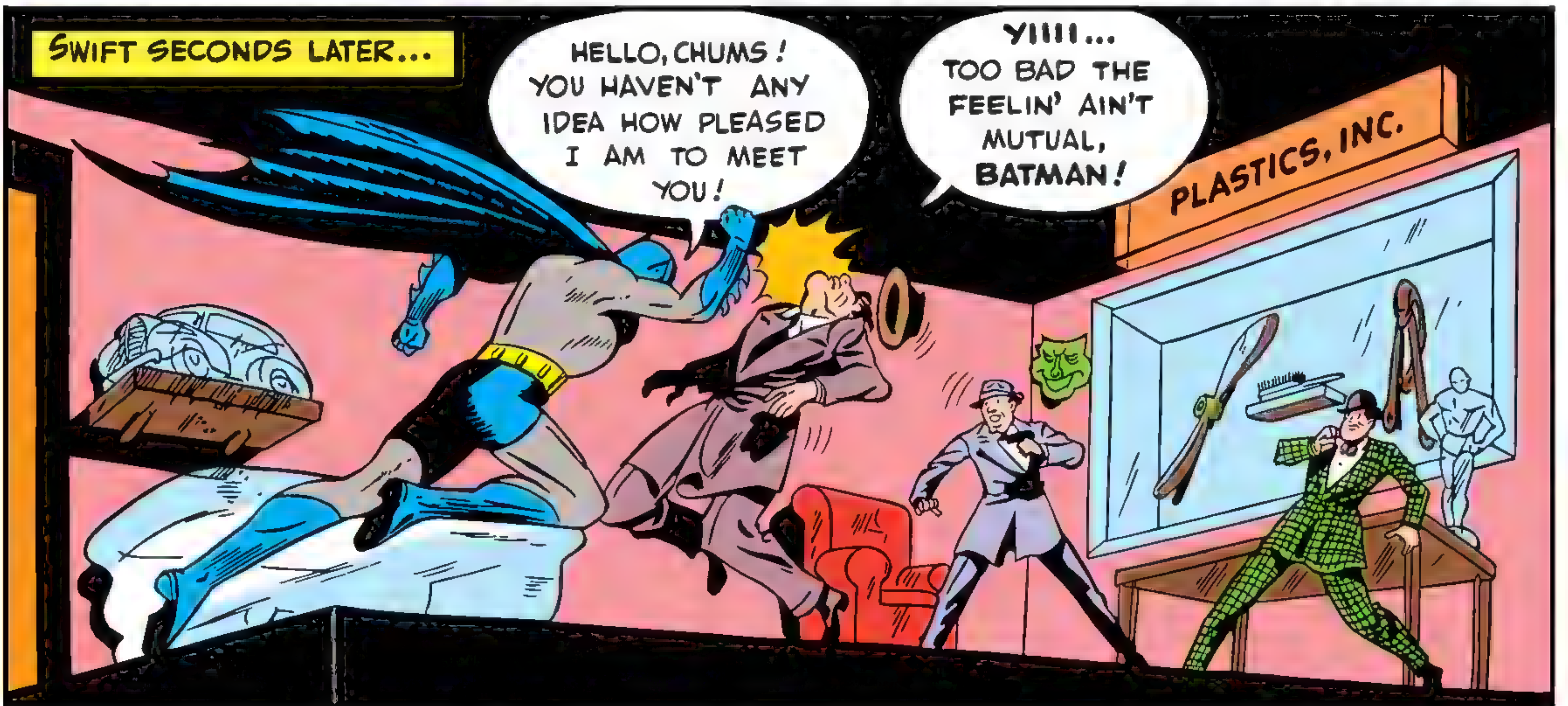


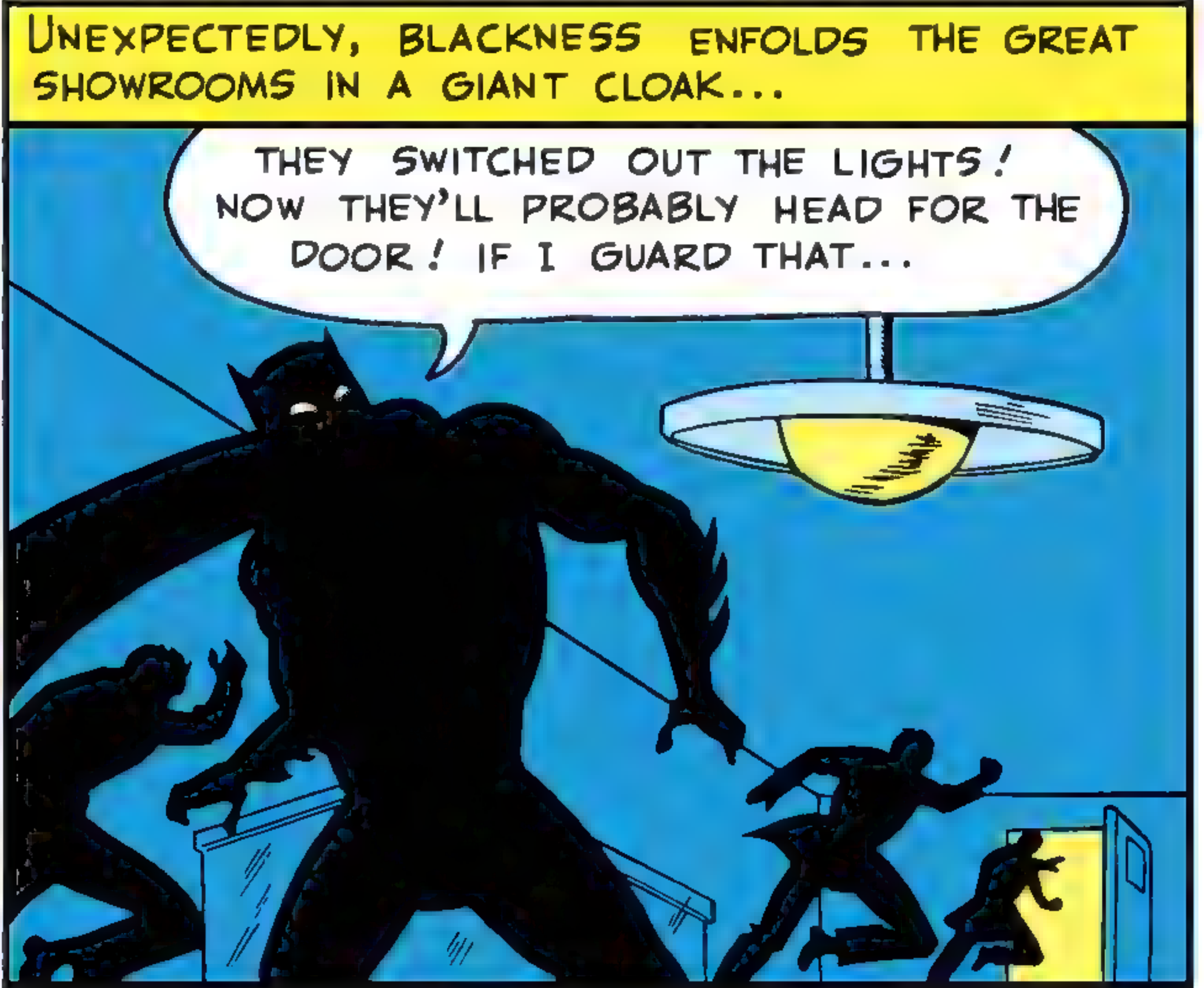
AND SO, THAT EVENING, A DARK-MANTLED FIGURE FLITS FORTH INTO THE CRIME-RIDDEN CITY ALONE... WHILE BEHIND HIM A BEWILDERED BOY STRUGGLES BRAVELY TO BACK THE TEARS...



WITH CAT-LIKE AGILITY AND IN PHANTOM SILENCE, THE SOLITARY WATCHER PROWLs THE ROOFTOPS... AND SOON...









THAT GUY'S GOT US ALL BUFFALOED! WE SOCK HIM OVER THE HEAD... AND INSTEAD OF FINISHIN' HIM OFF AND ROBBIN' THE SAFE, WE RUN!

SURE, SPIKE! BECAUSE A LOT OF GUYS TRIED TO FINISH OFF HIM AND THAT KID...THE JOKER, PENGUIN, SCARECROW... AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM!

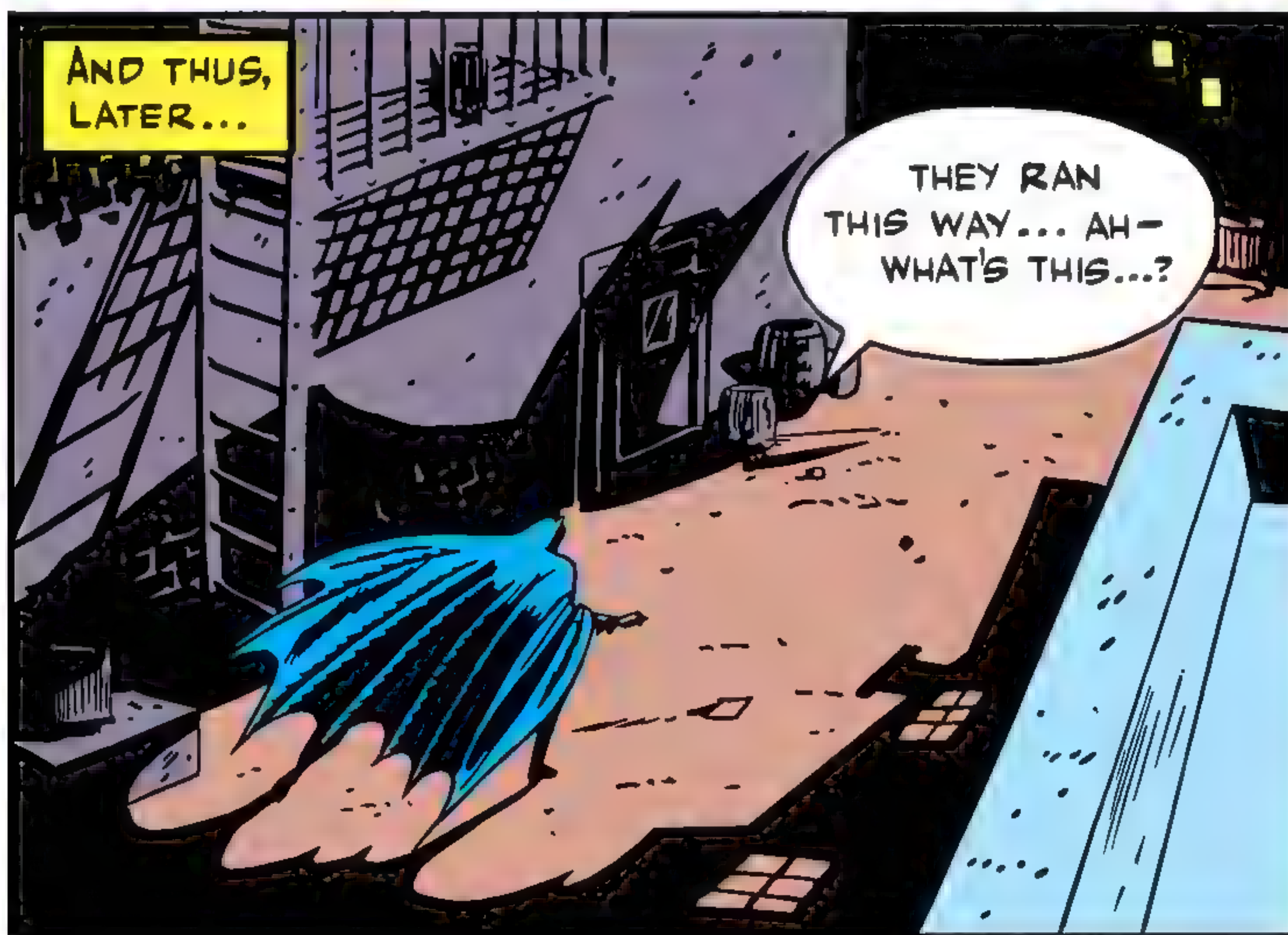


YEAH, BUT NOW HIM AND THE KID DON'T SEEM TO BE WORKIN' TOGETHER! BATMAN ALONE MAYBE WE CAN HANDLE!

YOU MEAN YOU WANNA TANGLE WITH THAT GUY AGAIN?



AND HOW! IN FACT, I'M GONNA INVITE HIM TO TOMORROW NIGHT'S PARTY!



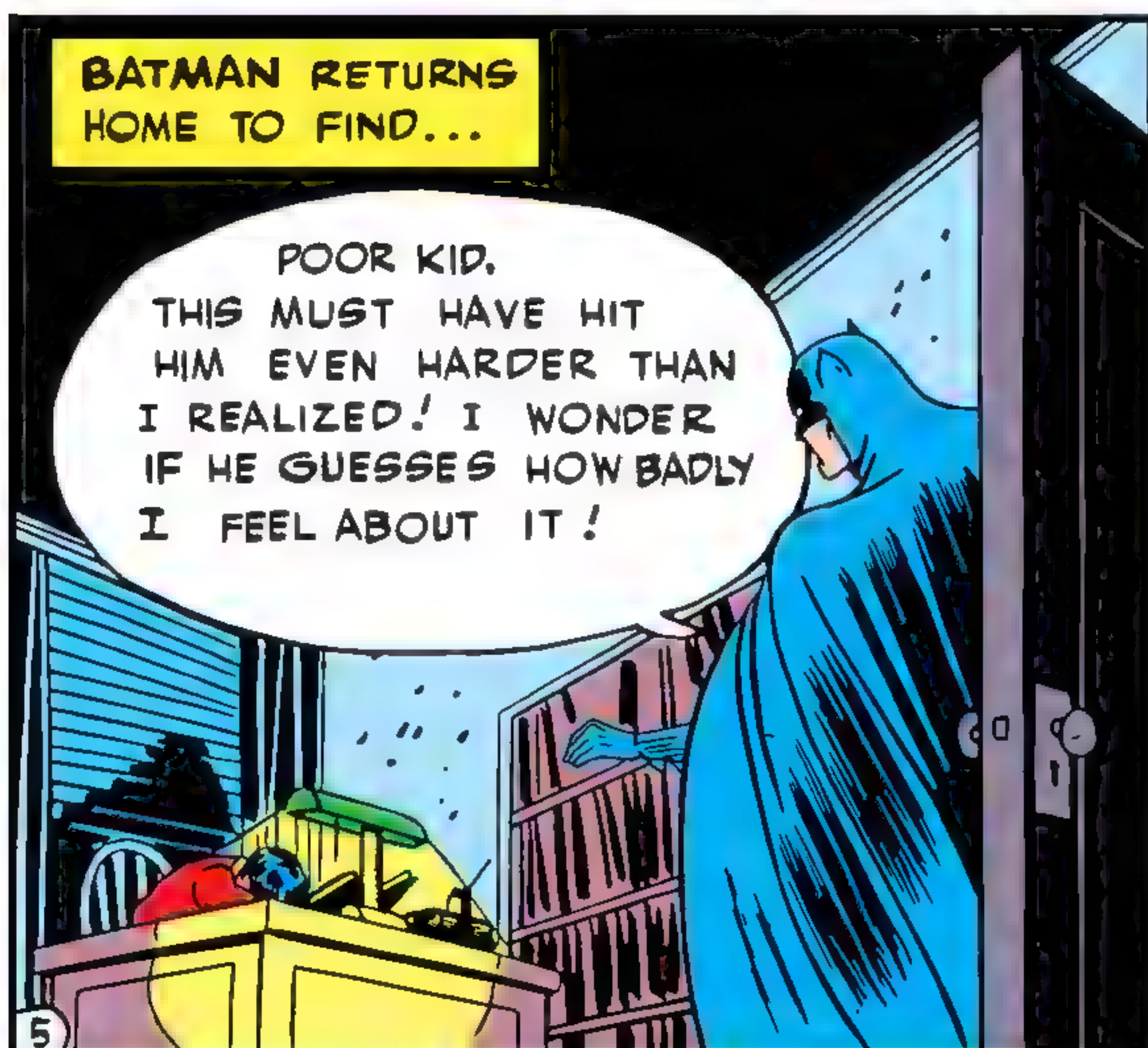
AND THUS, LATER...

THEY RAN THIS WAY... AH - WHAT'S THIS...?



THIS IS ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! THE CONSOLIDATED... I'LL BE SEEING THOSE RATS AGAIN TOMORROW!

BOSS, EVERYTHING'S SET. THERE WON'T BE NO WATCH-MAN AT THE CONSOLIDATED FISH PLACE TOMORROW NIGHT. BUT THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF DOUGH IN THE TREASURER'S OFFICE. HARRY



BATMAN RETURNS HOME TO FIND...

POOR KID. THIS MUST HAVE HIT HIM EVEN HARDER THAN I REALIZED! I WONDER IF HE GUESSES HOW BADLY I FEEL ABOUT IT!



LEAVE... ME... 'LONE... GOTTA... STUDY...

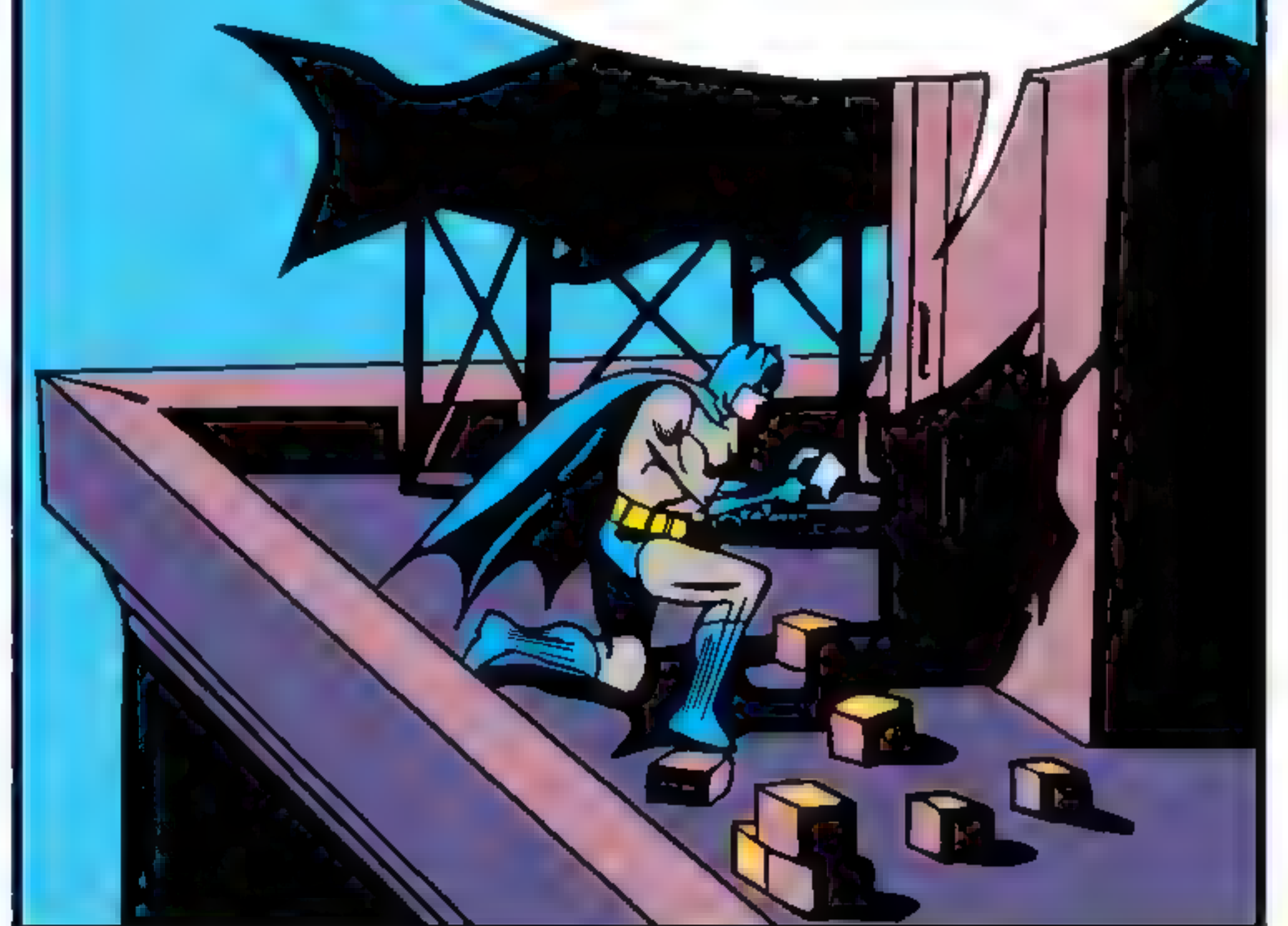
TAKE IT EASY, DICK... YOU'VE STUDIED ENOUGH FOR TONIGHT!

A BRIEF NIGHT'S REST... AND THEN, FOR ROBIN, SCHOOL AGAIN, CLASSES ALL DAY LONG... AND IN THE EVENING, ONCE MORE THE GRIND OF STUDY, WHILE BATMAN...



NO SIGN OF THOSE THUGS YET, BUT I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE WITH CARE... I FOUND THAT SCRAP OF PAPER TOO EASILY... THIS MAY BE A TRAP...

HMMM... WONDER WHAT THESE ARE...? LOOK LIKE ALPHABET BLOCKS THAT CHILDREN PLAY WITH! WELL-NO TIME TO PUZZLE THEM OUT NOW...



SUDDENLY...

WHA...? SOUNDS AS IF I SET OFF A BUNCH OF FIRE-CRACKERS!



THAT MUST HAVE WARNED THOSE CROOKS THAT I'M HERE! BUT THEY CAN'T SEE ME ANY MORE THAN I CAN SEE THEM!



WITHIN THE SILENT, GLOOM-ENFOLDED EDIFICE, THE LITHE FIGURE OF BATMAN STEALS FORWARD SOUNDLESSLY...

I'VE GOT PLENTY OF DOORS TO CHOOSE FROM, AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF A TRAP YET... IF THOSE CROOKS ARE ALREADY HERE, I'LL BE ABLE TO SURPRISE THEM...



BE CAREFUL, BATMAN! THERE IS DANGER IN THE DARKNESS-FOR YOU!

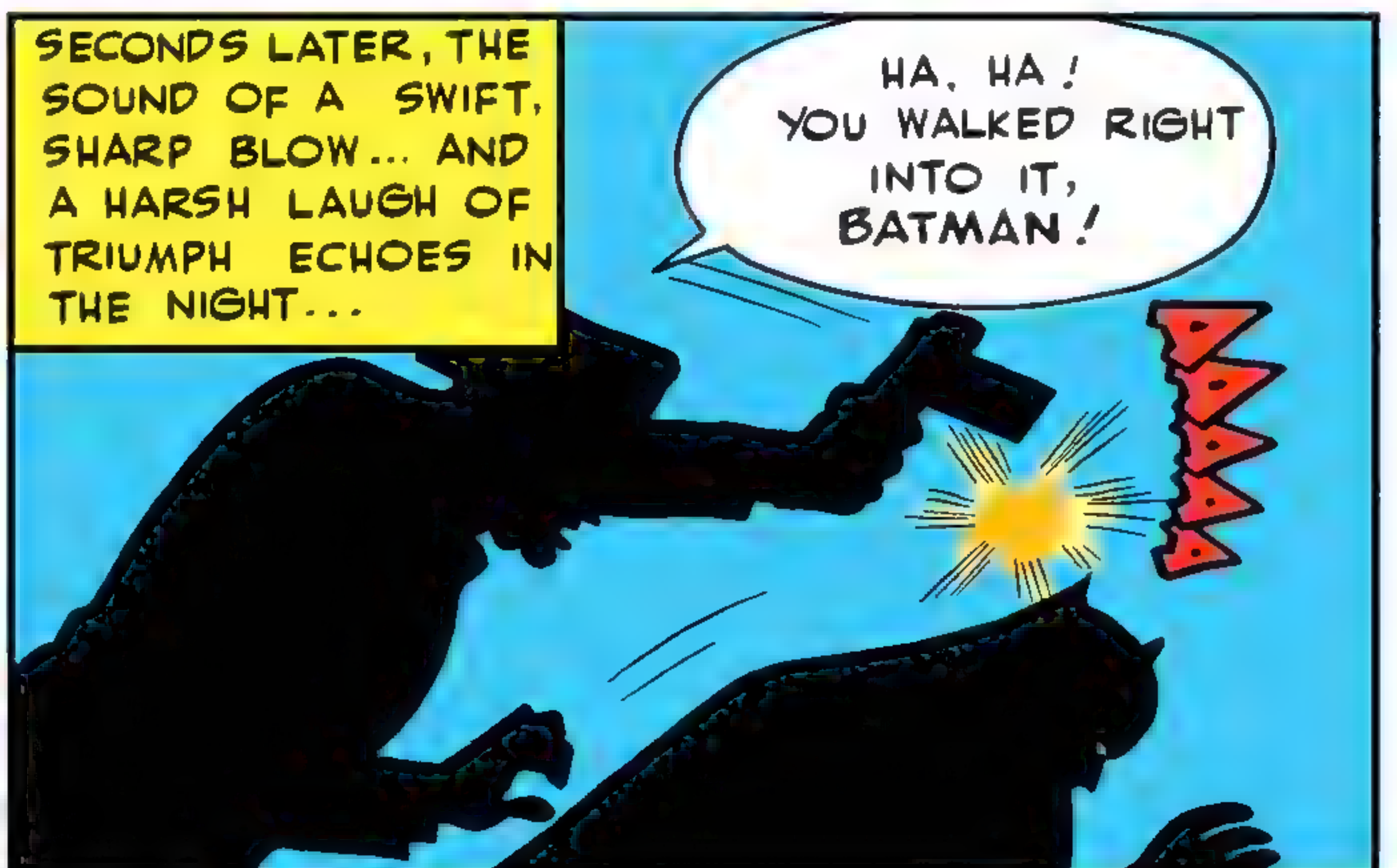
HMMM... NO SIGN OF THEM YET!

SEE THEM GLOWIN' HANDS, BOYS? TIME FOR US TO DO SOMETHIN'!

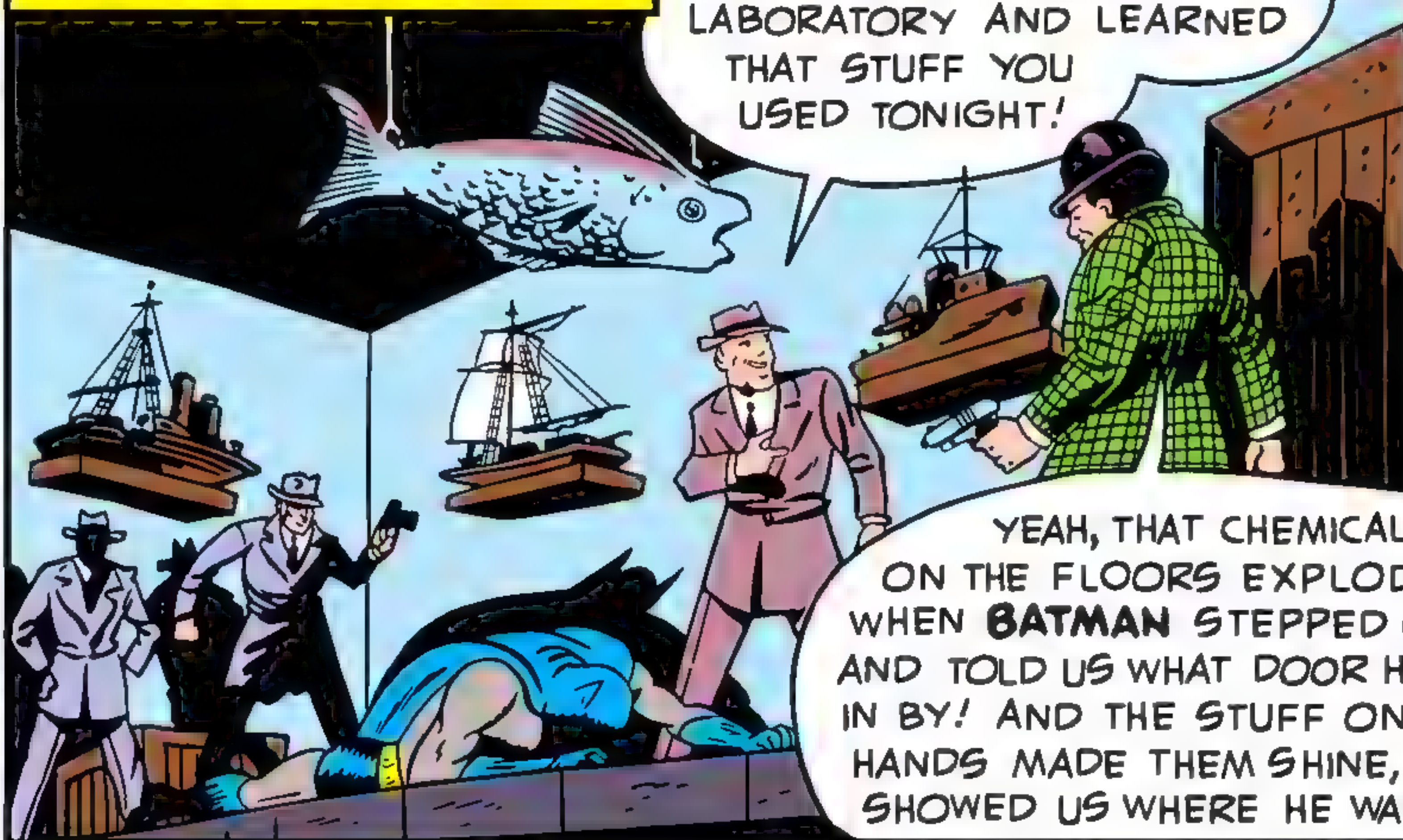


SECONDS LATER, THE SOUND OF A SWIFT, SHARP BLOW... AND A HARSH LAUGH OF TRIUMPH ECHOES IN THE NIGHT...

HA, HA! YOU WALKED RIGHT INTO IT, BATMAN!



NOW THE LIGHTS FLASH ON, TO REVEAL ...



HE DIDN'T REALIZE IT GOT ON HIM WHEN HE PICKED UP THE BLOCKS ON THE ROOF!



YEAH, THAT CHEMICAL ON THE FLOORS EXPLODED WHEN **BATMAN** STEPPED ON IT, AND TOLD US WHAT DOOR HE CAME IN BY! AND THE STUFF ON HIS HANDS MADE THEM SHINE, AND SHOWED US WHERE HE WAS!

YES, IT WAS A CLEVER TRAP, AND **BATMAN** ALONE COULD NOT GUARD AGAINST EVERY DANGER! WOULD THINGS HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF **ROBIN** HAD BEEN ALONG? PERHAPS... AT LEAST **ROBIN** MIGHT THINK SO! FOR NOW WEARIED BY HIS STUDY, THE LAD RELAXES FOR A MOMENT AND GAZES FONDLY AT A COSTUME HE HAS BEEN FORBIDDEN TO WEAR...



BUT I SUPPOSE HE'D GET ANGRY IF I DID! STILL, I CAN CONTACT HIM WITH MY BELT RADIO... HUH?

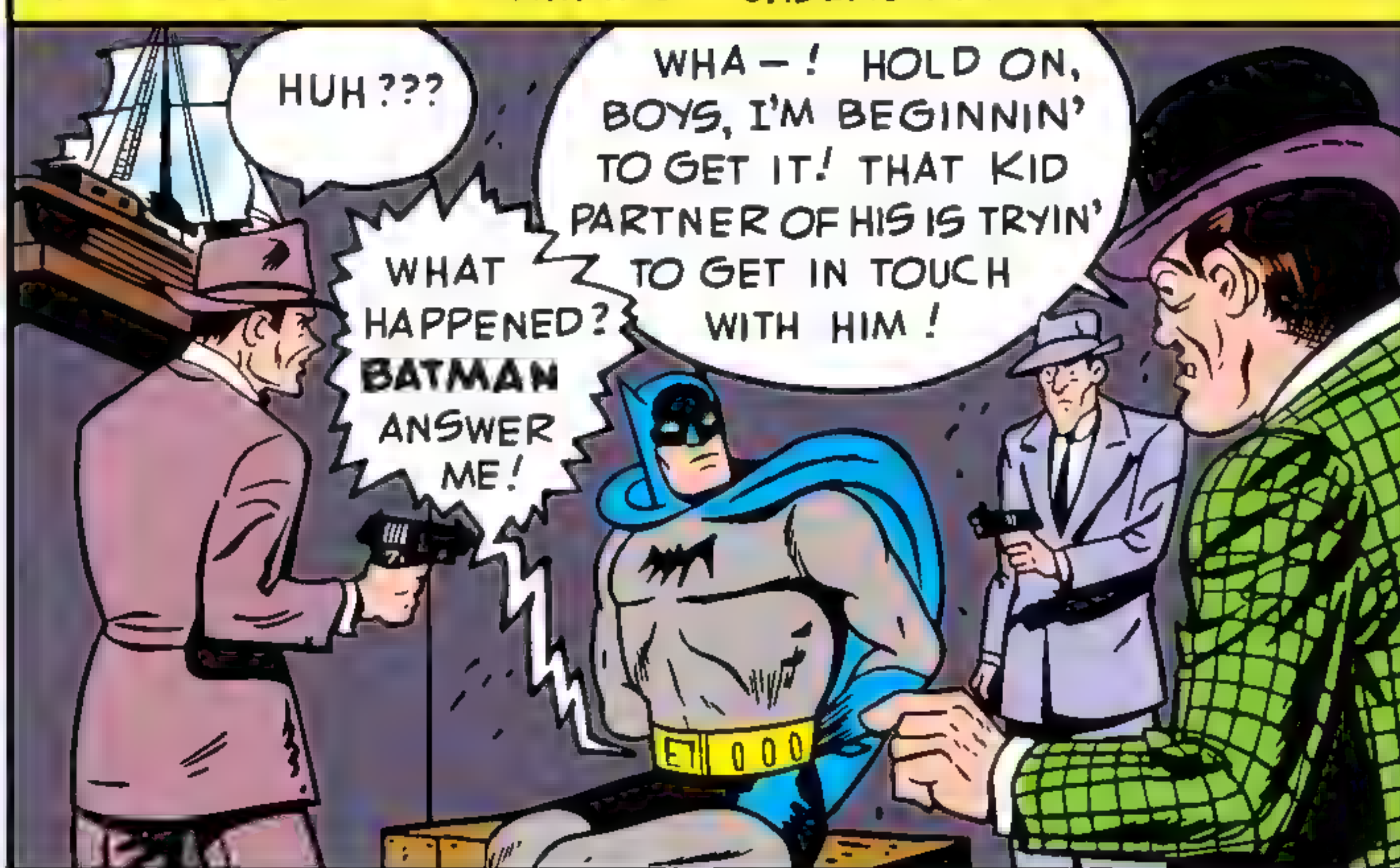


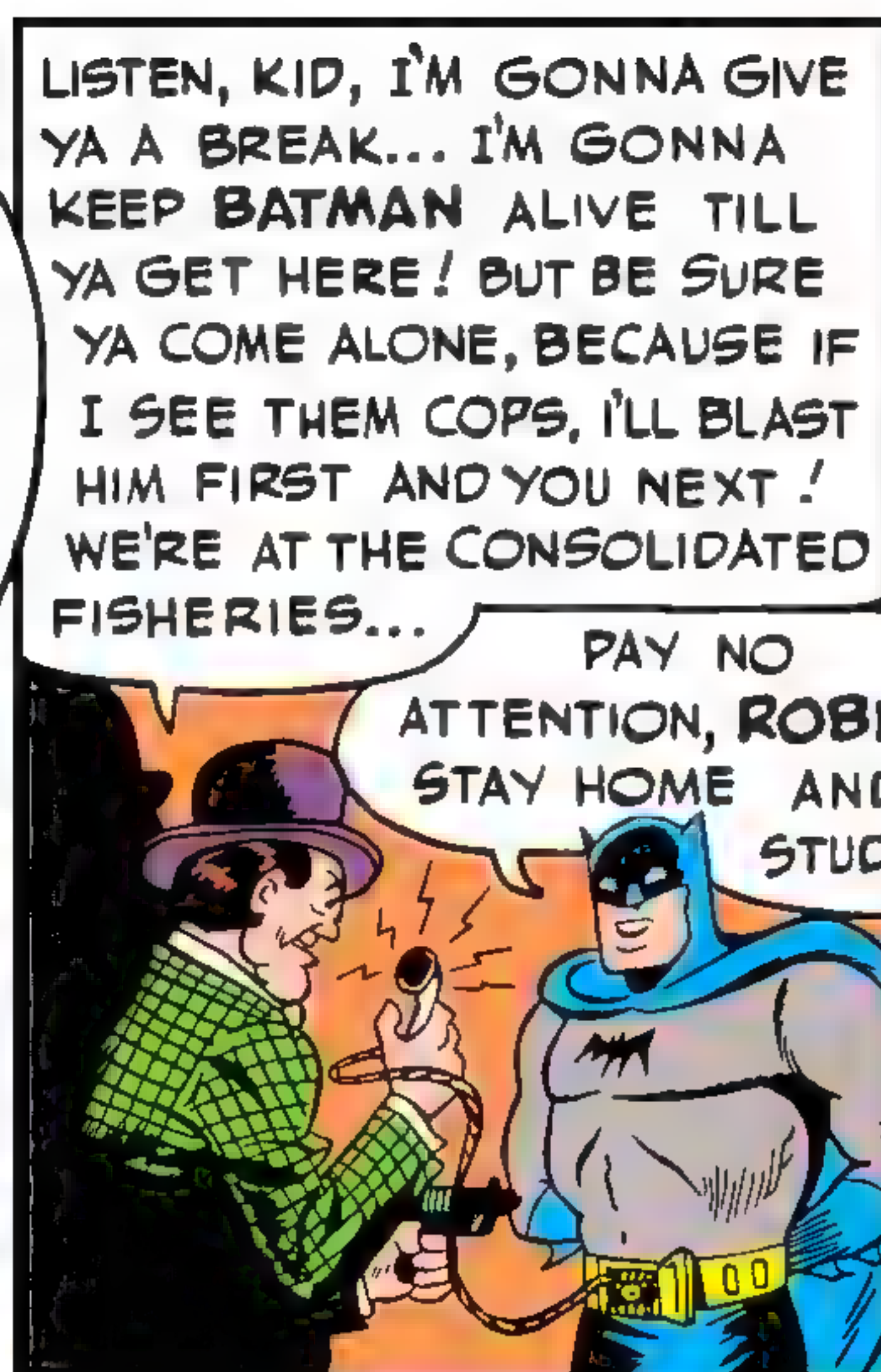
THAT'S HIS VOICE ... AND HE'S IN TROUBLE! I'VE GOT TO HELP HIM!

BATMAN! WHERE ARE YOU? WHAT HAPPENED?

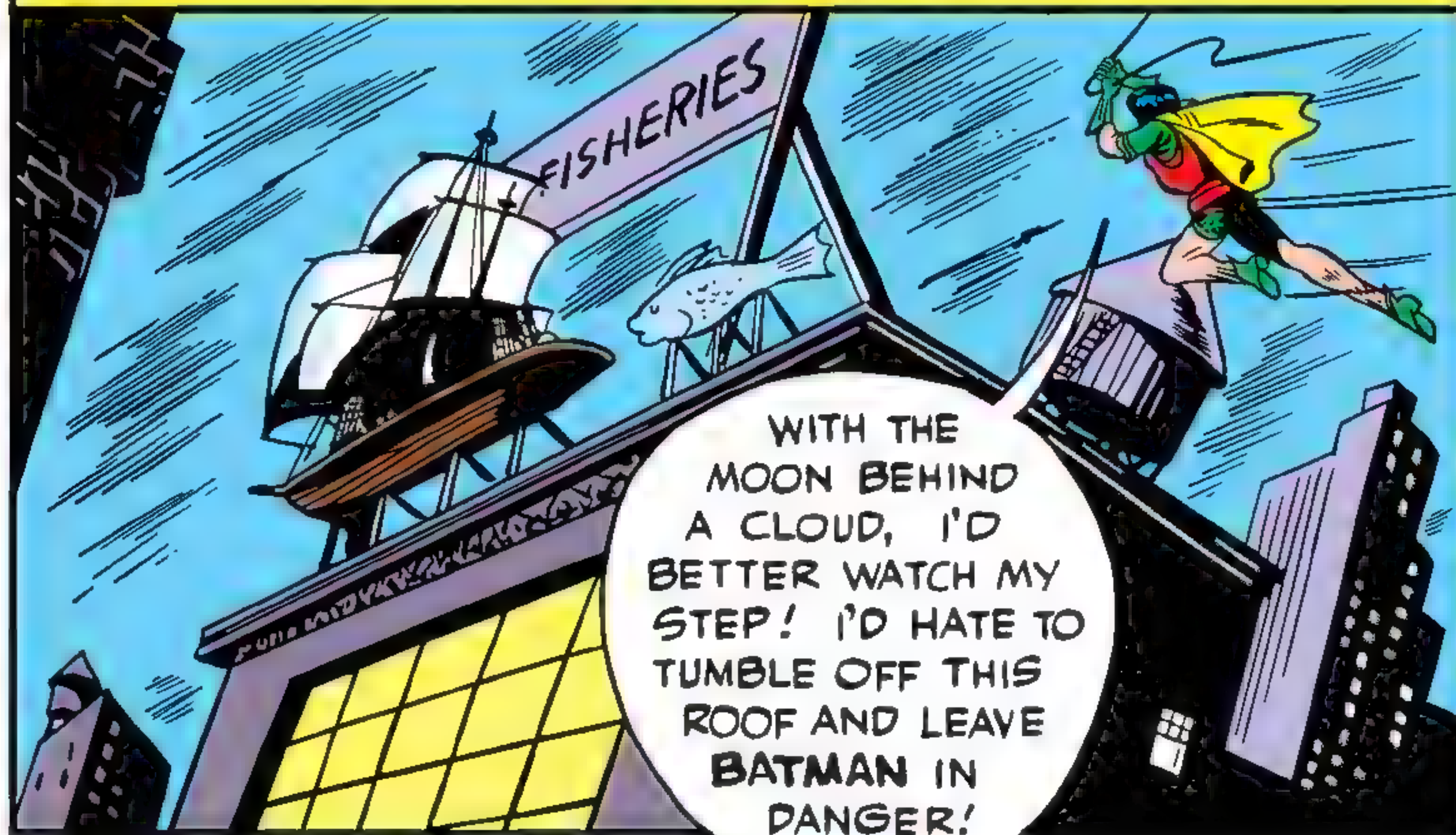


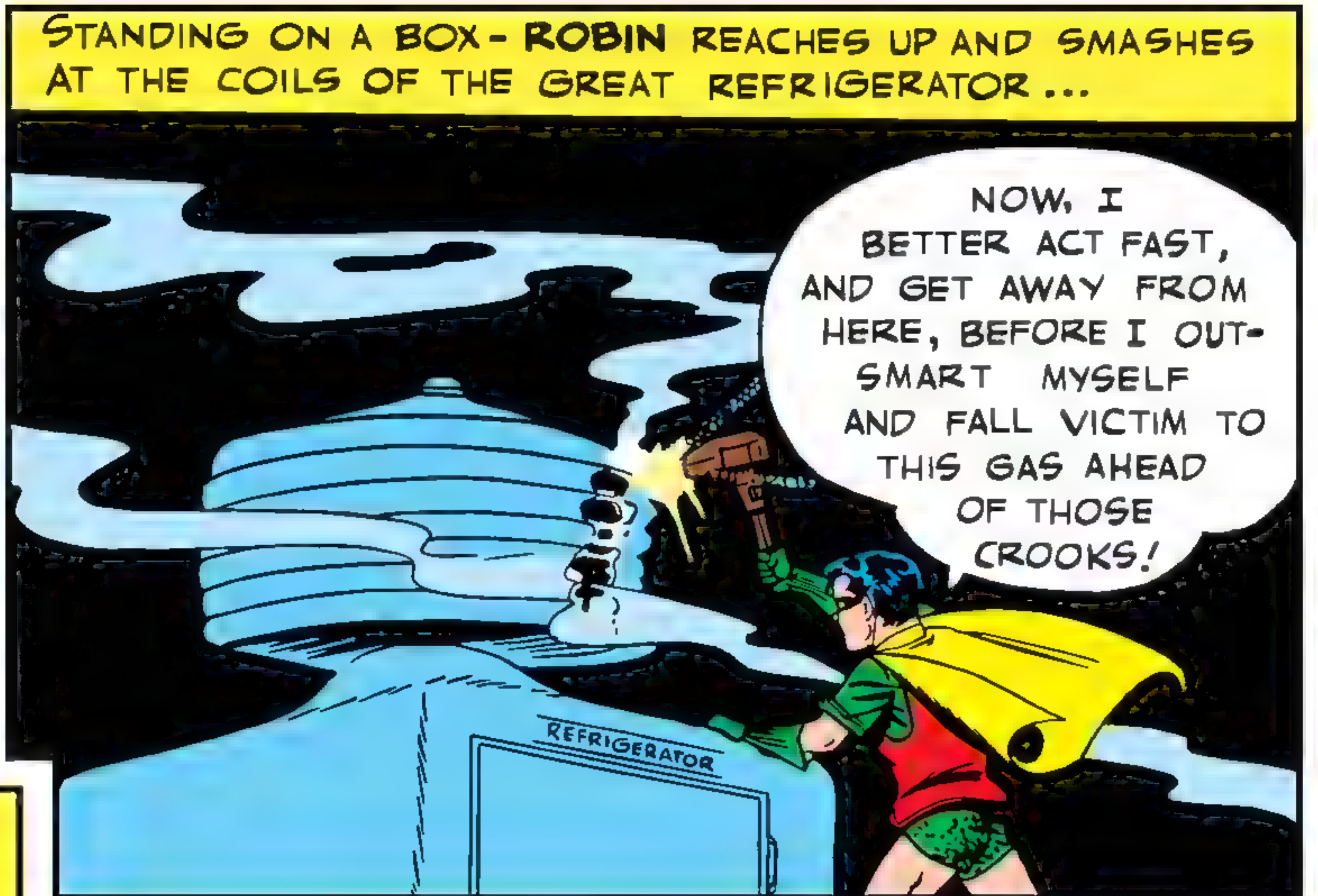
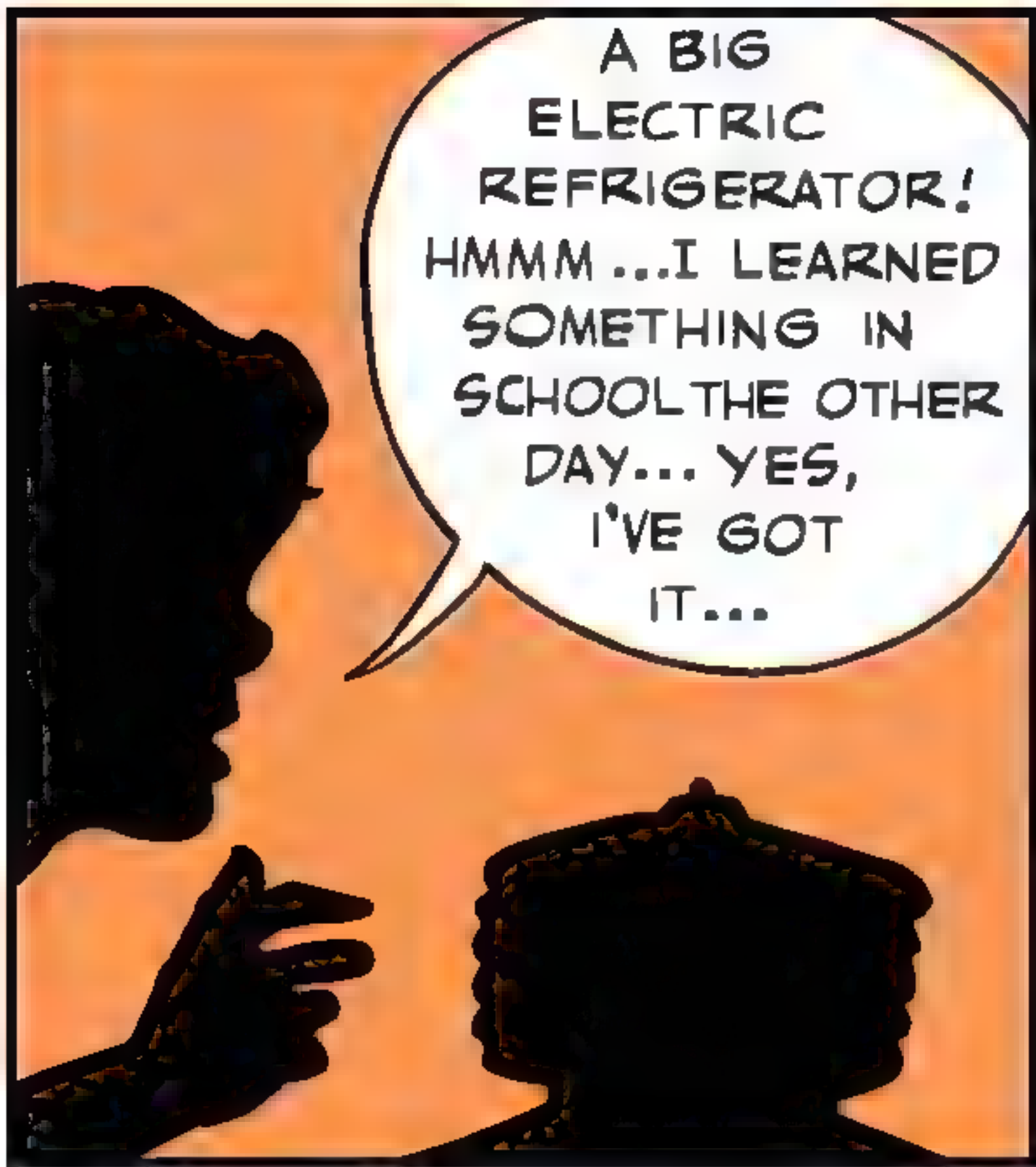
A STARTLED SHAKEN CRIME CHIEF HEARS **ROBIN'S** VOICE AND STARES IN BEWILDERMENT ... AND THEN GRINS SLOWLY IN DAWNING UNDERSTANDING...



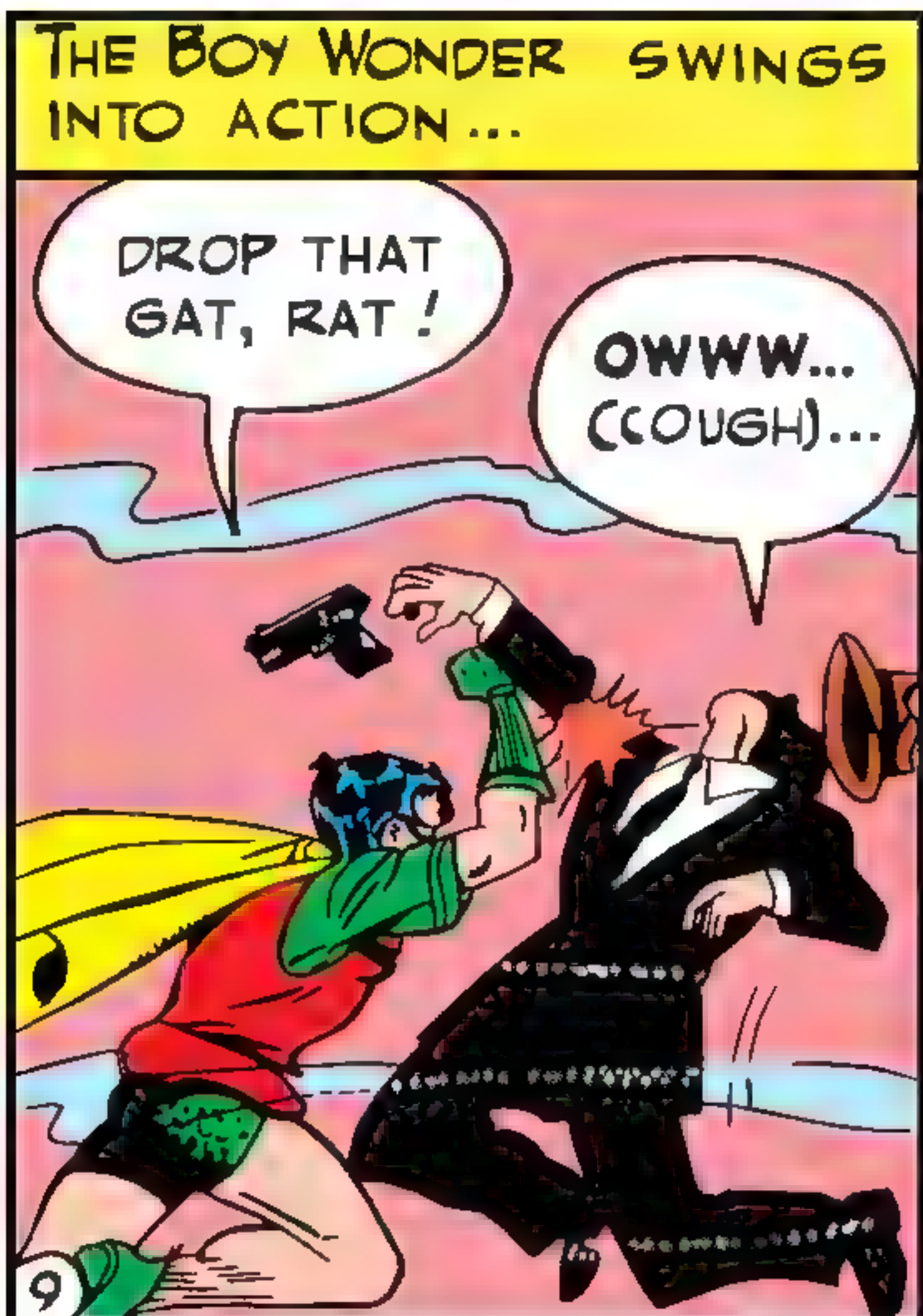
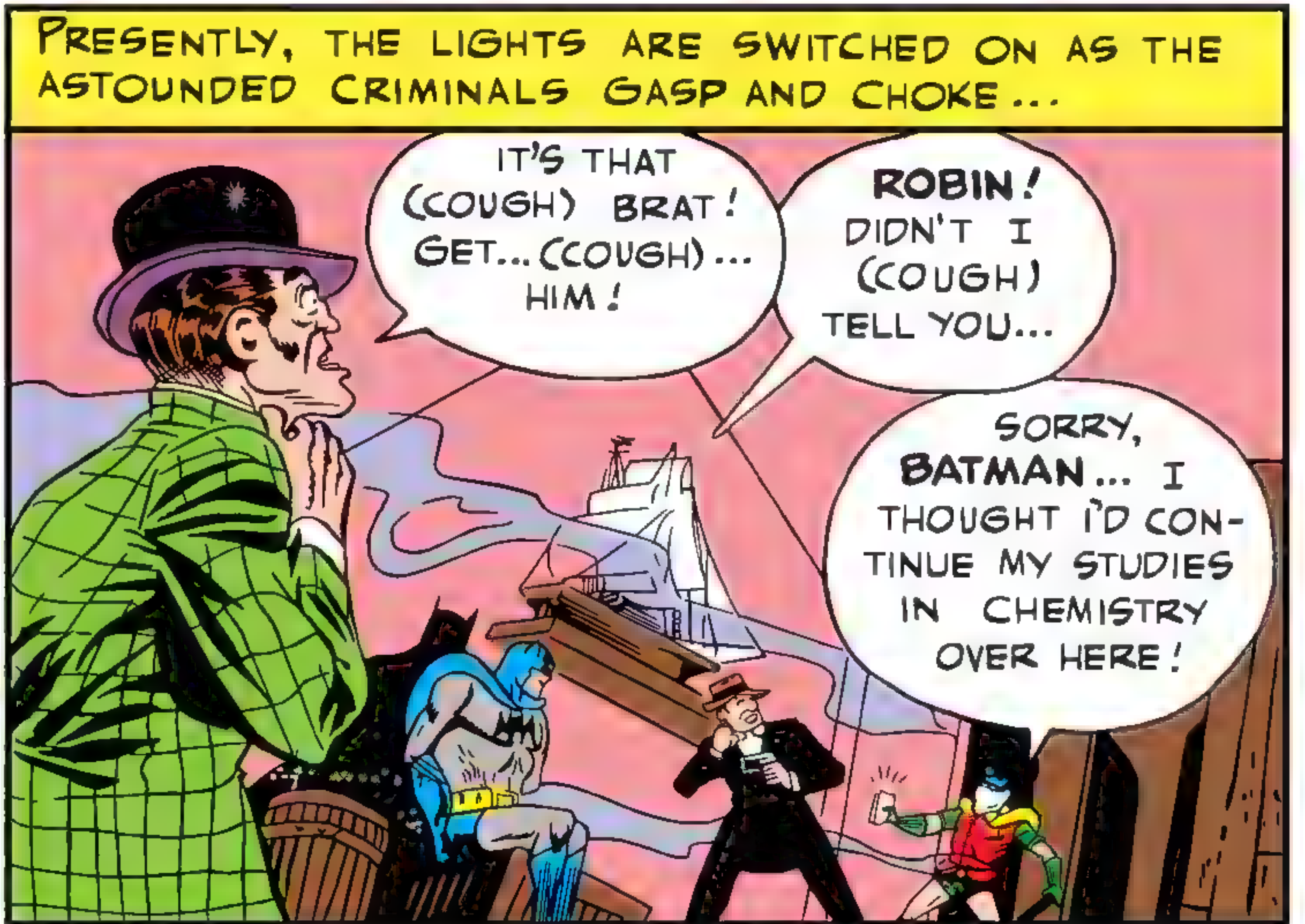


AND SO, THE SLIM, DARING FIGURE OF THE BOY WONDER NOW FOLLOWS THE PATH WHICH HAS PROVED DISASTROUS TO HIS OLDER, STRONGER, AND WISER COMPANION!

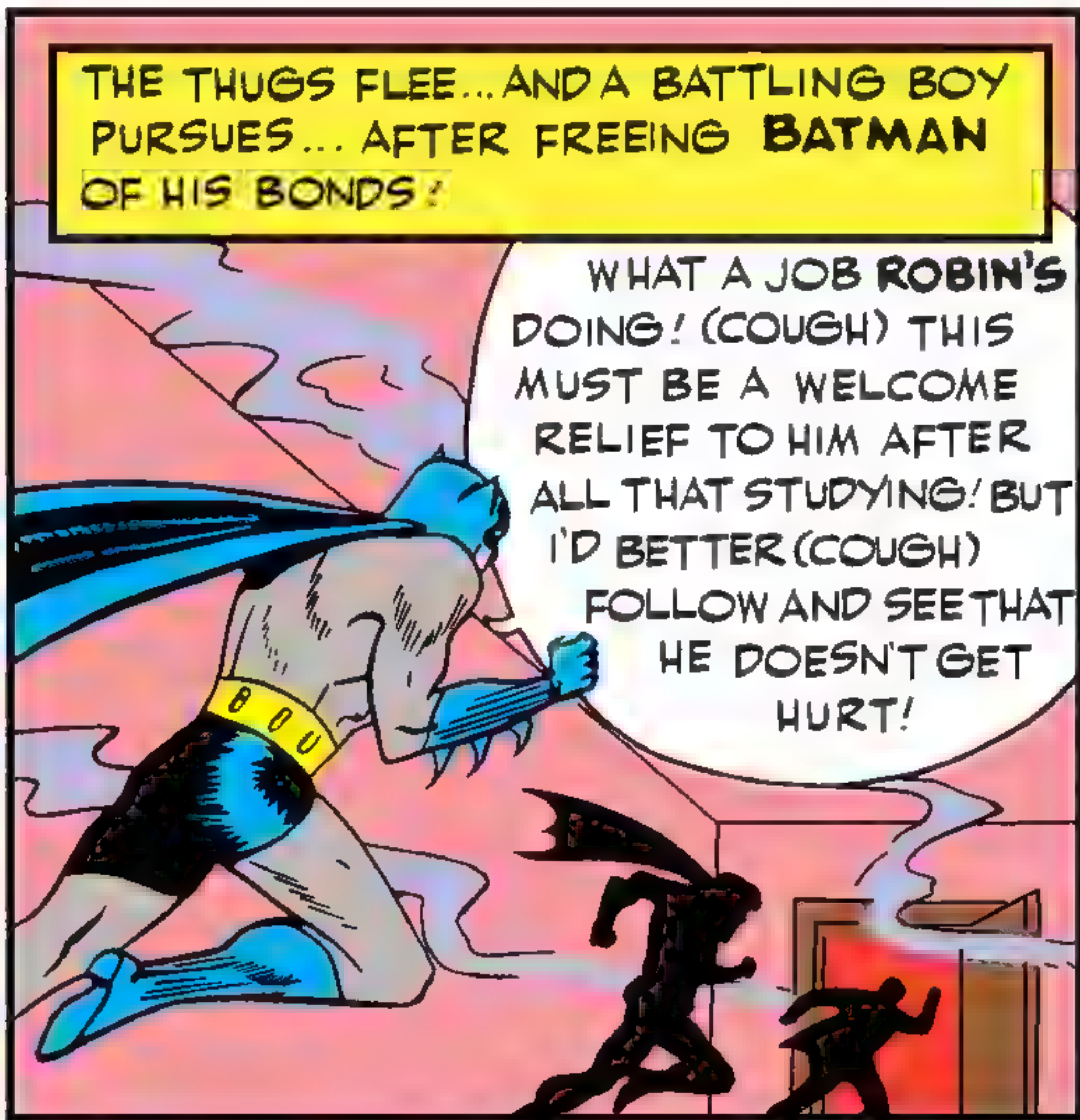




THERE IS REASON TO ROBIN'S MADNESS! THE COILS, FILLED WITH LIQUEFIED GAS, RELEASE CHOKING FUMES... AND A STIFF BREEZE FROM THE OPEN ROOFTOP DOOR DRIVES THEM IN UPON THE CRIMINALS!

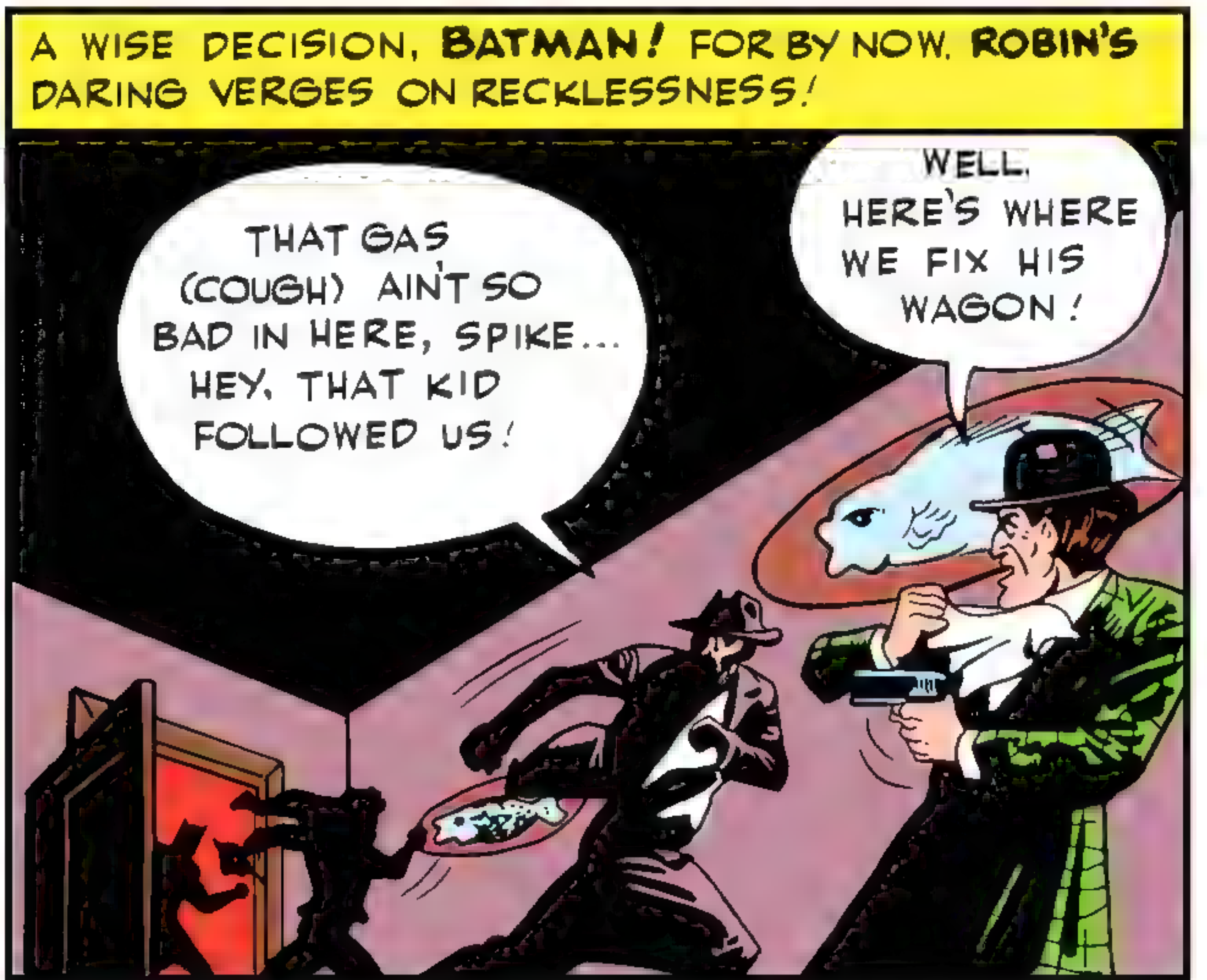


THE THUGS FLEE...AND A BATTLING BOY PURSUES... AFTER FREEING BATMAN OF HIS BONDS!



WHAT A JOB ROBIN'S DOING! (COUGH) THIS MUST BE A WELCOME RELIEF TO HIM AFTER ALL THAT STUDYING! BUT I'D BETTER (COUGH) FOLLOW AND SEE THAT HE DOESN'T GET HURT!

A WISE DECISION, BATMAN! FOR BY NOW, ROBIN'S DARING VERGES ON RECKLESSNESS!



THAT GAS (COUGH) AIN'T SO BAD IN HERE, SPIKE... HEY, THAT KID FOLLOWED US!

WELL, HERE'S WHERE WE FIX HIS WAGON!



WOW! THAT HIT HIM LIKE A TUN-A BRICKS!

WHAT A PUN! SOUNDS AS IF YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR LOST OPPORTUNITY!

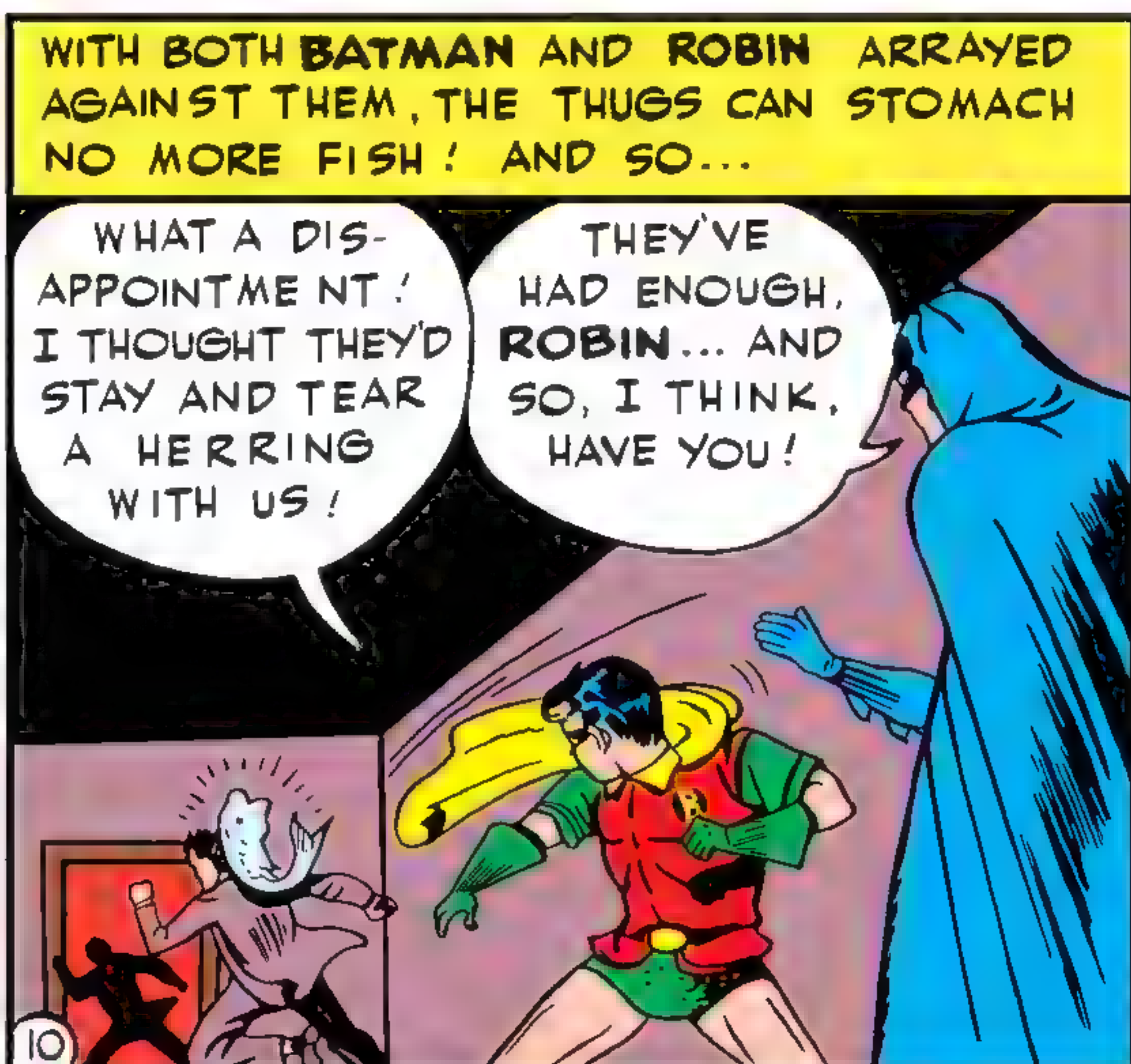
EEEEHHH...



HOLY MACKEREL!

YOU NAMED IT, CHUM... IT'S YOURS!

WITH BOTH BATMAN AND ROBIN ARRAYED AGAINST THEM, THE THUGS CAN STOMACH NO MORE FISH! AND SO...



WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT! I THOUGHT THEY'D STAY AND TEAR A HERRING WITH US!

THEY'VE HAD ENOUGH, ROBIN... AND SO, I THINK, HAVE YOU!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE! HE SAVED MY LIFE AND I HAVE TO PRETEND I'M ANGRY! BUT THERE'S SUCH A THING AS DISCIPLINE!

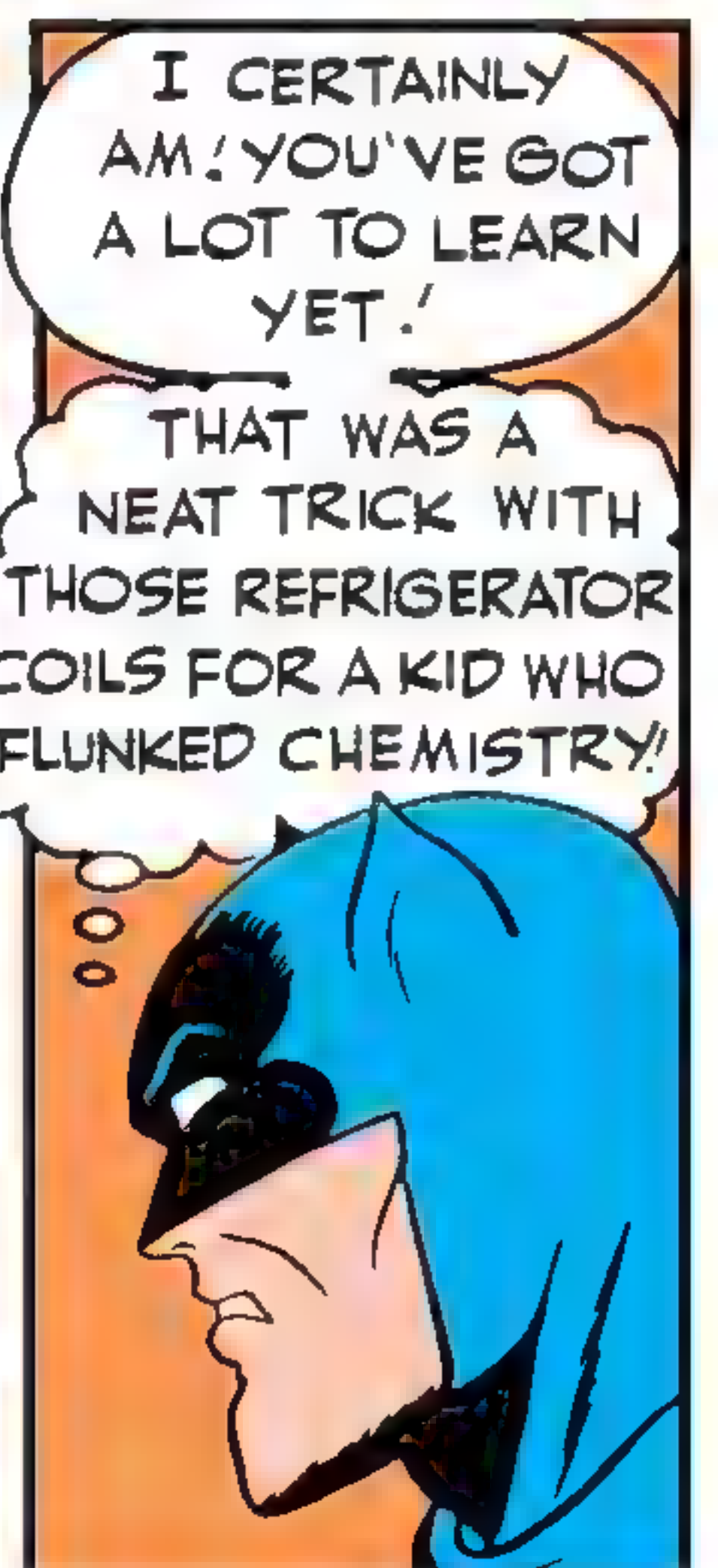
NOW YOU'D BETTER GO BACK TO YOUR BOOKS!

W-WHA...? AFTER WHAT I DID? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS, BATMAN!



I CERTAINLY AM! YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO LEARN YET!

THAT WAS A NEAT TRICK WITH THOSE REFRIGERATOR COILS FOR A KID WHO FLUNKED CHEMISTRY!



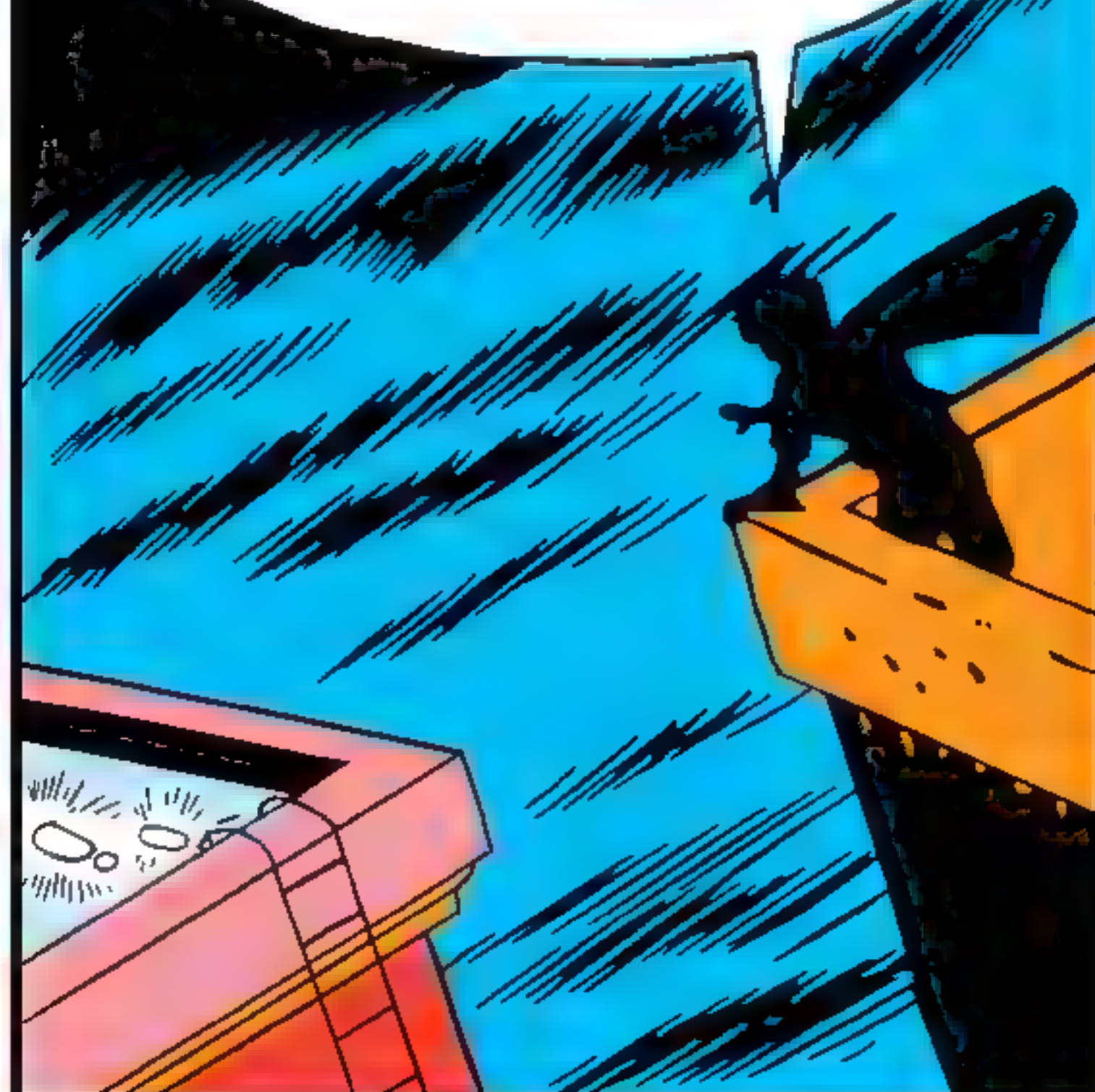
BLINKING EYELIDS HOLD BACK THE TEARS AS A BEWILDERED HEARTBROKEN BOY STUMBLES, AWAY...



THEY CAME THIS WAY! I CAN TELL BECAUSE THEY KICKED THESE BLOCKS TO THE EDGE OF THE ROOF! THAT MEANS THAT THE PHOSPHORESCENT PAINT MUST BE ON THEIR SHOES!



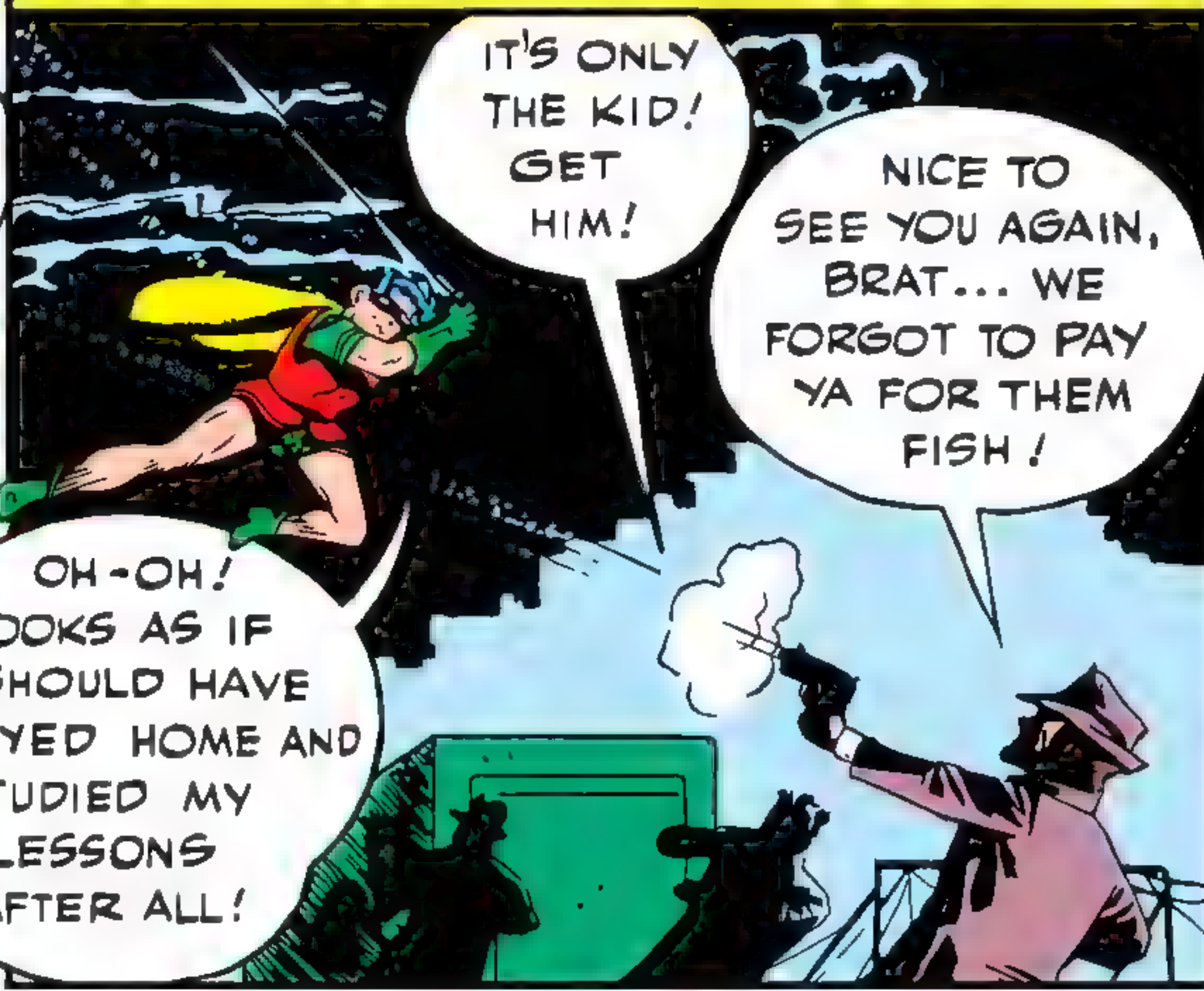
AND THERE THEY ARE! HERE'S WHERE I SHOW THEM... AND BATMAN... A FEW MORE TRICKS!



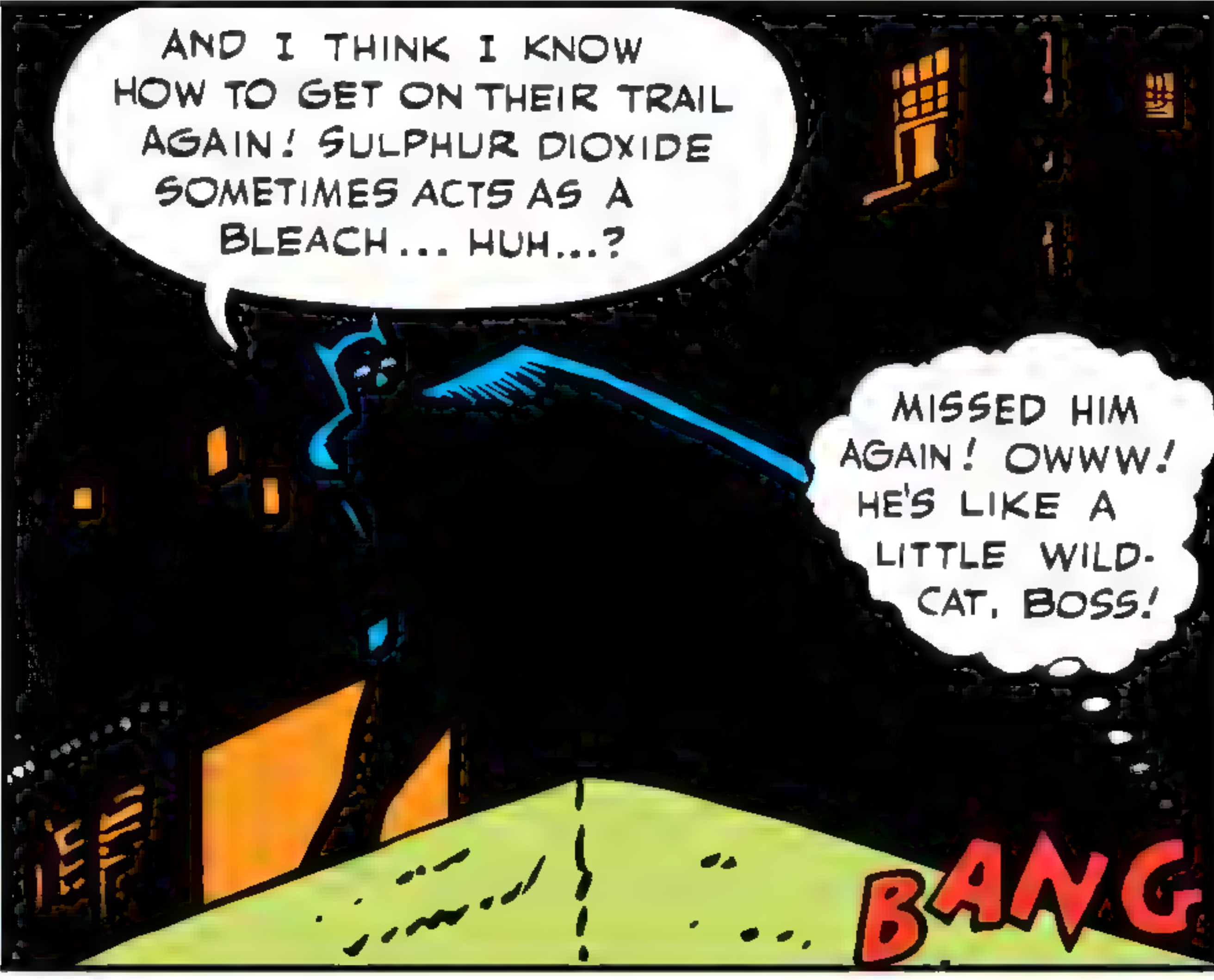
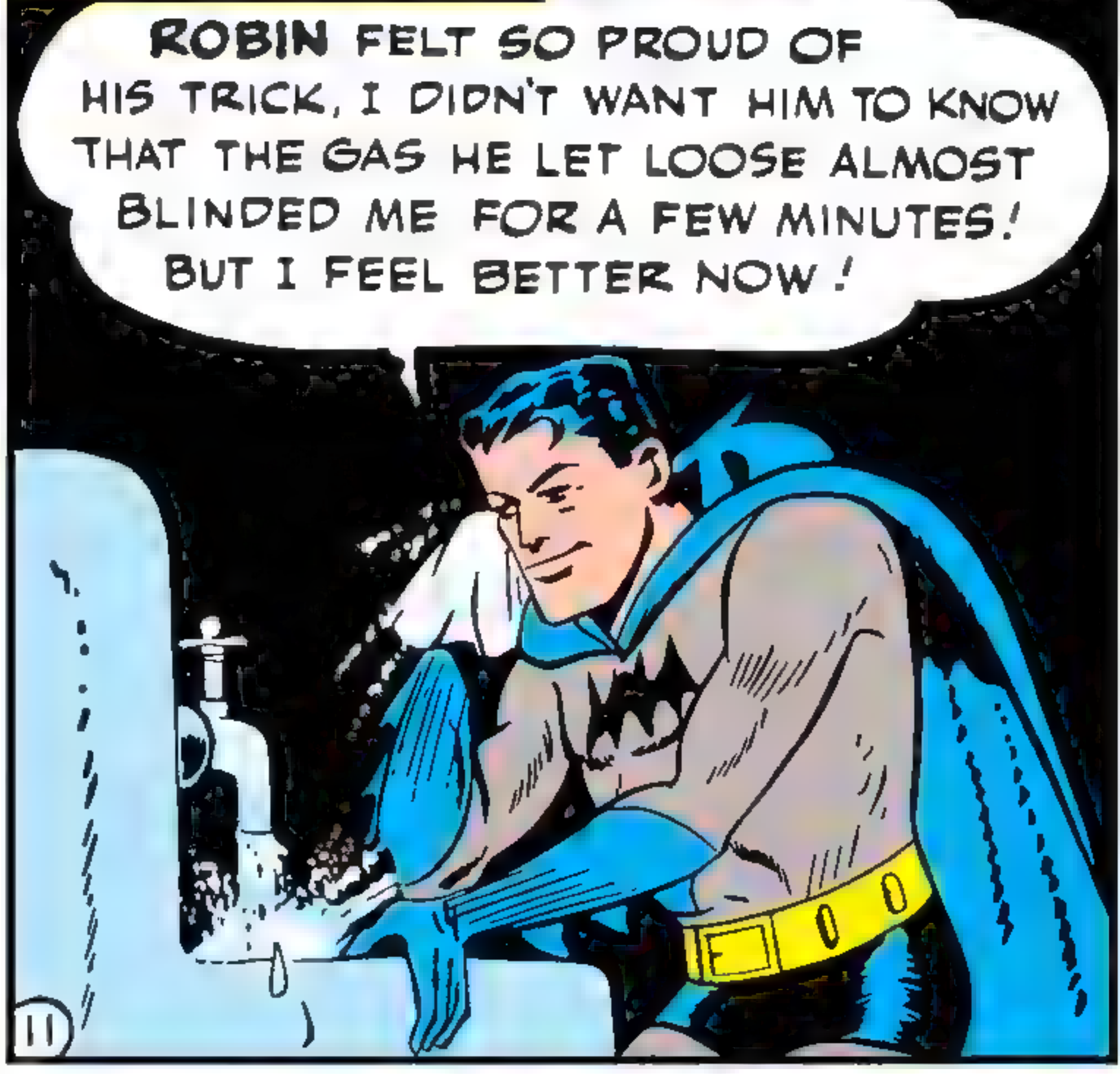
NEXT MOMENT... ON THE NEIGHBORING ROOFTOP...

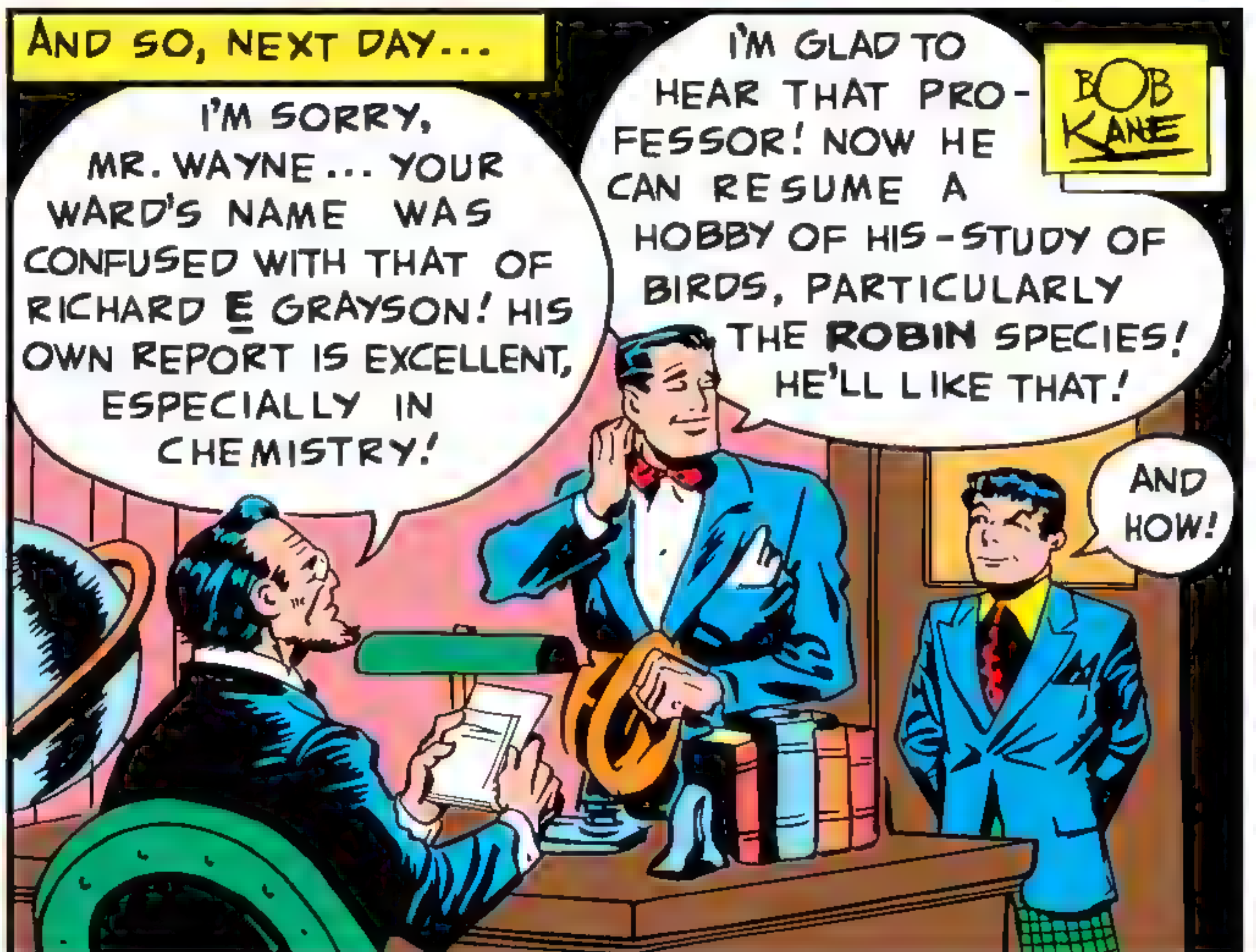
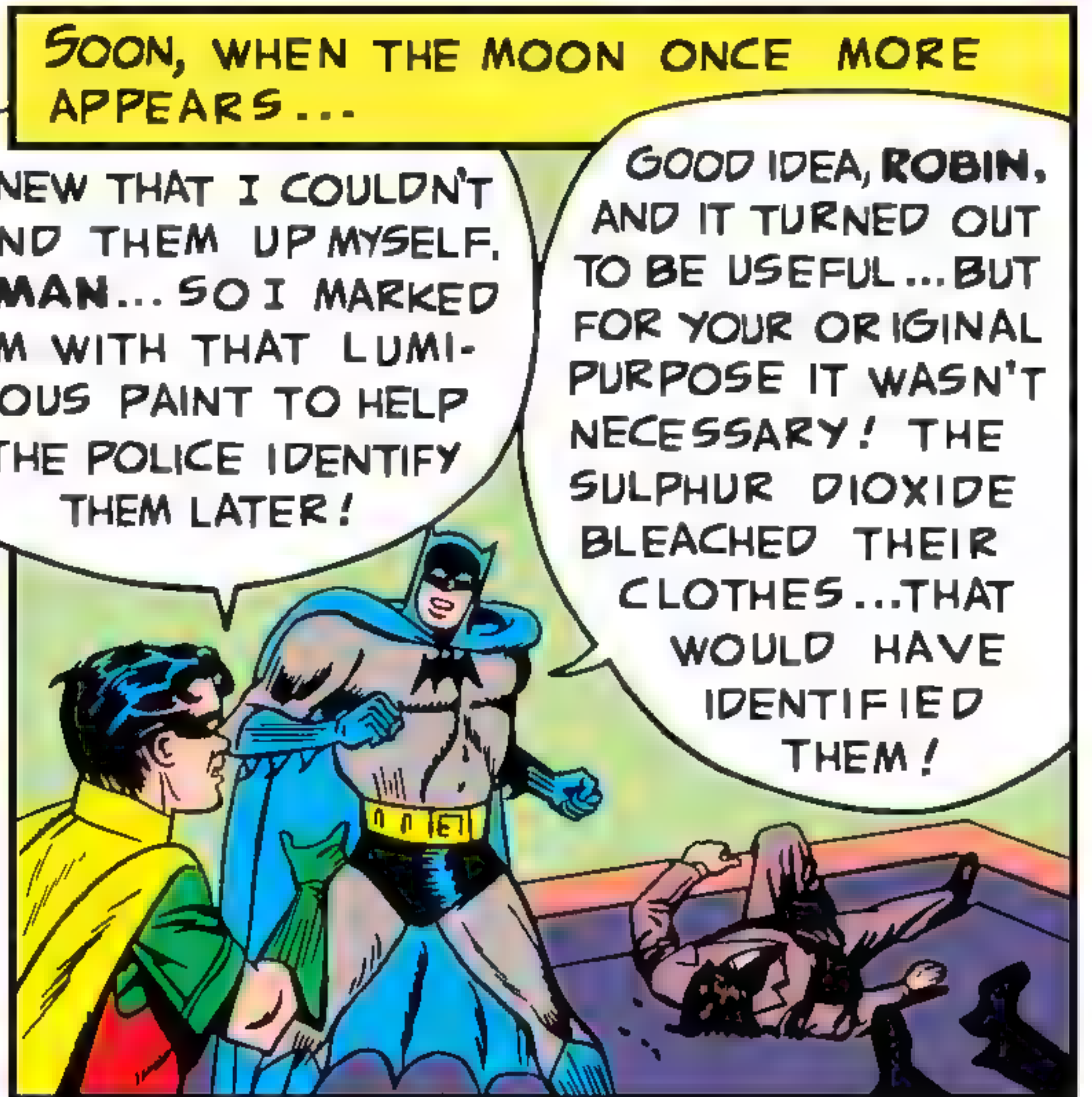
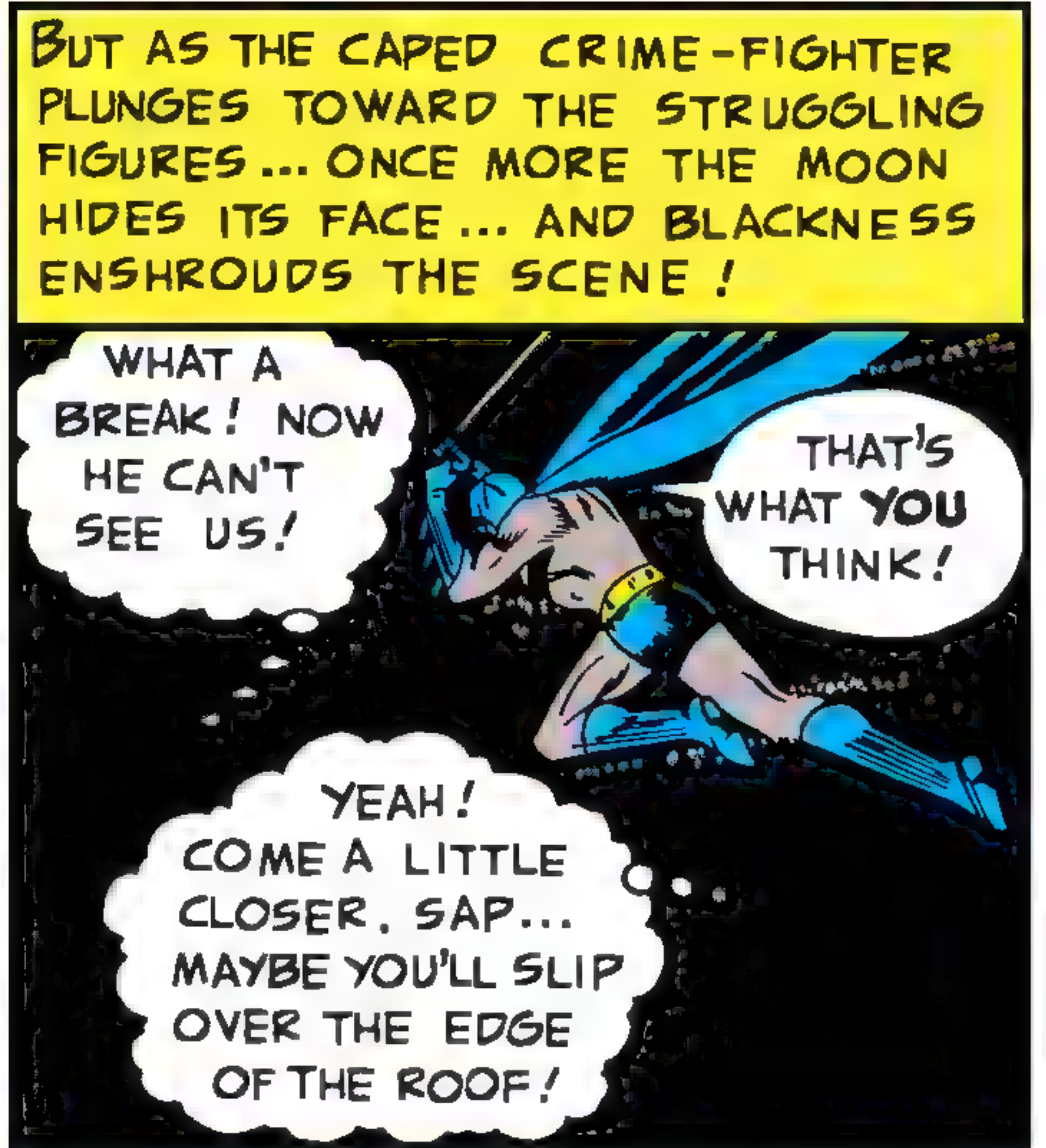
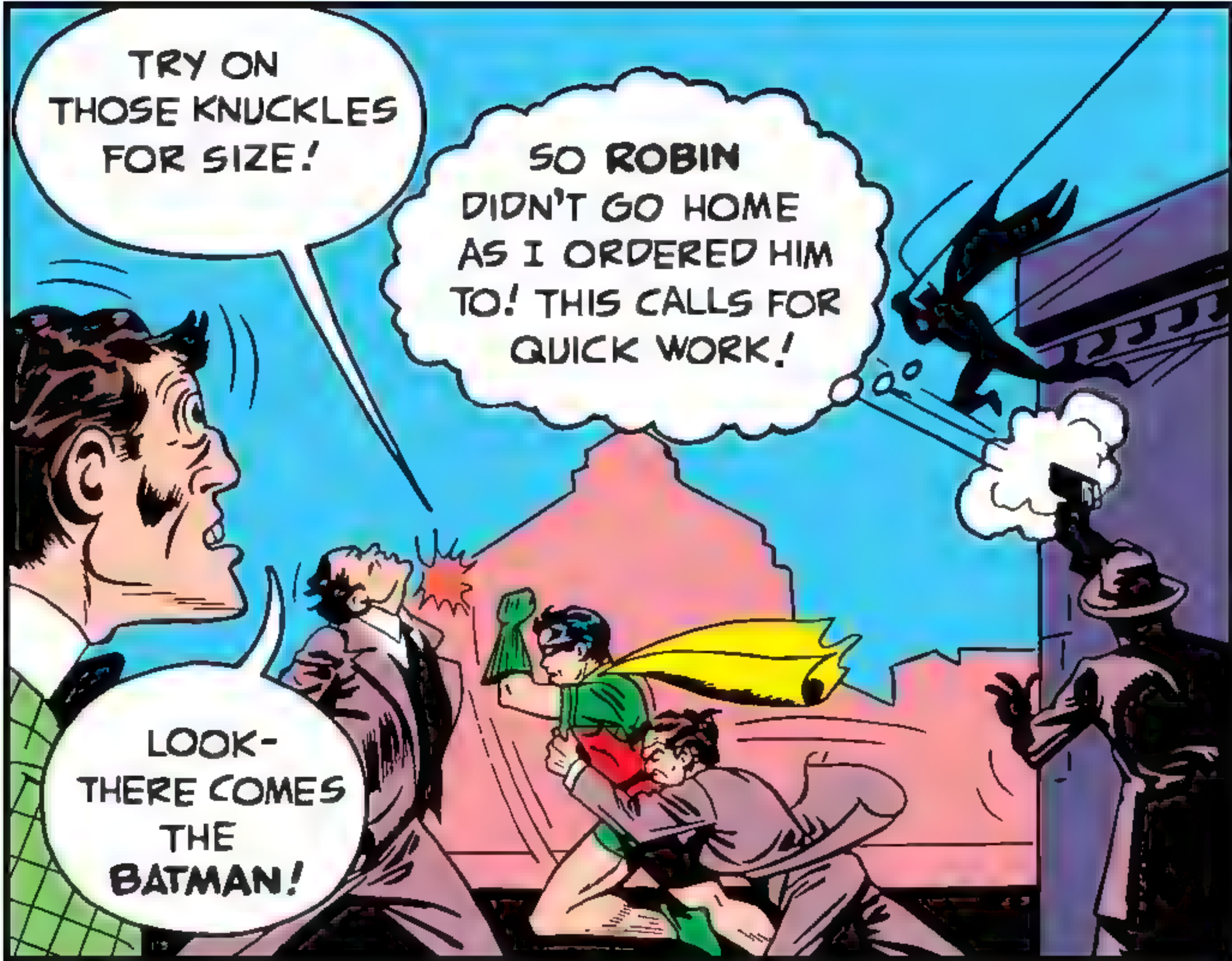


THE MOON PEEPS OUT MOMENTARILY FROM BEHIND A DENSE BANK OF CLOUDS, TO REVEAL...



BUT MEANWHILE...





WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

"THE GOOD SAMARITAN COPS"

FREE-EE

CLANG

POLICE EMERGENCY

BOB
KANE

OUR STORY BEGINS WITH A SOUND -- THE SOUND OF A SQUALLING SIREN! IT ATTRACTS THE ATTENTION OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON!



THERE GOES ONE OF THOSE GREEN TRUCKS AGAIN!

Y'KNOW, DICK, IT'D BE A GOOD IDEA IF YOU KNEW A LITTLE MORE ABOUT OUR VARIOUS POLICE SERVICES! THE EMERGENCY SQUAD MEN ARE HAND-PICKED AND SPECIALLY TRAINED!



LET'S GO!

YES, DICK--THE EMERGENCY SQUAD! THEY ROLL ONLY WHEN THE REGULAR FORCE IS STUMPED!

THE STATION HOUSE RESERVE ROOM...

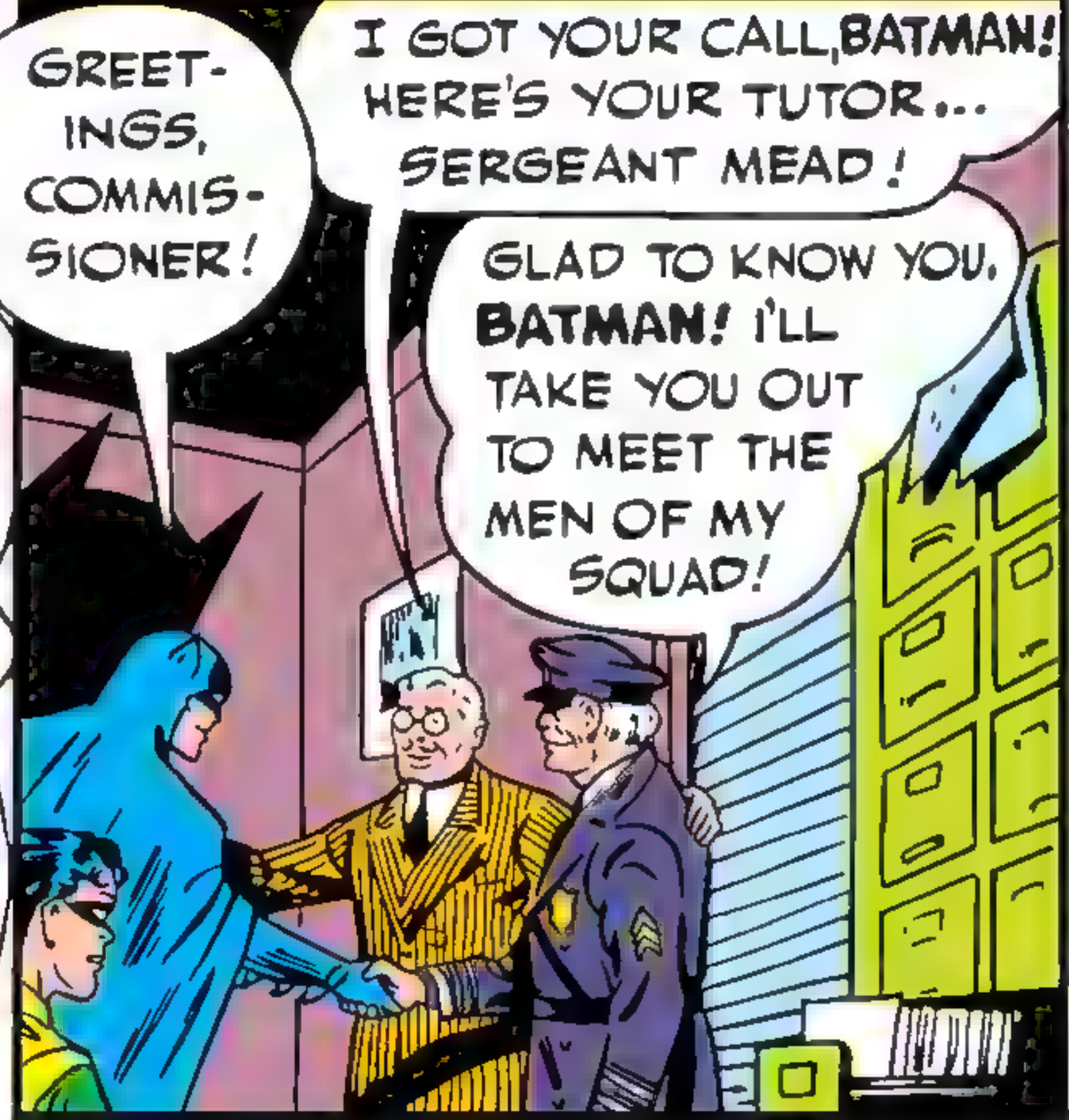
THIS IS BRESSLER! OH-OH! I SHOULD HAVE WARNED YOU! HERE HE COMES WITH THOSE PICTURES OF HIS YOUNG KID AGAIN!

AW, SERGEANT... I JUST THOUGHT **BATMAN** MIGHT WANT TO SEE HER...

I SURE WOULD! HMM! QUITE A KID! CUTE!



AND SO, LATER... POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS ...



GREETINGS, COMMISSIONER!

I GOT YOUR CALL, **BATMAN**! HERE'S YOUR TUTOR... SERGEANT MEAD!

GLAD TO KNOW YOU, **BATMAN**! I'LL TAKE YOU OUT TO MEET THE MEN OF MY SQUAD!

AND THAT WOULD BE BRANNIGAN AND FLANNIGAN... ARGUING AS USUAL... AND OVER THE SAME THING!

FLANNIGAN, STAY AWAY FROM ME GIRL OR I'LL SPREAD YER NOSE ALL OVER YER PRETTY FACE!

I'M SORRY I CAN'T DO THE SAME FOR YOU! SOMEBODY BEAT ME TO IT! HA! HA!



WELL, ROOKIE, I HEAR TODAY'S YOUR FIRST RIDE WITH THE EMERGENCY SQUAD!

EMERGENCY SQUAD!?! "NURSE-MAID" SQUAD! ALL THEY DO IS RESCUE CATS FROM TELEGRAPH POLES! AND I WANTED TO SEE SOME ACTION! BAH!



RICHARDS, I PROMISE YOU THAT THE "NURSE-MAID" SQUAD, AS YOU CALL IT, WILL GIVE YOU MORE ACTION THAN YOU BARGAINED FOR!



THIS IS SUSIE,
OUR TRUCK! SHE
CARRIES EVERY-
THING FROM POWDERED
MILK FOR A NEW-
BORN BABY, TO
PULMOTORS AND
SUBMACHINE-
GUNS!

BATMAN AND ROBIN
MEET THE LAST BUT NOT
THE LEAST IMPORTANT
MEMBER OF THIS UNIT
OF THE EMERGENCY SQUAD!

SUDDENLY, AN EMERGENCY CALL COMES
THROUGH! NERVES TINGLING WITH EX-
CITEMENT. BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE
AWARE THAT A GREAT ADVENTURE IS
BEGINNING!

OKAY, BOYS! INTO THE TRUCK!
C'MON, BATMAN... ROBIN!
LET 'ER ROLL !!

BELL CLANGING A CLAMOROUS WARNING, THE
TRUCK TEARS THROUGH HASTILY OPENED HOLES IN
THE TRAFFIC! THE EMERGENCY SQUAD IS ON THE WAY!

LATER... THE
TRUCK SCREECH-
ES TO A HALT
ON SQUEALING
TIRES!

PLEASE...
MY LITTLE
PUSSY CAT
CLIMBED THAT
HIGH POLE... AN'
...AN'.. NOW SHE
CAN'T GET
DOWN!

DON'T WORRY!
WE'LL GET
YOUR KITTEN
FOR YOU!
FLANNIGAN!
UP WITH YOU!

HERE WE
GO,
ROBIN!

GO...
WE'RE
FLYING!!

MEOW!
MEOW!

HERE,
PUSSY,
PUSSY!

HAW!
HAW!

RICHARDS,
I KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
THINKING --
A PUSSY CAT
ON A POLE, LIKE
YOU SAID...
BUT IF WE
HAVE TO BE
NURSE-MAID
TO A LITTLE KID
WHOSE HEART IS
BREAKING, WE
DO IT-- AND
LIKE IT !!

HERE'S
YOUR LITTLE
KITTEN, GIRLIE
... ULP...
HEY!

OH
THANK
YOU...
THANK
YOU!

MY-YY HERO!
AREN'T YOU THE
LADY KILLER,
THOUGH! 'TIS A
PITY THE OLDER
GIRLS AREN'T SMART
ENOUGH TO KISS
THE LIKES OF YE!
HO! HO!

LOOK WHO'S
TALKING --
AND WITH
THAT
FACE!

ONE CALL COMPLETED
THE TRUCK ROLLS ON!

SERGEANT, YOU
CERTAINLY MADE
THAT CHILD HAPPY!

WE GET A LOT OF
CALLS TO SAVE PETS
FOR KIDS!

I THINK I'LL GET
MY KID A DOG!
BHE'D LIKE A DOG!

SUDDENLY...

CALLING
EMERGENCY
TRUCK NUMBER
SIX! PROCEED TO
ISLAND IN LOWER
BAY! MAN
CAUGHT IN
QUAGMIRE!

QUAGMIRE!
THAT'S AS TREACHEROUS
AS QUICKSAND!

YOU SAID
IT! LET 'ER
OUT,
BRANNIGAN!

SIRENING THROUGH THE STREETS, THE BIG GREEN
TRUCK SOON HALTS ON THE EDGE OF A MARSHY
SHORE!

WE WERE HUNTING REED-BIRDS! HE WANDERED
TOO FAR OUT! THE REEDS AND MIRE
STOPPED ME FROM GETTING TO HIM!

WE'LL GET HIM! ON WITH
THE RUBBER SUITS, BOYS!
BRING OUT A 100
FOOT LINE!

HELP!
HELP!

BEARING THE LINE, THE SQUAD DEFILES LEG-SUCK-
ING SLOUGH AND SLOWLY WADES TOWARD THE
BOGGED-DOWN MAN!

HELP!

CAN'T PULL HIM OUT THIS WAY!...
SUCTION PULLED HIM DOWN
TOO FAR!

THAT
TREE! I'VE GOT AN
IDEA! I'VE DONE
THIS BEFORE!... HOLD
ONTO HIM!

CAREFULLY BATMAN CRAWLS OUT ON THE
TREE BRANCH THAT LOOMS DIRECTLY OVER
THE SEEMINGLY-DOOMED MAN!

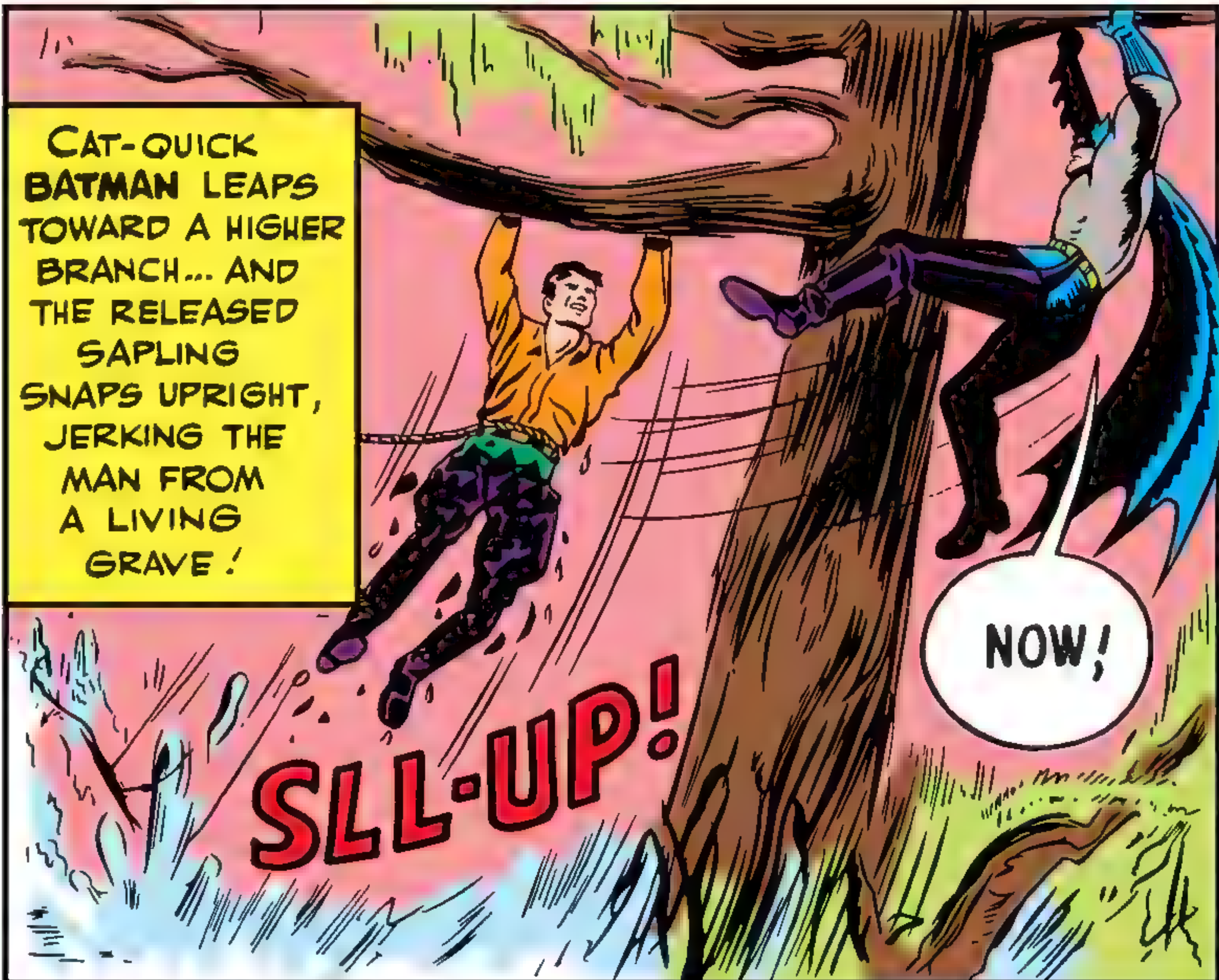
AS SOON AS
MY WEIGHT
BENDS THE BRANCH
DOWN TOWARD YOUR
HANDS, YOU
GRAB IT!

A... ALL
RIGHT!

GOOD!
NOW HOLD ON
TIGHT WHEN I
SHIFT MY
WEIGHT
BACK!

G..GOT
IT!

CAT-QUICK BATMAN LEAPS TOWARD A HIGHER BRANCH... AND THE RELEASED SAPLING SNAPS UPRIGHT, JERKING THE MAN FROM A LIVING GRAVE!



NOW!

OH HH!

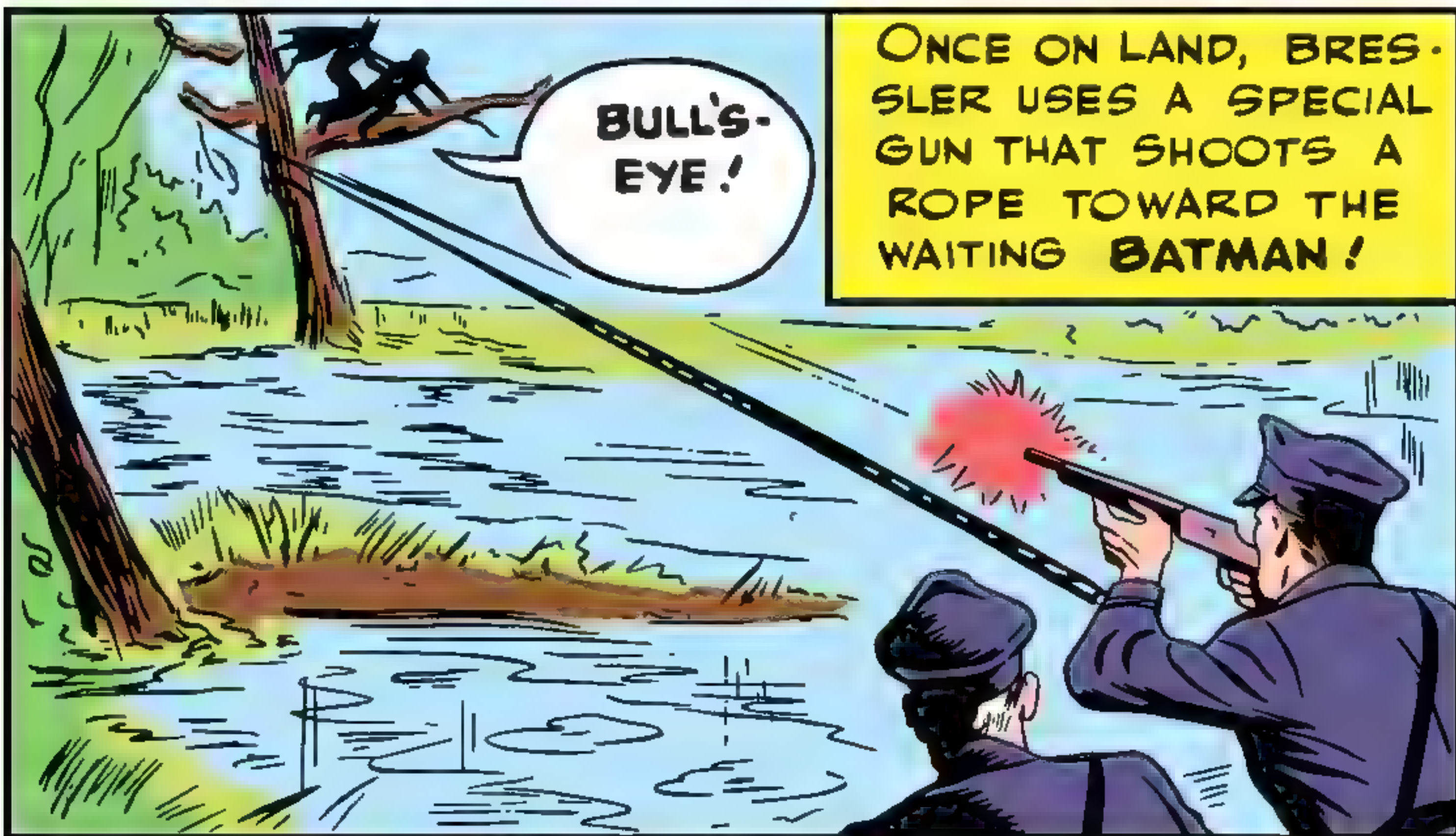
HE'S TOO WEAK TO WALK BACK... AND IF I CARRY HIM, THE COMBINED WEIGHT WILL DRAG US BOTH DOWN!

HMMM! BACK TO LAND, BOYS! WE'LL HAVE TO SHOOT BATMAN A PULLEY-LINE!



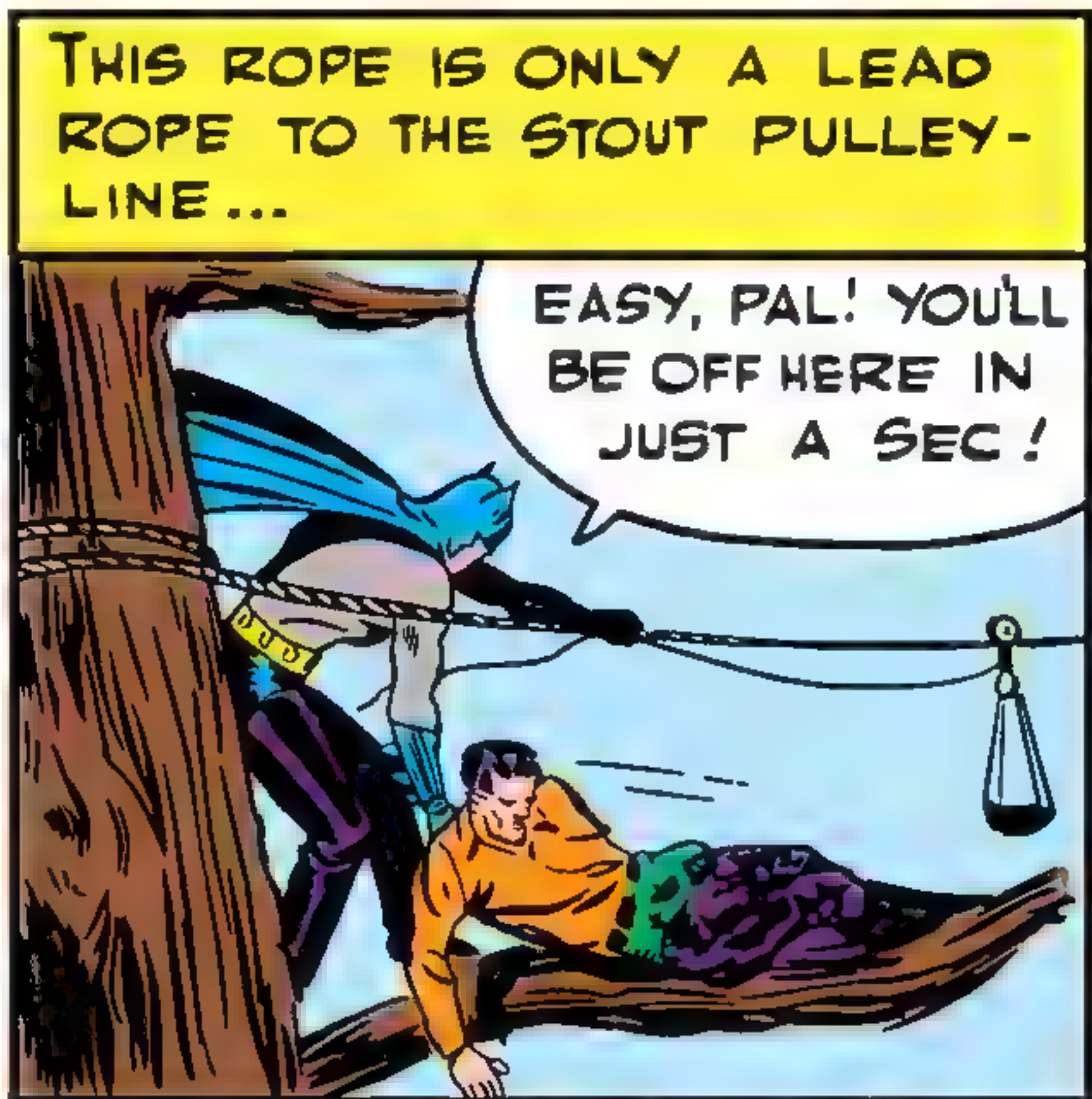
BULL'S-EYE!

ONCE ON LAND, BRESLER USES A SPECIAL GUN THAT SHOOTS A ROPE TOWARD THE WAITING BATMAN!



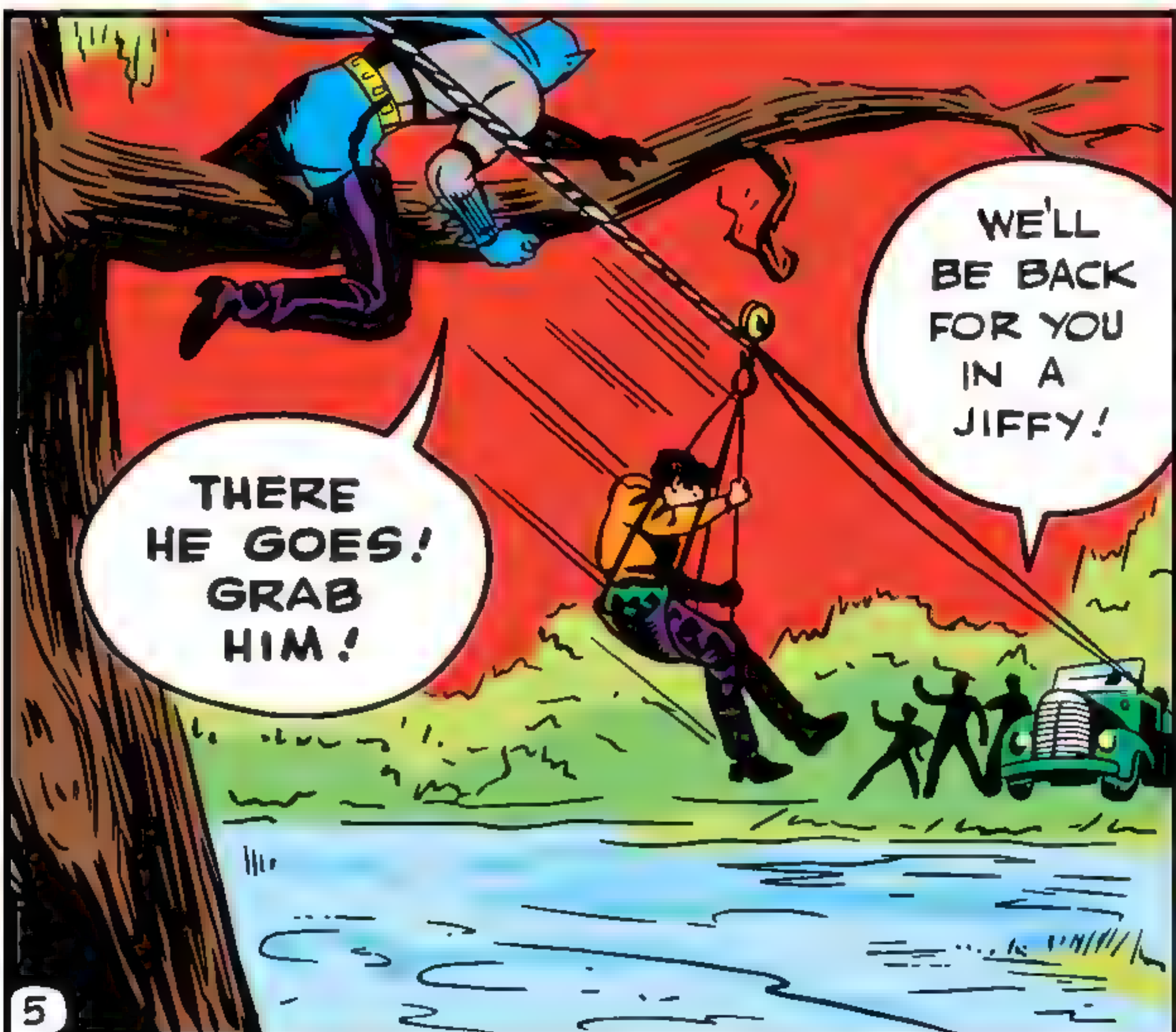
THIS ROPE IS ONLY A LEAD ROPE TO THE STOUT PULLEY-LINE...

EASY, PAL! YOU'LL BE OFF HERE IN JUST A SEC!



THERE HE GOES! GRAB HIM!

WE'LL BE BACK FOR YOU IN A JIFFY!



DON'T BOTHER! THE OLD HAND-OVER-HAND METHOD IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!

NICE GOING, BATMAN!



HOW'S THE PATIENT?

OKAY... THANKS TO YOU! THAT WAS FAST THINKING! I'M CERTAINLY GLAD YOU WERE AROUND TO LEND A HAND!



LATER...AFTER DELIVERING THE QUAGMIRE VICTIM TO HIS HOME...

BATMAN, I CERTAINLY HOPE THE MAN WHO TAKES MY PLACE TOMORROW IS AS CAPABLE AS YOU!

"TAKE YOUR PLACE"... YOU BEING TRANS-FERRED?

NO... BEING RETIRED! AGE LIMIT! I OFFERED MY SERVICES TO THE ARMY... THEY RE-JECTED ME! I'M TOO OLD FOR THAT, TOO!

I'M TOO OLD EVEN TO SERVE MY COUNTRY! I WANT TO DO **SOME-THING**... BUT I GUESS IT'S THE OLD FIREPLACE AND CARPET SLIPPERS FOR ME!

SOMETHING WILL TURN UP YET! YOU'LL SEE!

...PROCEED TO MEAT PACKING PLANT! AMMONIA PIPE LINE BURST IN REFRIGERATING PLANT! EMPLOYEES OVERCOME BY AMMONIA GAS!

ABRUPTLY...

AMMONIA GAS! GET GOIN', BRANNIGAN!

EXCITING MOMENTS LATER - THE MEAT-PACKING PLANT!

GAS MASKS!... PULMOTORS! BRESLER, TAKE CARE OF THOSE PEOPLE ON THE SIDEWALK! THE REST OF YOU FOLLOW ME!

BOLDLY, THE MEN WALK INTO THE PLANT WITH IT'S BILLOWING GAS CLOUDS!

BRANNIGAN, BREAK OPEN THOSE WINDOWS! LET SOME AIR IN HERE!

RASH!

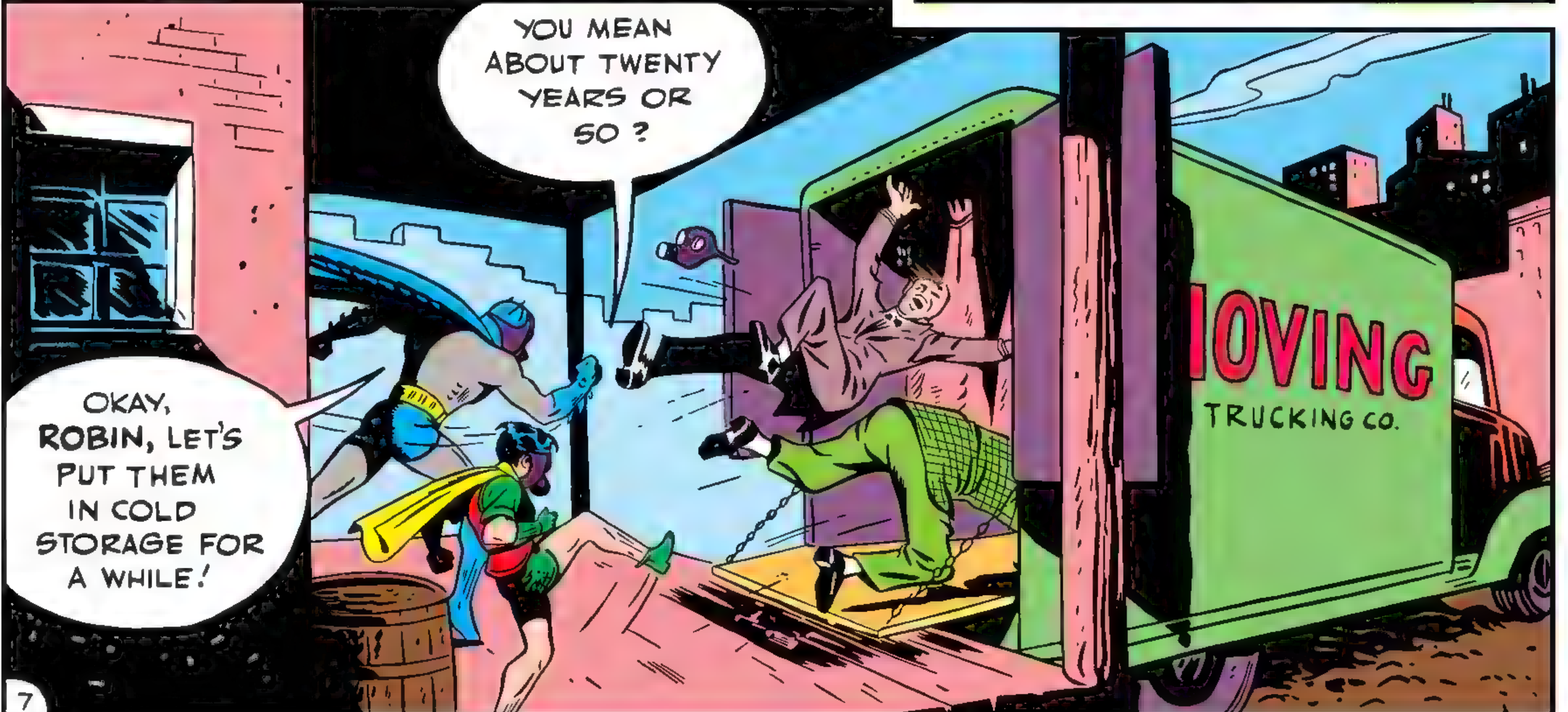
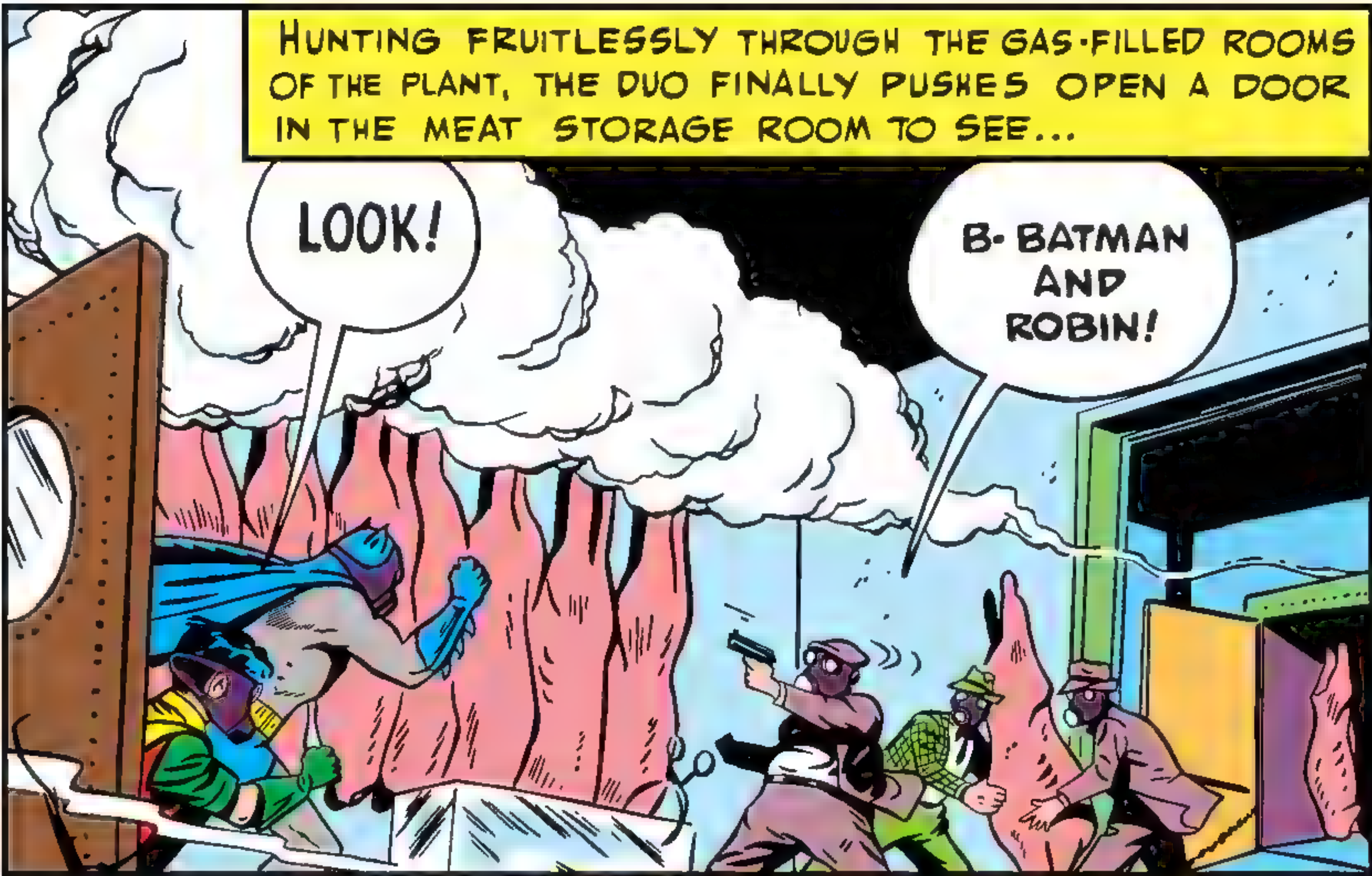
ROBIN, YOU GET THAT GIRL! I'LL TAKE THIS MAN! HURRY!

RIGHT!

SKILLED IN FIRST-AID TREATMENT, THE EMERGENCY POLICEMEN TREAT THE GAS-SED VICTIMS! PULMOTORS PUMP NEW LIFE INTO COLLAPSING LUNGS!

C'MON, ROBIN! WE'LL HAVE TO SEARCH AROUND AND MAKE SURE THERE'S NOBODY ELSE IN THERE!

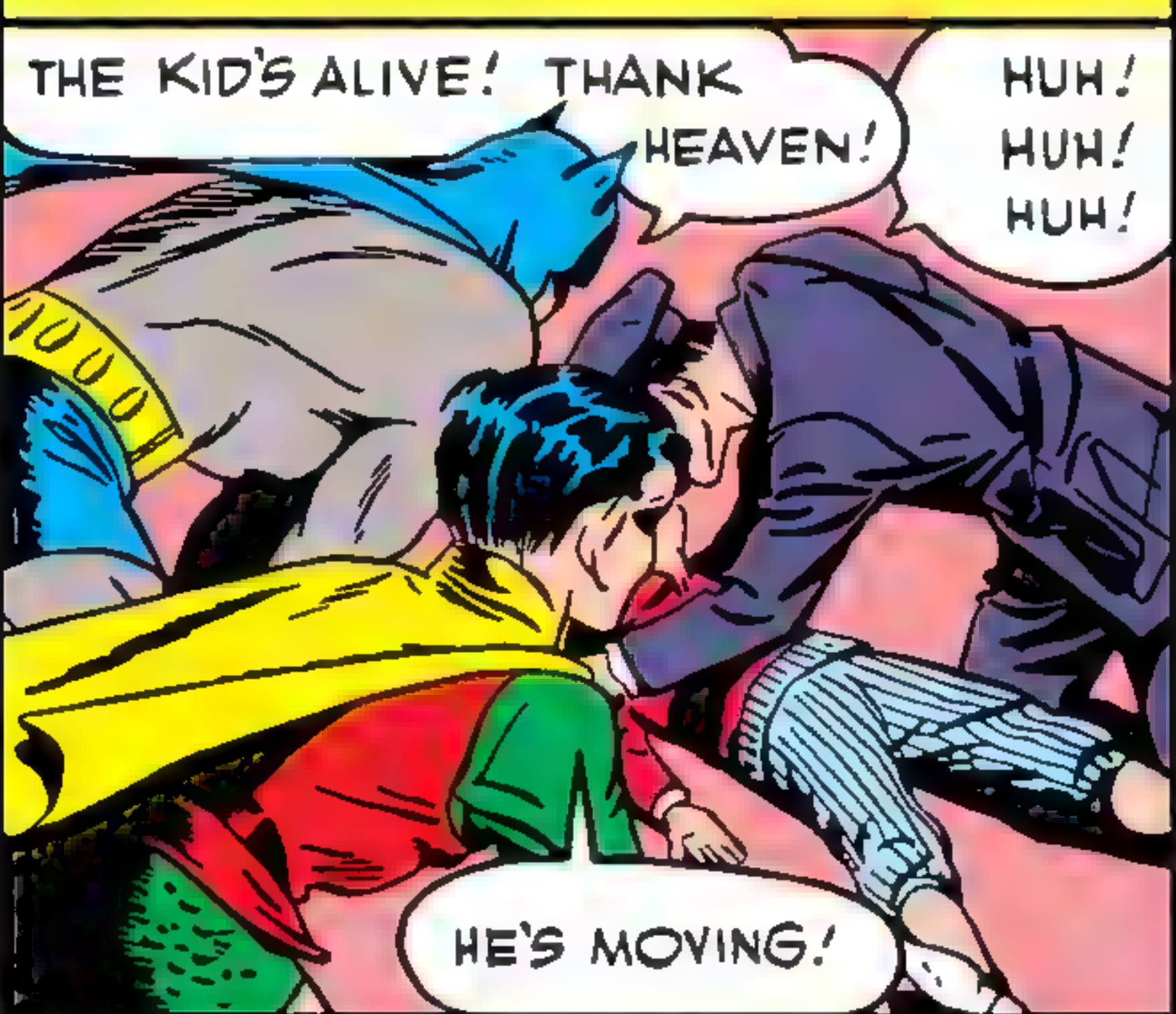
RIGHT BEHIND YOU, PAL!



THE BLACK MARKET LOOTERS ARE TURNED OVER TO A PATROL WAGON, BUT THE EMERGENCY SQUAD'S RESCUE WORK GOES ON..



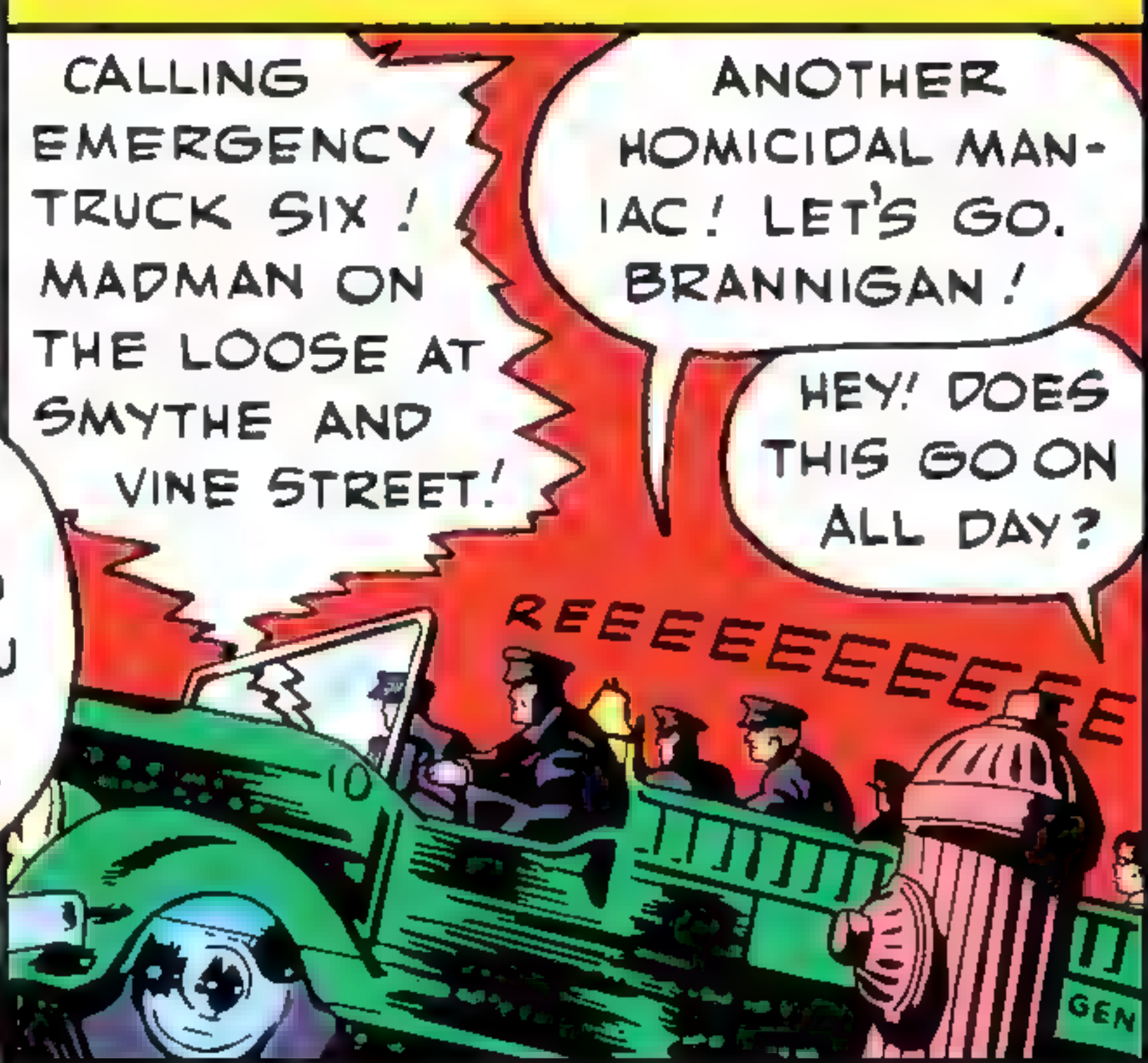
FOR ONE SOLID HOUR THE TENSE GROUP WATCHES AS BRESSLER DESPERATELY TRIES TO BLOW THE BREATH OF LIFE INTO THAT SMALL, STILL BODY! THEN..AT LAST... A HAND TWITCHES....



LATER, AS THE EMERGENCY TRUCK DRAWS AWAY...ITS JOB DONE....



BUT BEFORE BRESSLER CAN RE-LATE HIS CHILD'S CUTE SAYING. HEADQUARTERS CUTS IN!



RACING UP THE STAIRS, FLANNIGAN BURSTS INTO THE ROOM CONNECTING THE BALCONY LEDGE...

BRING THAT GIRL INSIDE OR... UGH!

HEE! HEE! FOOLED YOU DIDN'T I? YOU DIDN'T KNOW I HAD A GUN! HEE! HEE!

HEE! HEE! I SHOT YOUR POLICEMAN! HE LOOKED SO SURPRISED! HEE! HEE!



SARGE, HE GOT FLANNIGAN!

MINUTES LATER... ONE FLOOR ABOVE THE BALCONY, ROBIN STEALTHILY GAINS A JUTTING FLAGPOLE...

GET OUT THE TEAR-GAS GUNS! WE'LL...

WAIT! ROBIN AND I HAVE A BETTER PLAN! YOU JUST KEEP THAT MANIAC'S ATTENTION OFF US!

HEE! HEE!

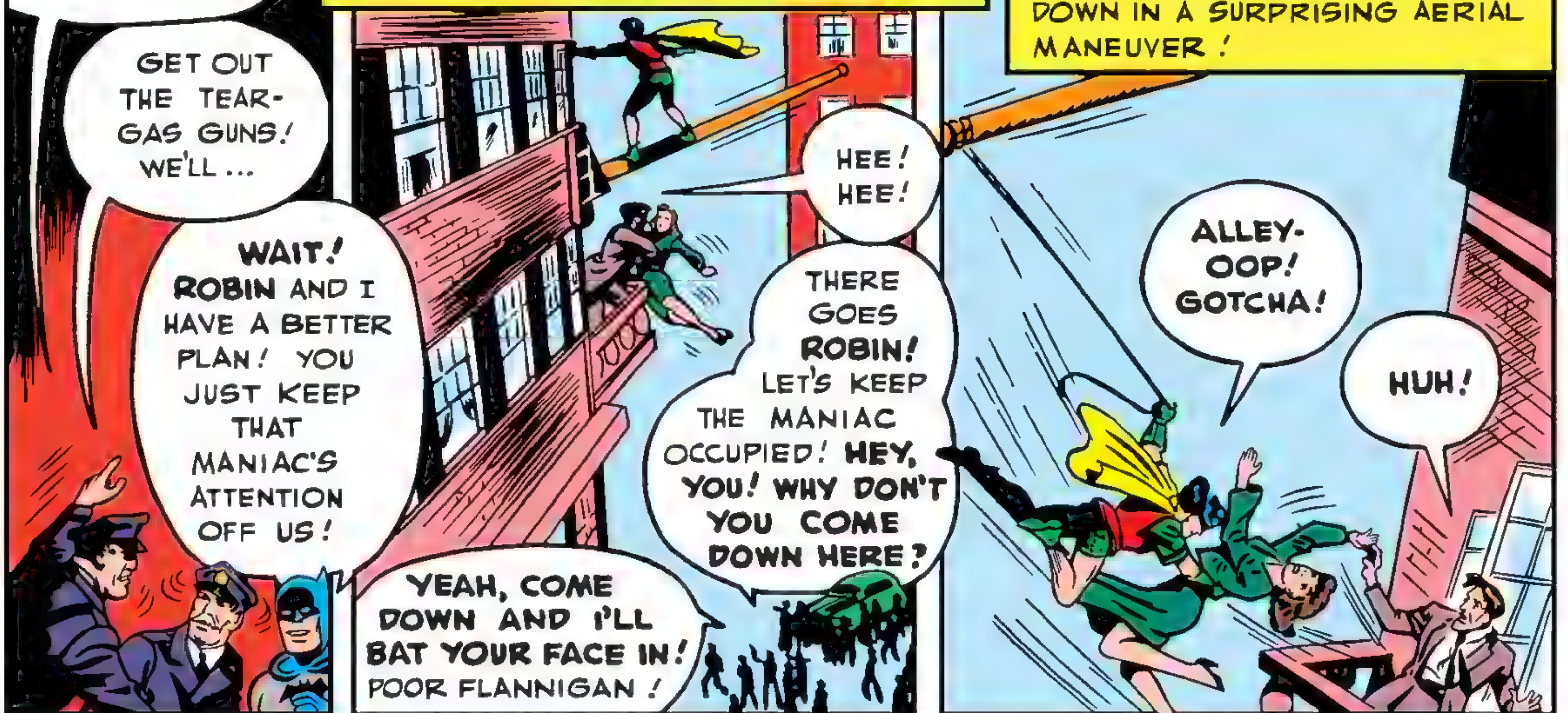
THERE GOES ROBIN! LET'S KEEP THE MANIAC OCCUPIED! HEY, YOU! WHY DON'T YOU COME DOWN HERE?

YEAH, COME DOWN AND I'LL BAT YOUR FACE IN! POOR FLANNIGAN!

THEN, CUTTING THE FLAPPING FLAGPOLE LINE, ROBIN SWINGS DOWN IN A SURPRISING AERIAL MANEUVER!

ALLEY-OOP! GOTCHA!

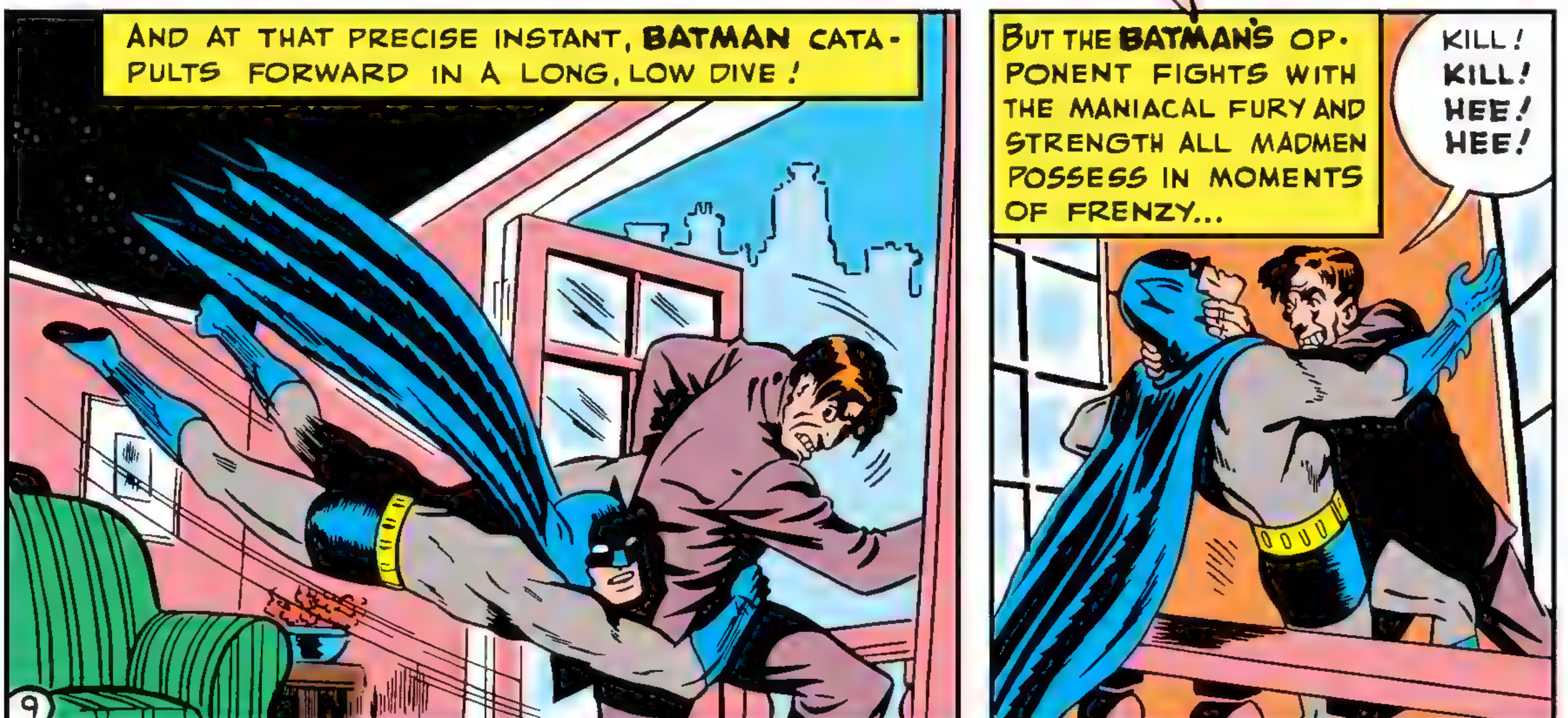
HUH!



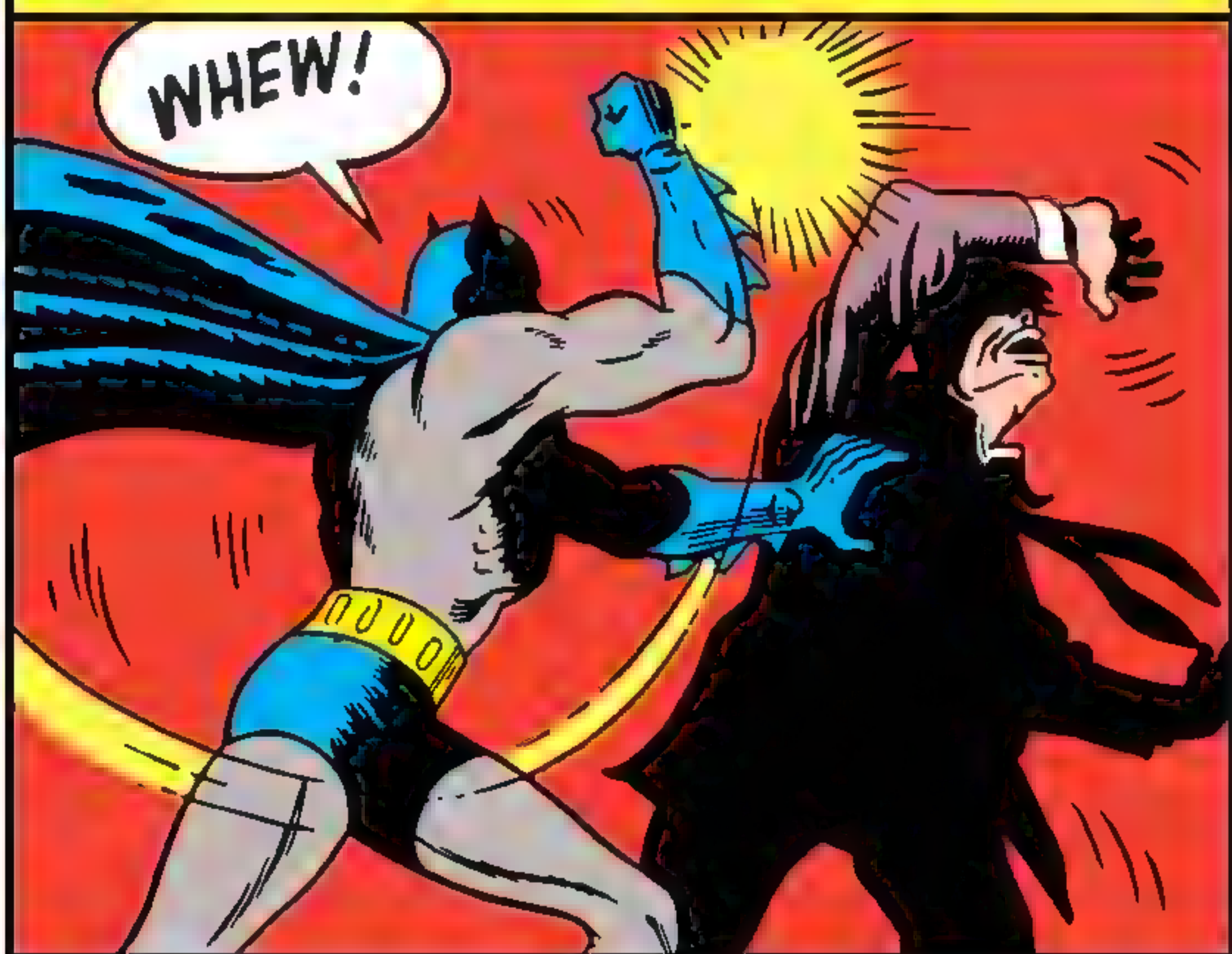
AND AT THAT PRECISE INSTANT, BATMAN CATAPULTS FORWARD IN A LONG, LOW DIVE!

BUT THE BATMAN'S OPPONENT FIGHTS WITH THE MANIACAL FURY AND STRENGTH ALL MADMEN POSSESS IN MOMENTS OF FRENZY...

KILL! KILL! HEE! HEE!



DESPERATELY, BATMAN TEARS THOSE CLAWING FINGERS LOOSE! HIS FIST WHISTLES IN A SHORT ARC ... AND...



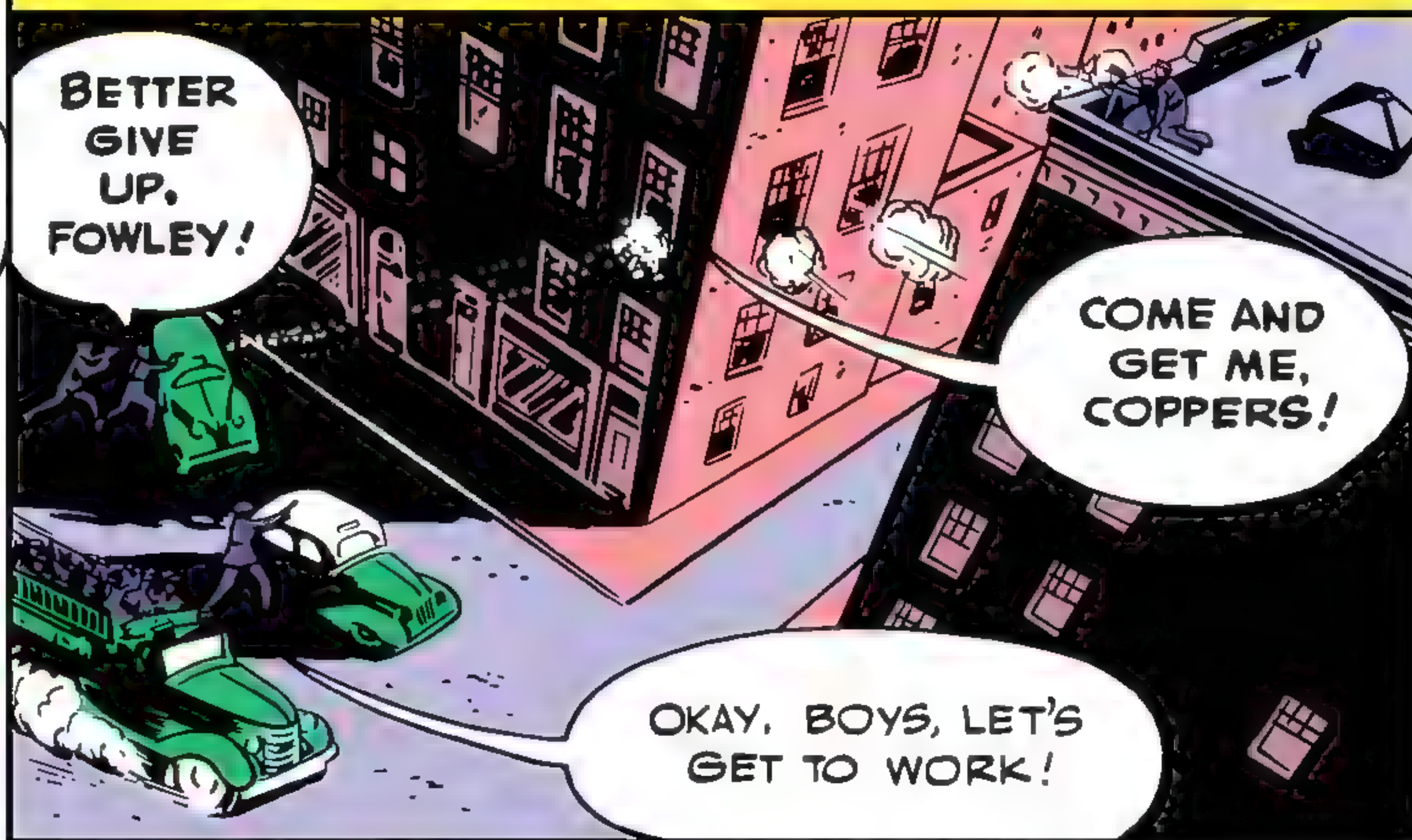
THE MADMAN SUBDUED, THE FIRST TO REACH FLANNIGAN'S SIDE IS BRANNIGAN!



BUT SUDDENLY ALL FEUDS - EVEN FRIENDLY ONES - ARE PUT ASIDE...



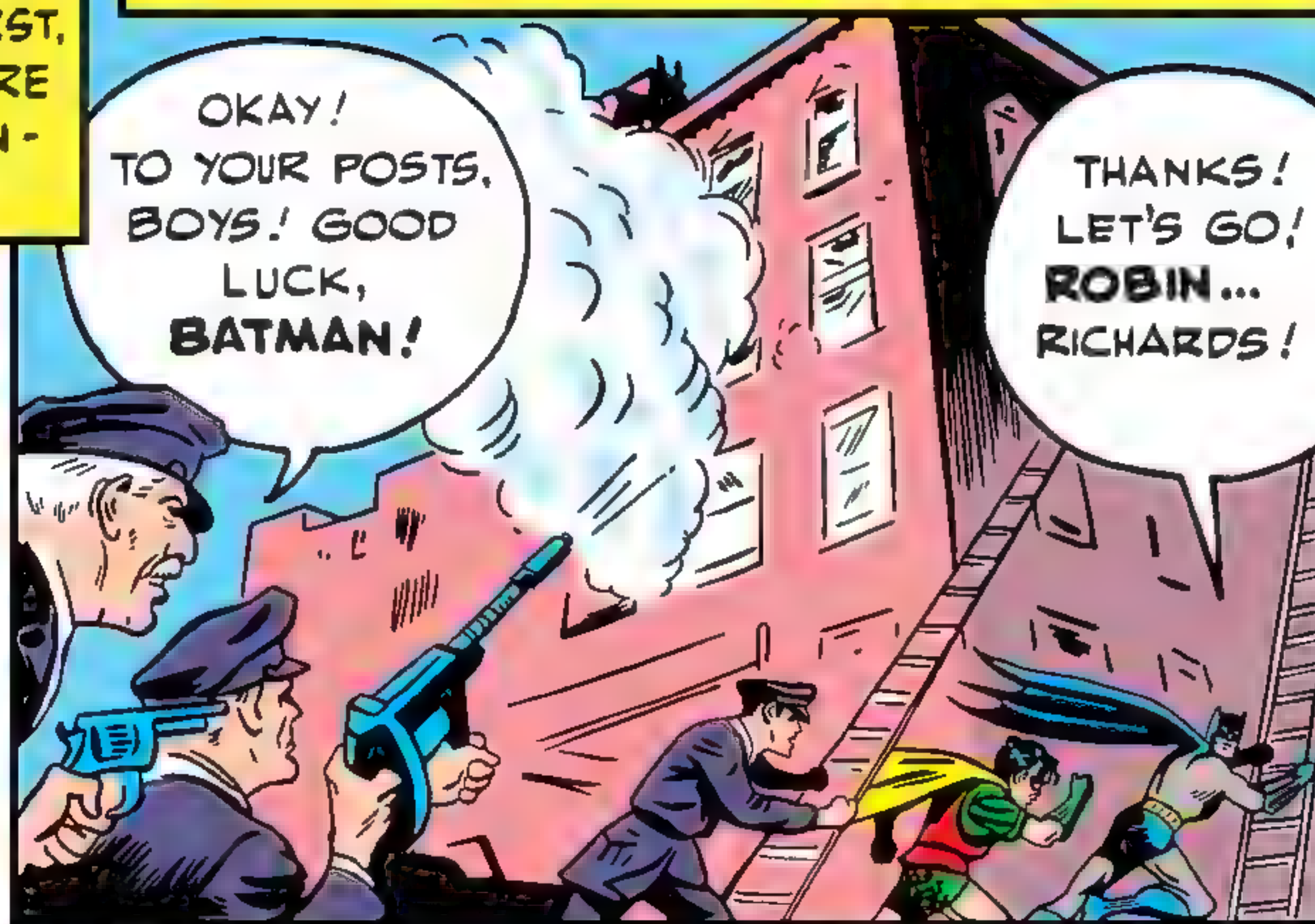
IN AN EMPTY BUILDING, KILL-CRAZY, TWO-GUN FOWLEY AND HIS MOB DEFY THE POLICE! BUT NOW--THE GREEN TRUCK ROLLS UP!





THE EMERGENCY SQUAD AT WORK! EACH MAN TO HIS JOB, EACH TRAINED IN KNOWING JUST WHAT TO DO! FIRST, LONG TEAR-GAS SHELLS ARE FIRED INTO FORTIFIED WINDOWS....

... THEN, UNDER THE PROTECTIVE COVER OF BLASTING TOMMY-GUNS, THE SQUAD BREAKS UP AND CLOSES IN!



OKAY!
TO YOUR POSTS,
BOYS! GOOD
LUCK,
BATMAN!

THANKS!
LET'S GO!
ROBIN...
RICHARDS!

ON THE SIDE AWAY FROM THE GUNMEN, BATMAN, ROBIN AND THE ROOKIE, RICHARDS, CLAMBER UP PORTABLE SCALING LADDERS!



GAINING WINDOWS ON THE SAME FLOOR WITH THE KILLERS, THE TRIO LAUNCHES FORWARD!



TOUGH GUYS, EH?

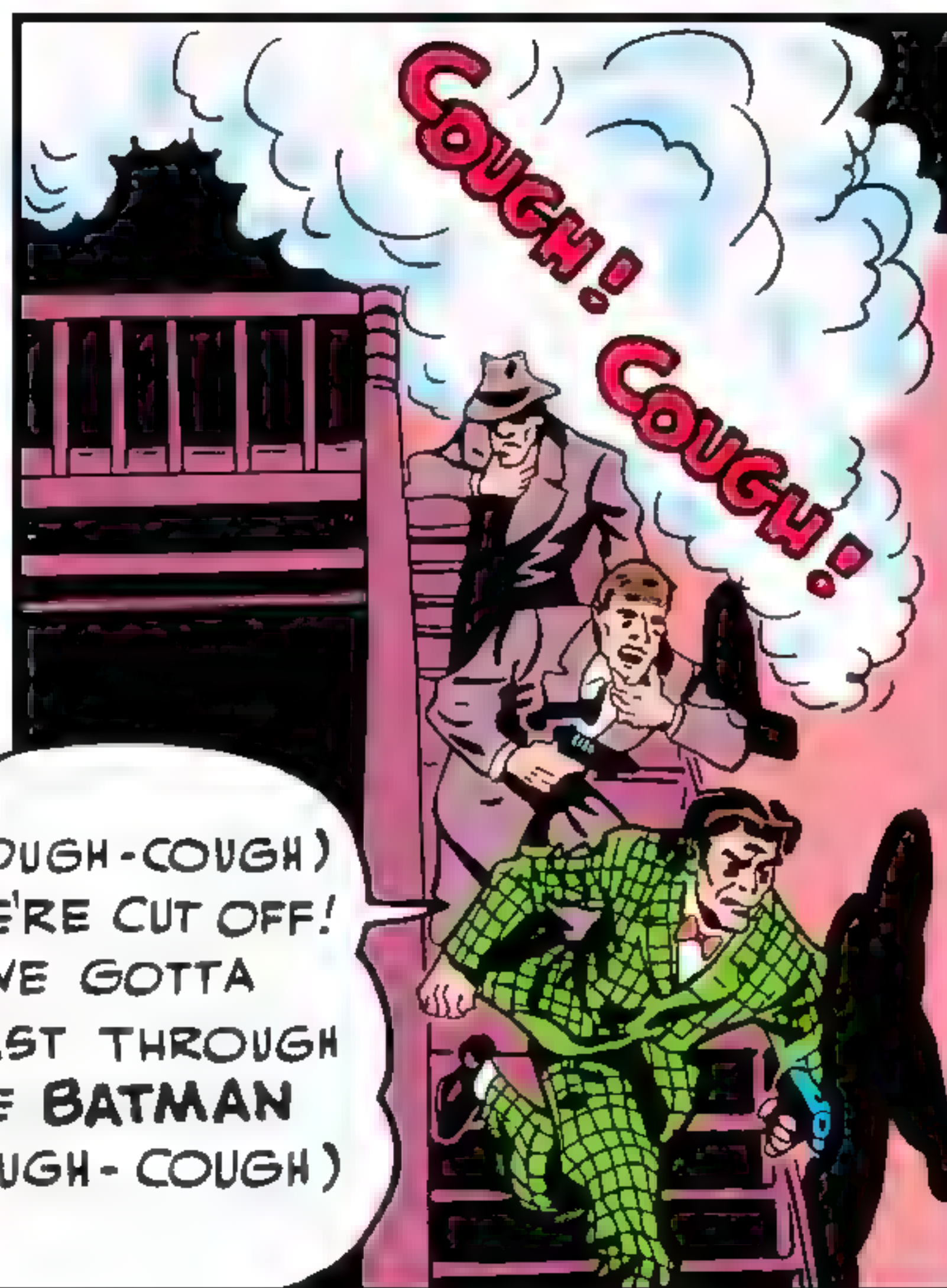
WE GOTTA GET OUTTA
HERE! MORE COPPERS COMIN'
UP THE STAIRS! MAKE FOR
THE TOP FLOOR!!

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN!

BUT SQUAD AXES CHOP HOLES THROUGH THE ROOF, AND GAS BOMBS PLOP OPEN, FILLING THE TOP FLOOR WITH CHOKING TEAR-GAS!



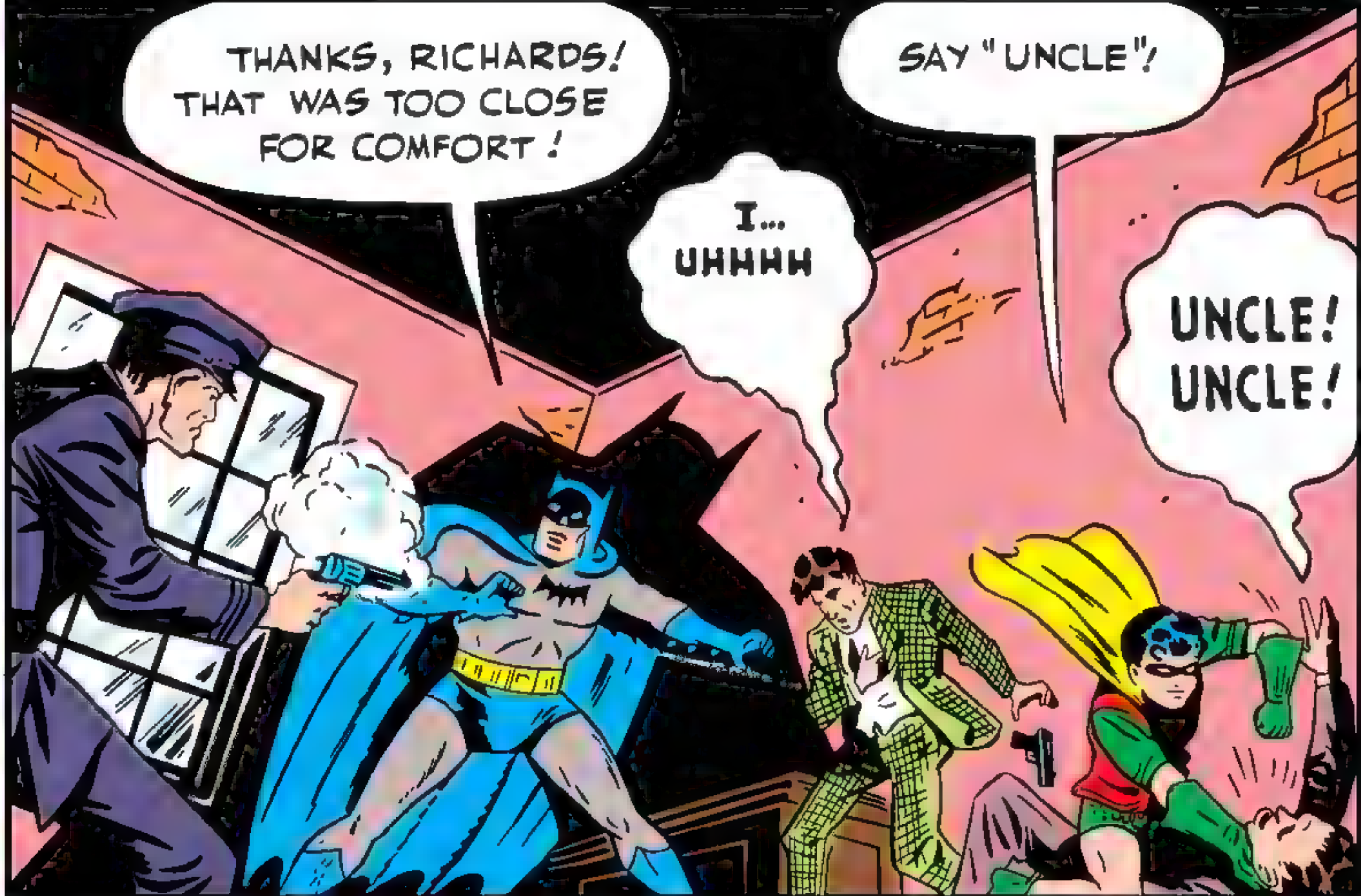
THAT'S
THE
TICKET!



COUGH! COUGH!

(COUGH-COUGH)
WE'RE CUT OFF!
WE GOTTA
BLAST THROUGH
THE **BATMAN**
(COUGH-COUGH)

BUT BLASTING THROUGH THE BATMAN AND HIS TINY GROUP IS NOT SO EASY!



AND AFTER THE WHOLE FOWLEY MOB SAYS "UNCLE"...



AND WHEN MEAD REPORTS TO COMMISSIONER GORDON...



LATER, WHEN THE SQUAD MEETS IN THE GARAGE...



BATMAN

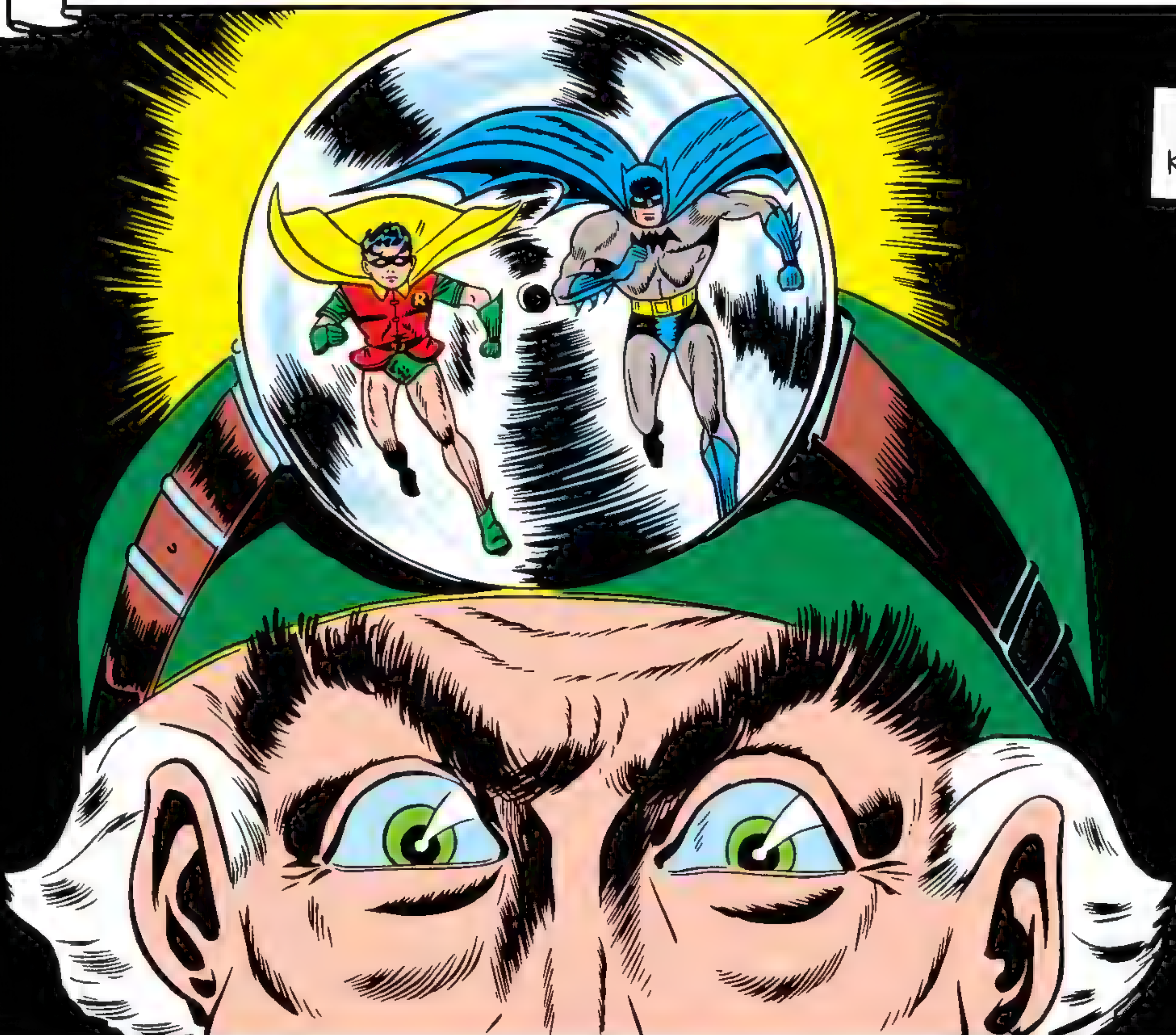
WITH
ROBIN

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

THIS IS THE FINAL CHAPTER IN THE STORY OF THE **CRIME CLINIC** AND ITS NOW FAMED BATTLE WITH **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! IT IS ALSO THE FINAL CHAPTER IN THE LIFE OF THE MAN THEY DUBBED **THE CRIME SURGEON** - THE SPECIALIST WHOSE CRIMINAL OPERATIONS WERE AS BRILLIANT AS HIS MEDICAL OPERATIONS! DOCTOR OF MEDICINE AND DOCTOR OF CRIME! TWO STRONG WILLS, GOOD AND EVIL, CONSTANTLY IN A TUG-OF WAR FOR A MAN'S SOUL! ONE HAD TO WIN--AND DID, IN THIS, THE LAST CASE OF ...

“ THE CRIME SURGEON ! ”

BOB
KANE



MOST BATMAN CASES END WITH CRIMINALS GOING TO JAIL. THIS ONE BEGINS WITH CRIMINALS GOING OUT - WITH A **JAIL BREAK** !



A RIPPING, CRASHING SALVO OF LEAD HALTS THE KILL-CRAZY CONVICTS ...AND SOON, IN THE PRISON HOSPITAL WARD...

BRAIN SURGERY LIKE THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR ME !

THEN TO SAVE THE WARDEN... CALL THE MOST BRILLIANT SURGEON HERE-- CONVICT 5649!



WHAT'S THIS! A CONVICT OPERATE ON A PRISON WARDEN?

...ONLY YOUR SKILL CAN SAVE THE WARDEN'S LIFE! WILL YOU DO IT ?

I MUST! I'M A DOCTOR! I ONLY HOPE MY HANDS HAVE NOT BEEN IDLE TOO LONG!



YES, HERE IS AN OPERATION TO CONTEMPLATE... KEEN-EYED GUARDS WITH READY RIFLES, WATCHING... AS A PRISONER LABORS TO SAVE THE LIFE OF HIS WARDEN!



ALL IS SILENCE BUT FOR THE PANTING OF THE OXYGEN TANK... THE TICKING OF THE WALL CLOCK... THE SNIP-SNIP OF SCISSORS! THEN, AT LAST...

A BRILLIANT OPERATION!

IT WAS AN HONOR TO ASSIST YOU!

THANK YOU! NOW, I THINK IT BEST I REMAIN HERE TO WATCH THE WARDEN'S CONDITION!



NIGHTFALL! IN THE QUIET WARD, A LONE GUARD WATCHES CONVICT 5649 - WHO WATCHES THE WARDEN!

HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING ?

JUST GETTING THE WARDEN SOME MEDICINE !



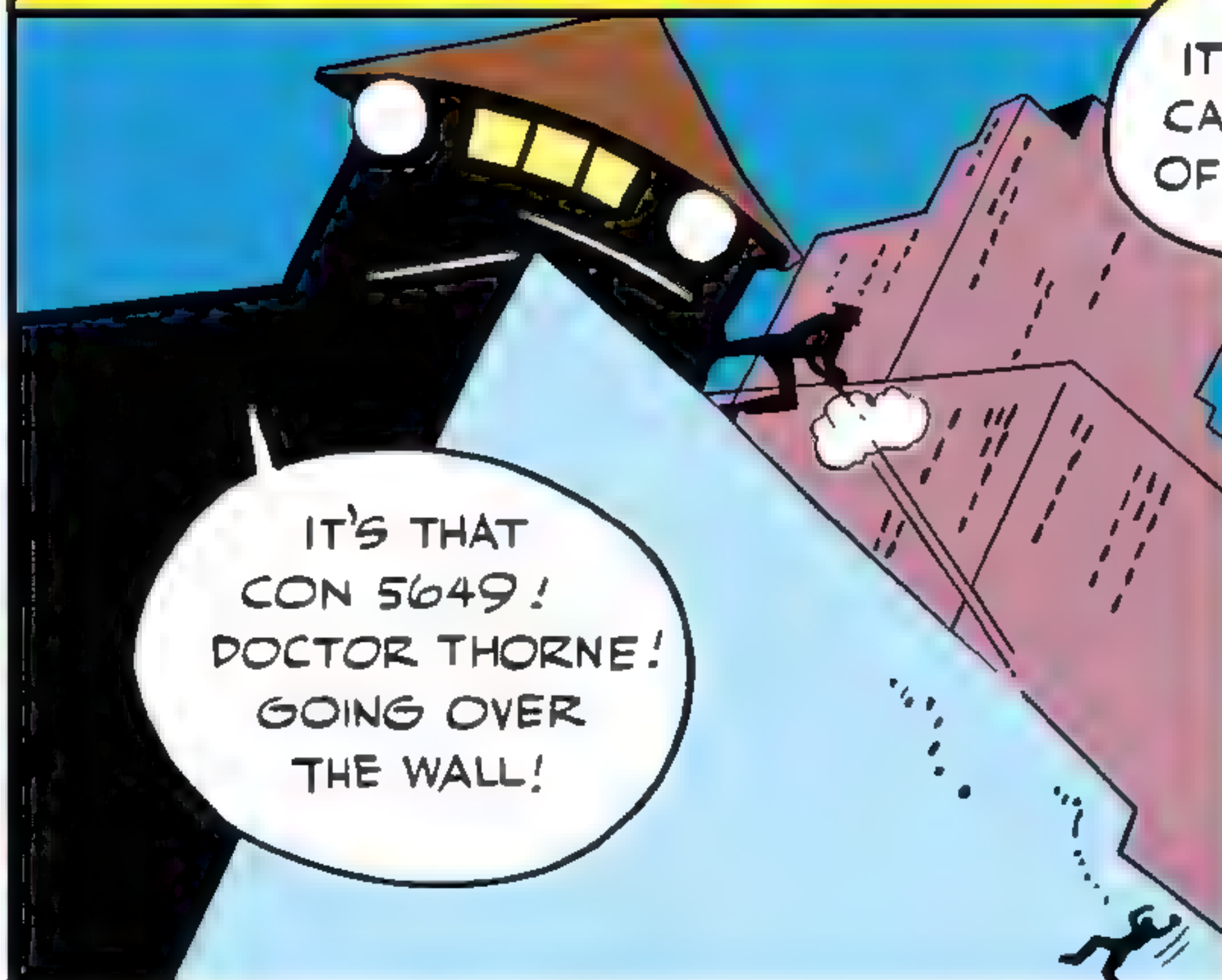
SUDDENLY...

YOU GULLIBLE FOOL! BREATHE... BREATHE THIS **ETHER** AND GO TO SLEEP! I MUST HAVE YOUR KEYS !

YOU... I'LL... AHHHHH...



LATER... A MAD DASH ! THEN THE WHINE OF BULLETS... THE DULL THWACK OF LEAD SMACKING THE PRISON WALL ...

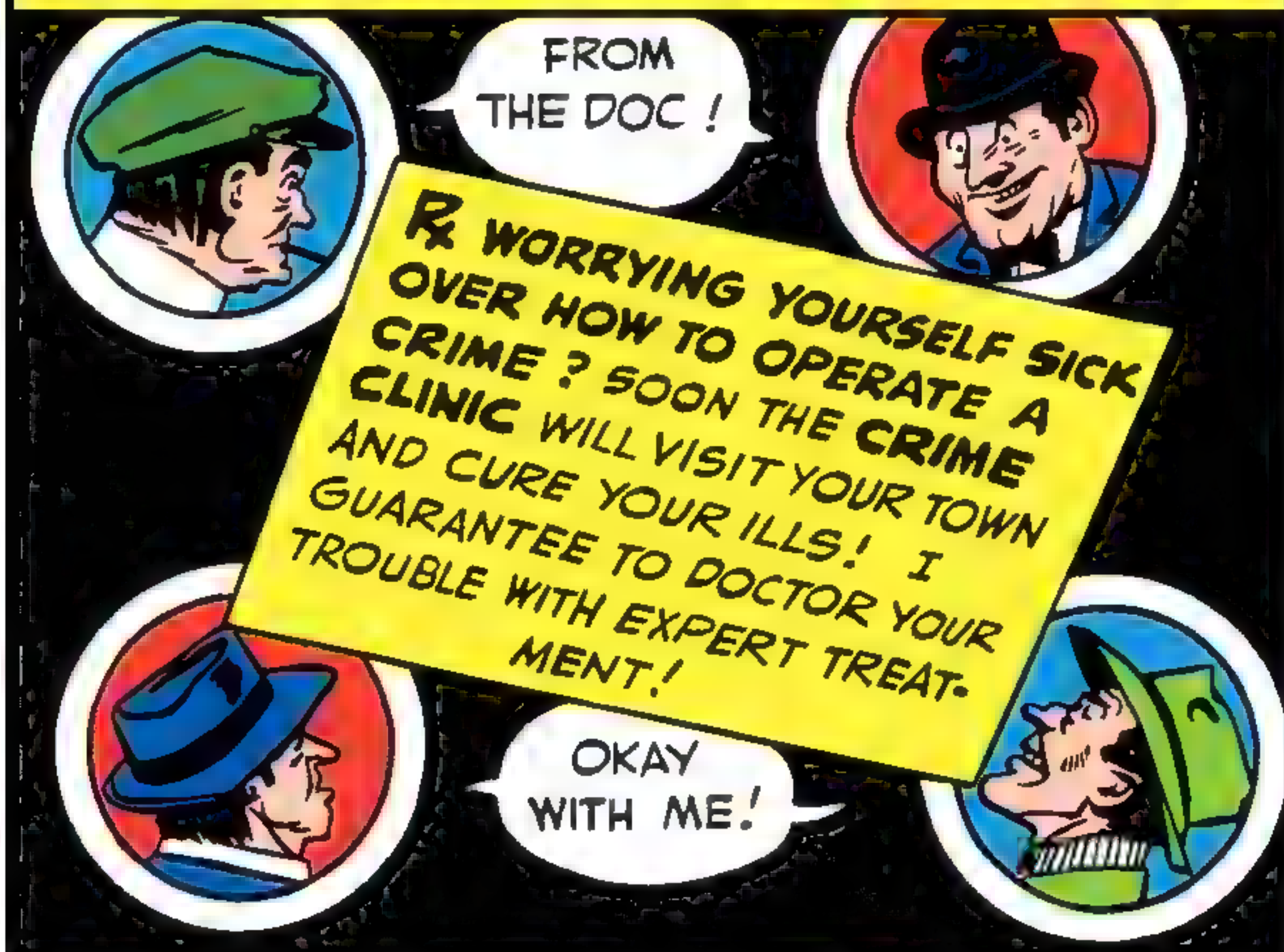


AND SOMETIME LATER...

I MADE IT! I MADE IT! I'M FREE... FREE TO CARRY ON THE WORK OF THE **CRIME CLINIC** !



ONE MONTH LATER!... THE CRIMINAL KING - PINS OF A NEIGHBORING CITY RECEIVE STRANGE BUSINESS CARDS...



SOON...THE NOTORIOUS **CRIME CLINIC** MAKES A TEMPORARY VISIT AND OPENS THE OFFICE TO THE IMPATIENT "PATIENTS"...



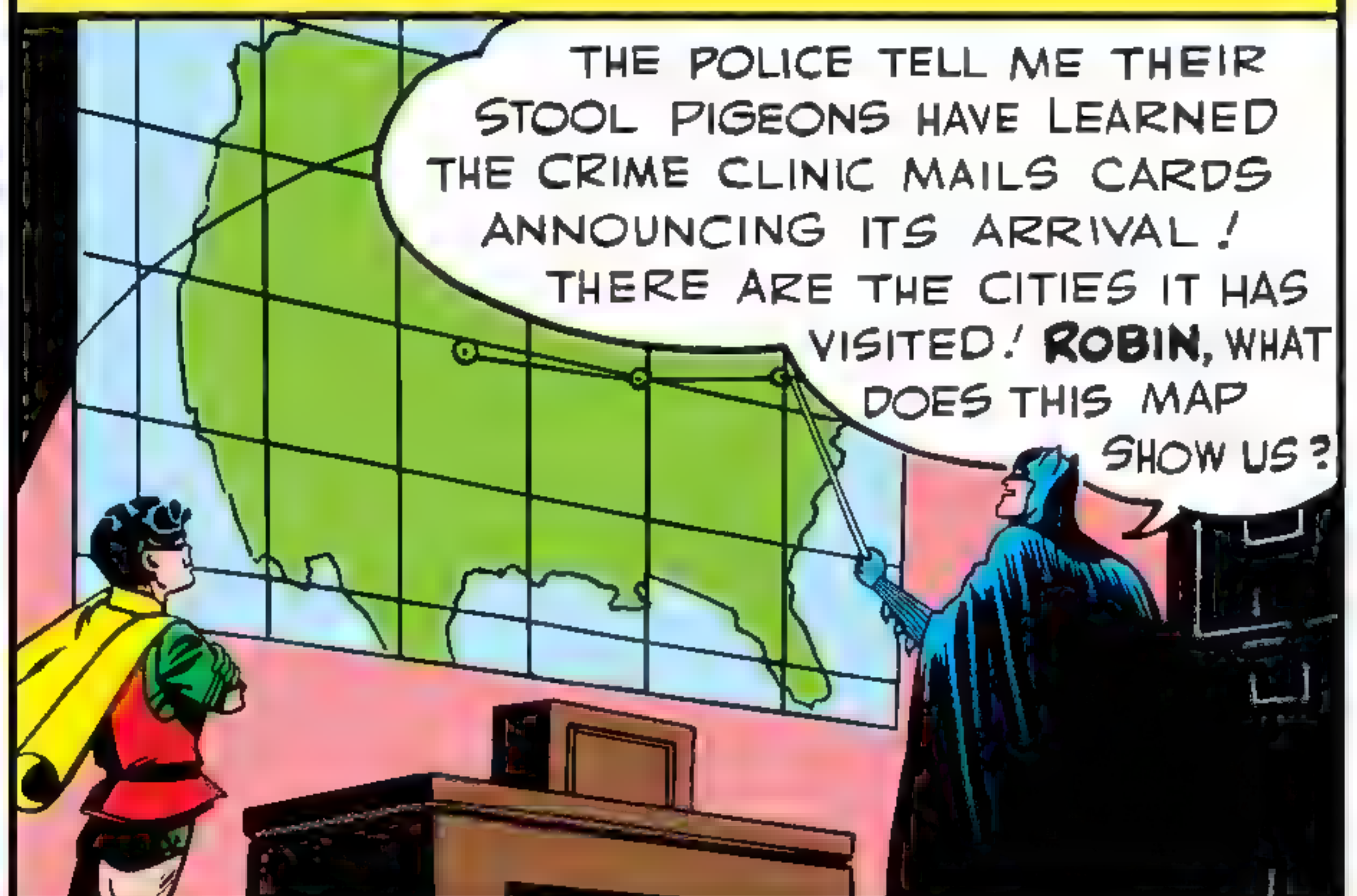
THIS PRESCRIPTION SHOULD CURE YOUR TROUBLE! I'LL FILL IT MYSELF IN MY LABORATORY! MY PROFESSIONAL FEE WILL BE 25% OF THE LOOT!



AND THUS AN EPIDEMIC BREAKS OUT--
AN EPIDEMIC OF CRIME-
AS THE CRIME CLINIC TRAVELS CROSS-COUNTRY!

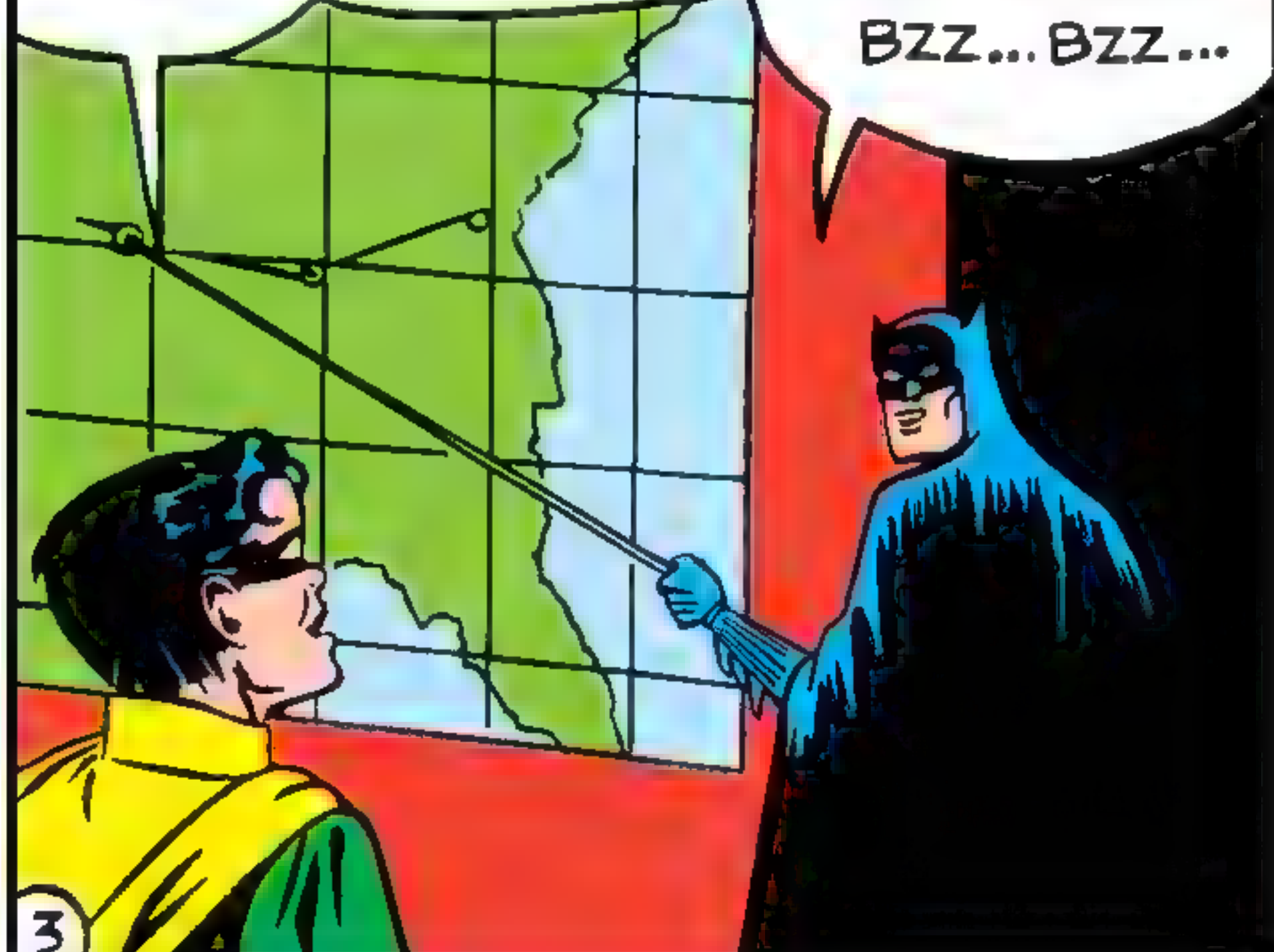
BUT HOW, YOU MAY ASK, CAN DOCTOR THORNE TAKE HIS AMAZING LABORATORY FROM CITY TO CITY?

WELL, BACK IN GOTHAM CITY, ITS TWO MOST FAMOUS INHABITANTS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, WONDER ABOUT THAT, TOO, AS THEY MAP A CAMPAIGN OF ACTION AGAINST AN OLD FOE...



WHY, THE CRIME CLINIC STOPPED AT ALL THE KEY CITIES AND IS MOVING WESTWARD IN ALMOST A STRAIGHT LINE!

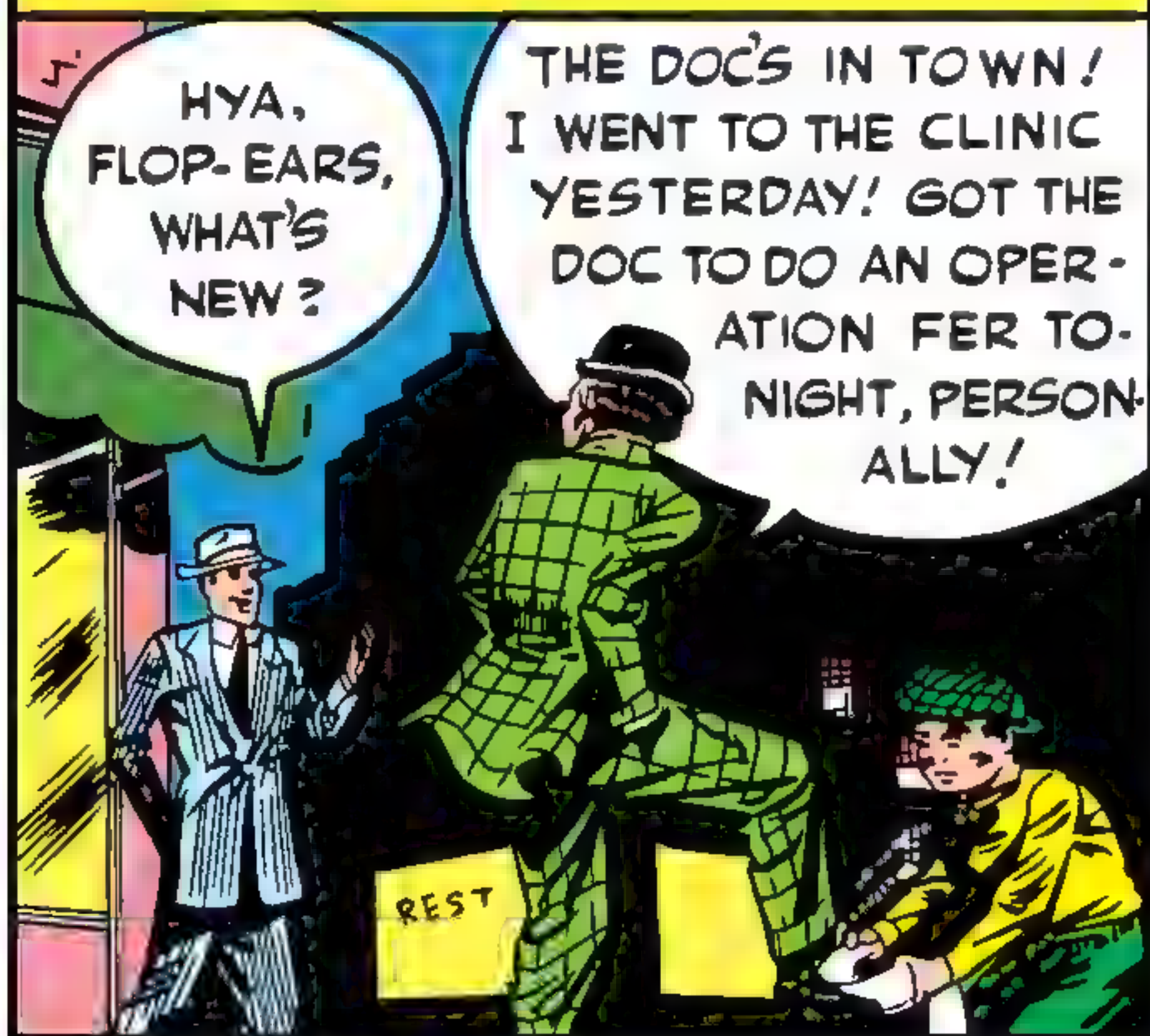
RIGHT! SO WE CAN ASSUME IT WILL VISIT **THIS** CITY NEXT! NOW I WANT YOU TO BZZ... BZZ... BZZ...



NEXT DAY... A NEW SHOESHINE BOY WANDERS ABOUT THE TOUGH, SLUM SECTION OF A BIG CITY!



THE DIRTY-FACED URCHIN IS EASILY ACCEPTED BY THE LOCAL TOUGHS AND IN HIS PRESENCE, CONVERSATION BECOMES UNGUARDED...



BUT, FLOP-EARS, "THAT KID" IS ACTUALLY **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER!



THAT NIGHT... IN HIS SECRET LABORATORY, DOCTOR THORNE PREPARES FOR AN OPERATION-- A CRIME OPERATION!



IN AN EXCAVATION WHERE THE CITY IS INSTALLING A NEW SEWAGE SYSTEM, THE NIGHT WATCHMAN SUDDENLY SLUMPS INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS...



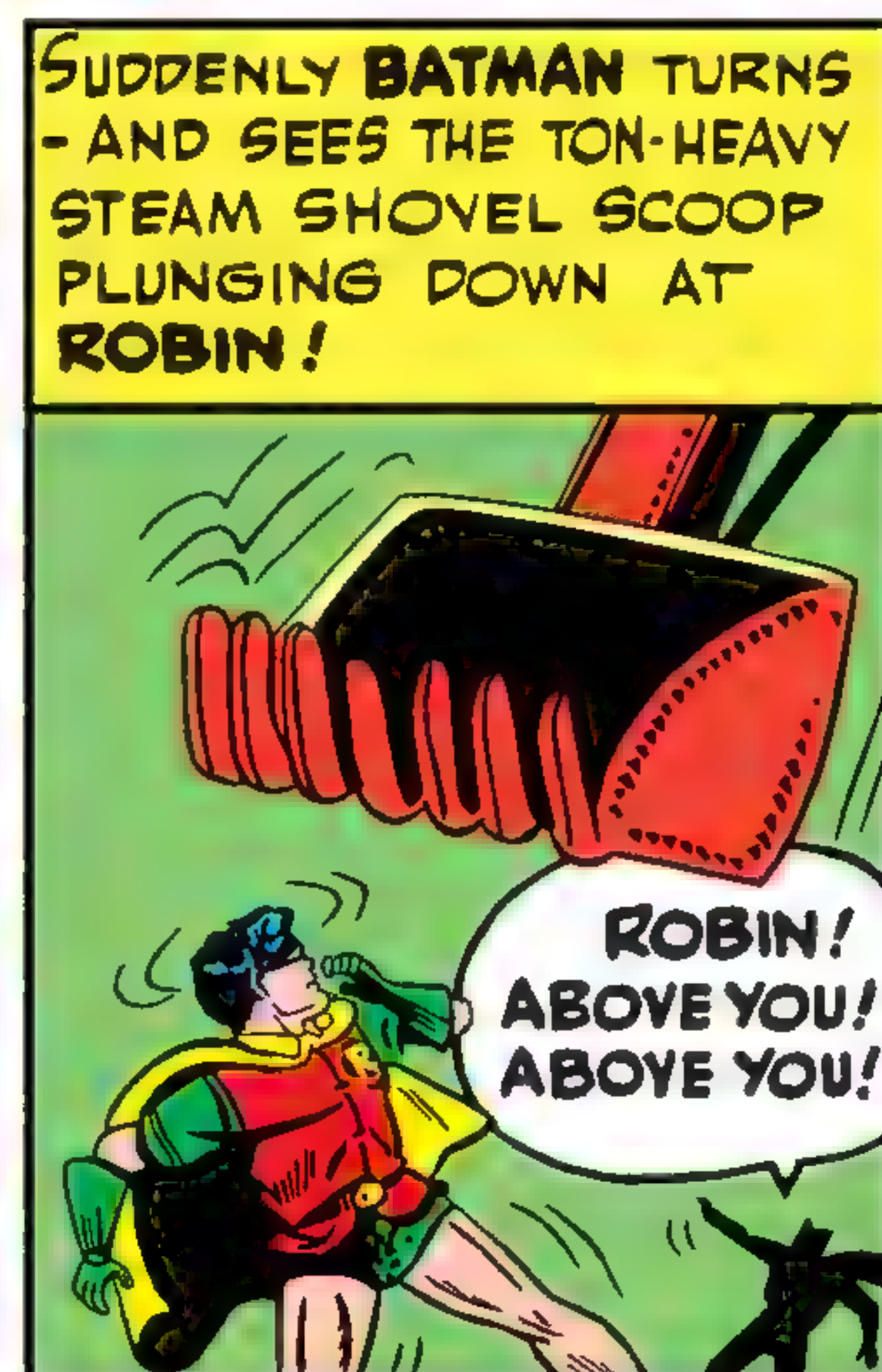
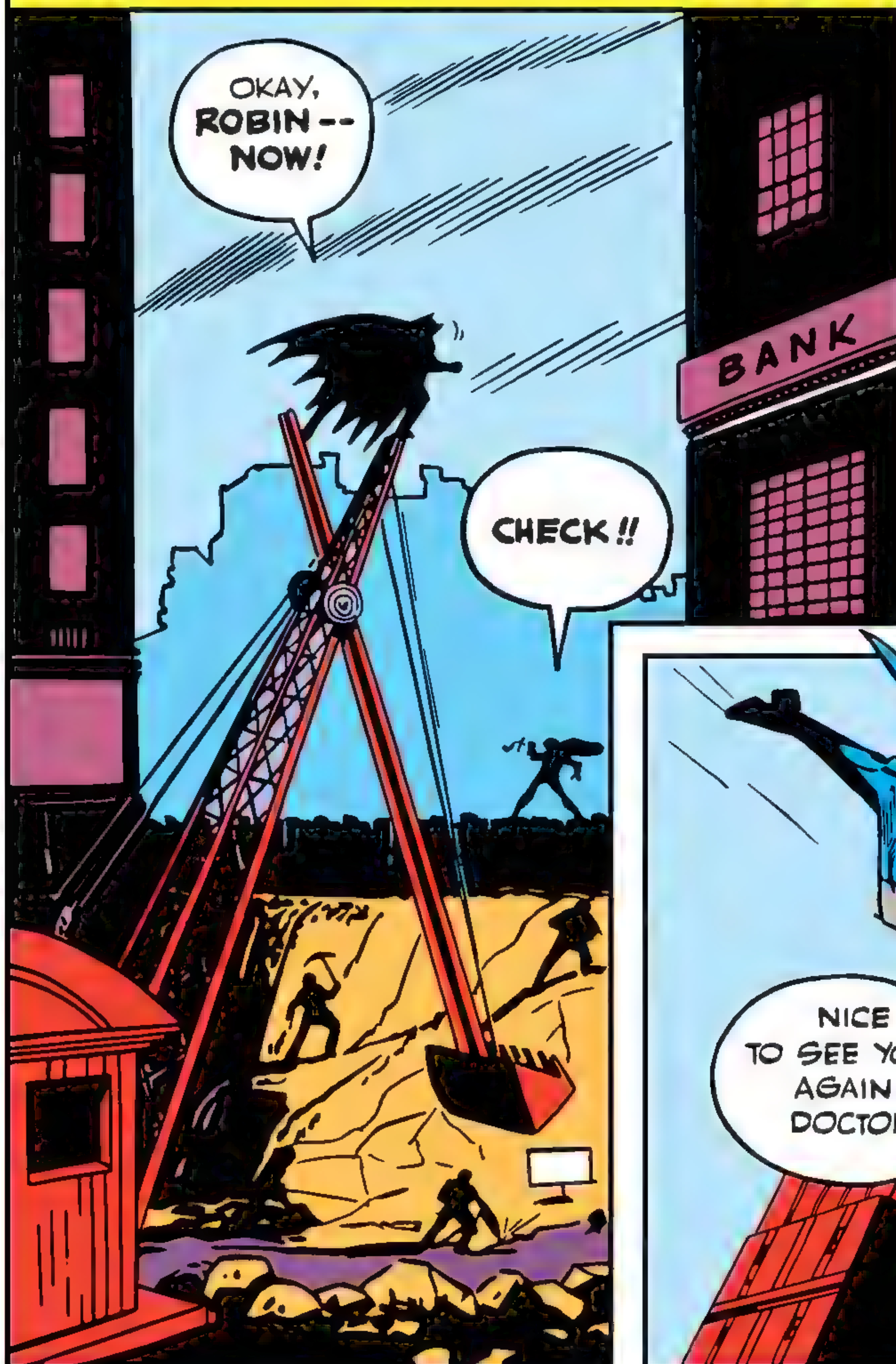
LATER... THE POLICEMAN ON THE BEAT SHOUTS ABOVE THE DIN OF DIGGING TOOLS...



AND THE POLICEMAN STROLLS ON, UNAWARE THAT IN THE SHADOWS OF THE NEARBY BANK LURKS -- THE CRIME SURGEON!



BUT JUST AS CRIME GETS READY TO BLAST LOOSE, TWO FIGURES EXPLODE INTO DYNAMITE ACTION!





THROUGH THE DIM, CURVED RECESSES OF THE ABANDONED SEWAGE PIPE-LINE TUNNELS, BATMAN AND ROBIN POUND AFTER THEIR FLEET QUARRY!



SUDDENLY THE TUNNEL ENDS ... ON THE WATERFRONT! THE DOCTOR LEAPS TO A WAITING VEHICLE AND LEAVES HIS STUMPED PURSUERS BEHIND!



SO...THREE DAYS LATER IN THE NEXT KEY CITY...

AH, THE CRIME CLINIC'S BUSINESS CARD! HE'LL PROBABLY SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO SEE ME ABOUT A JOB! GOOD!

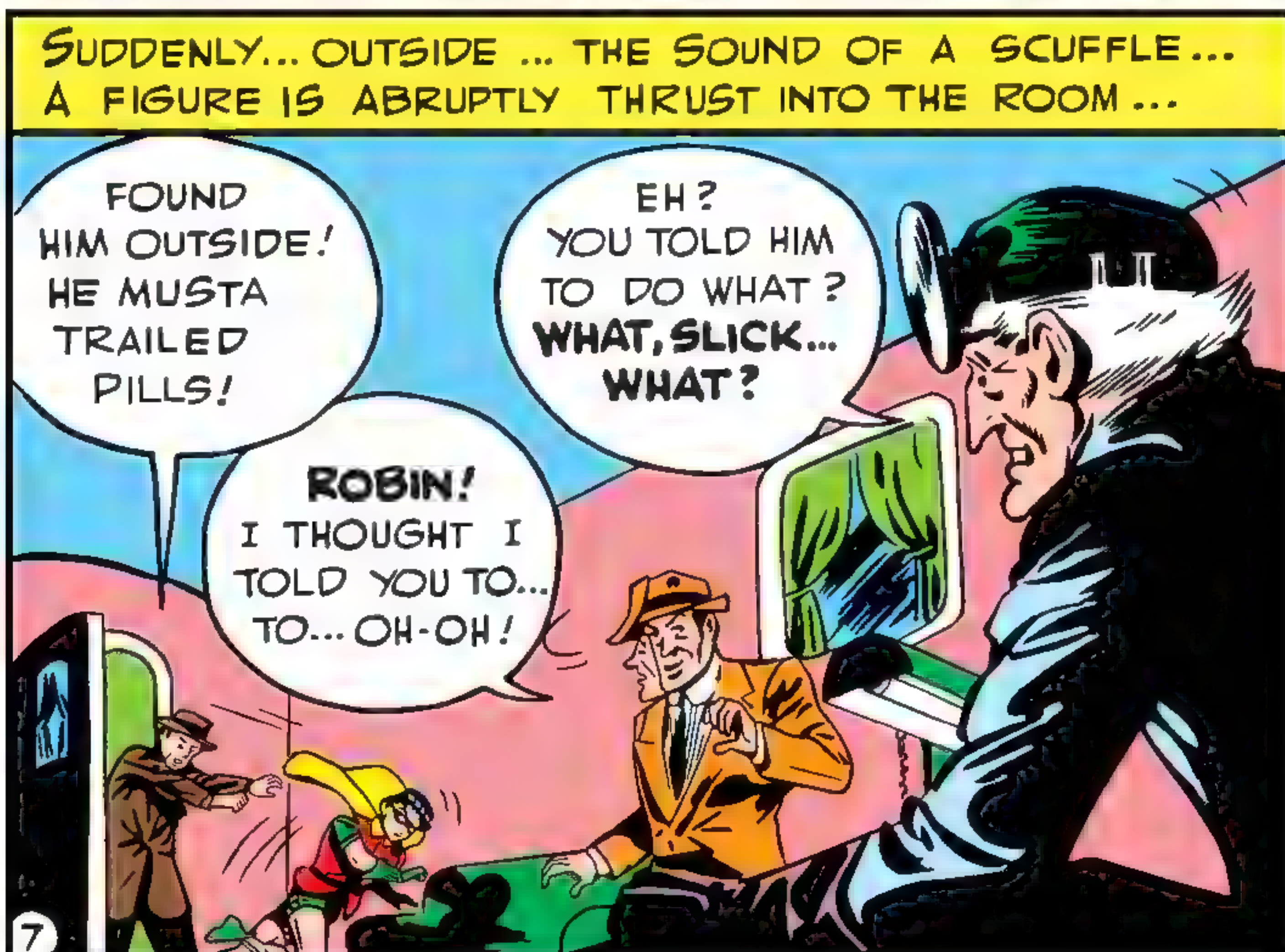
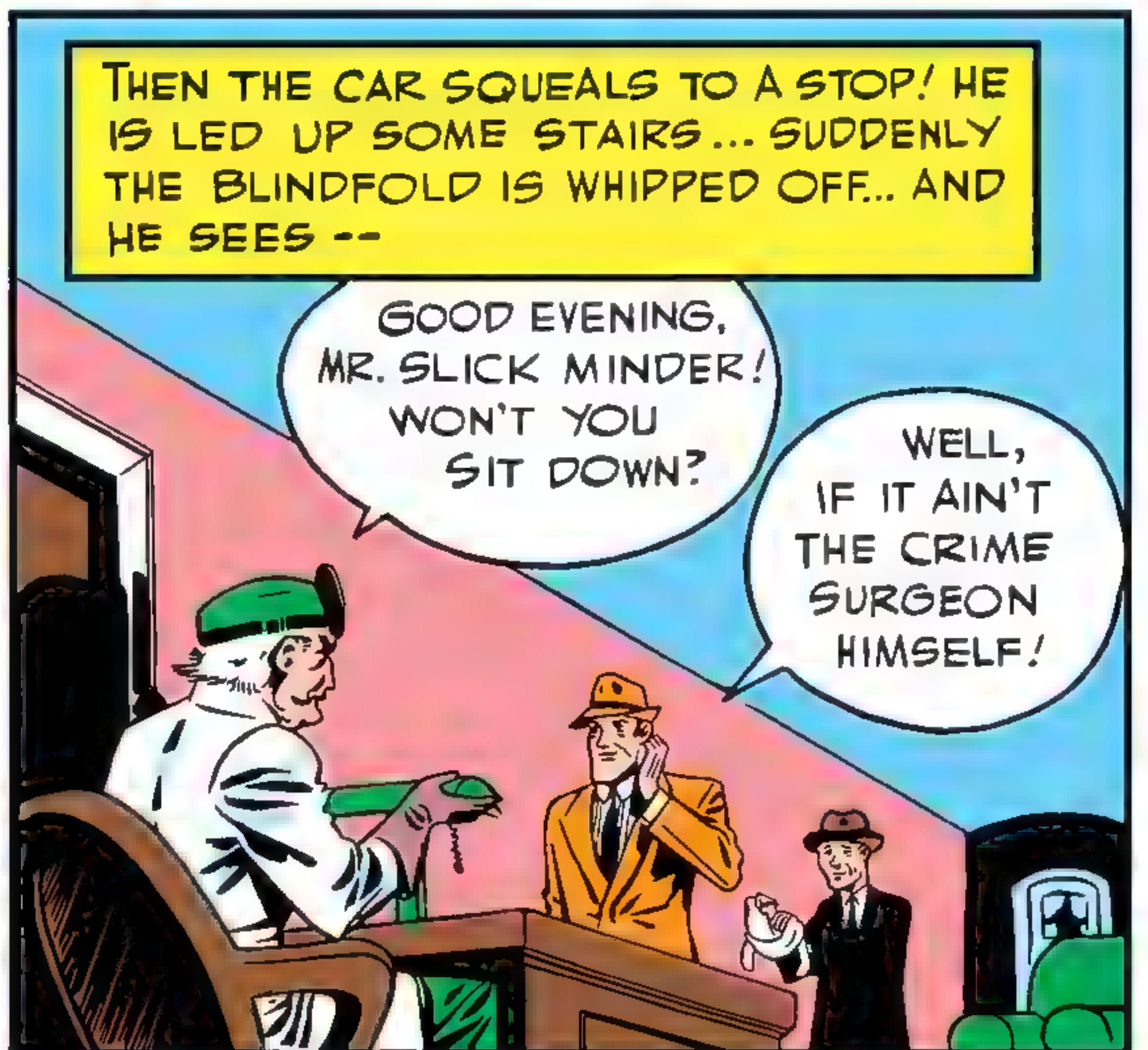
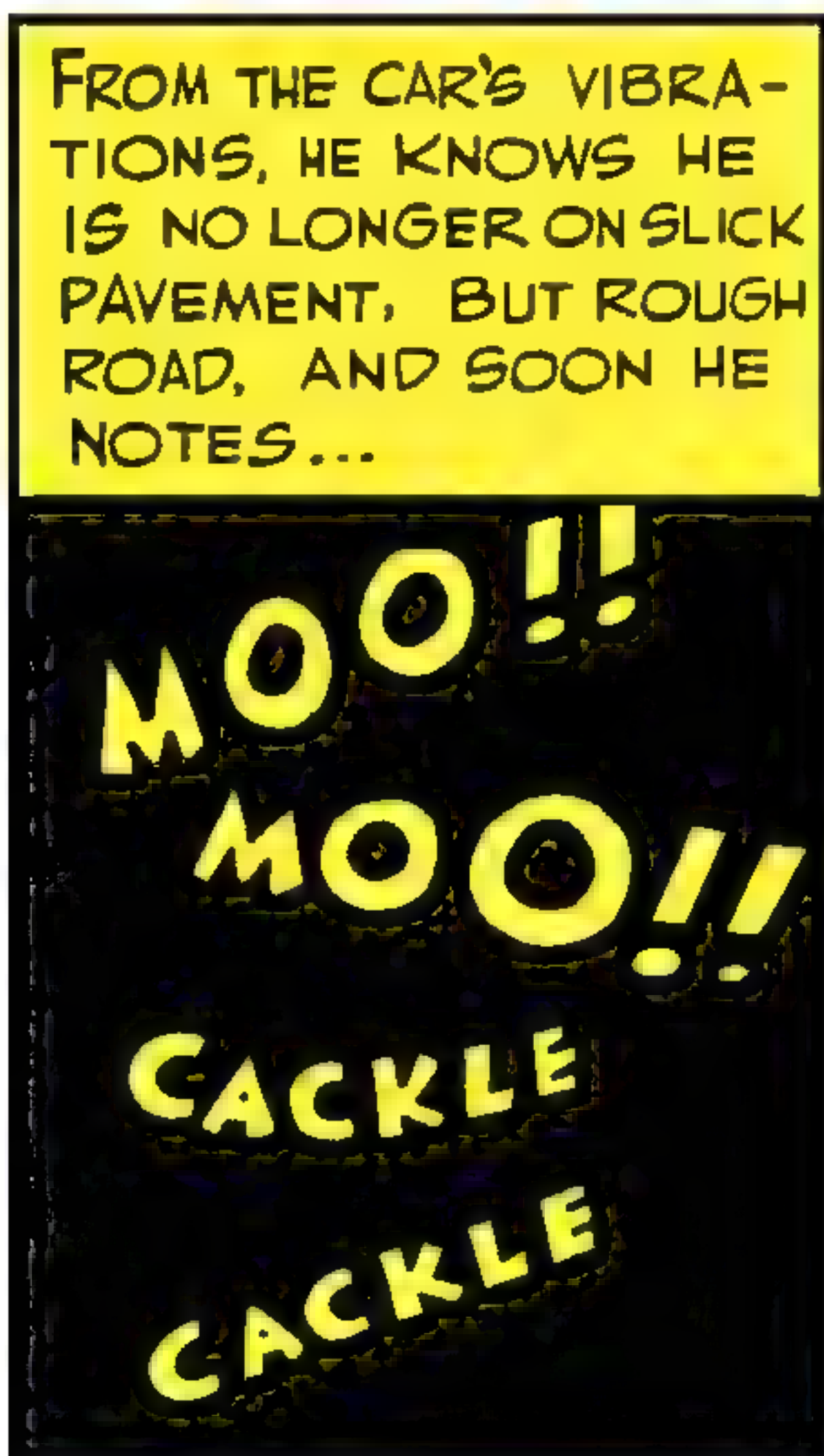
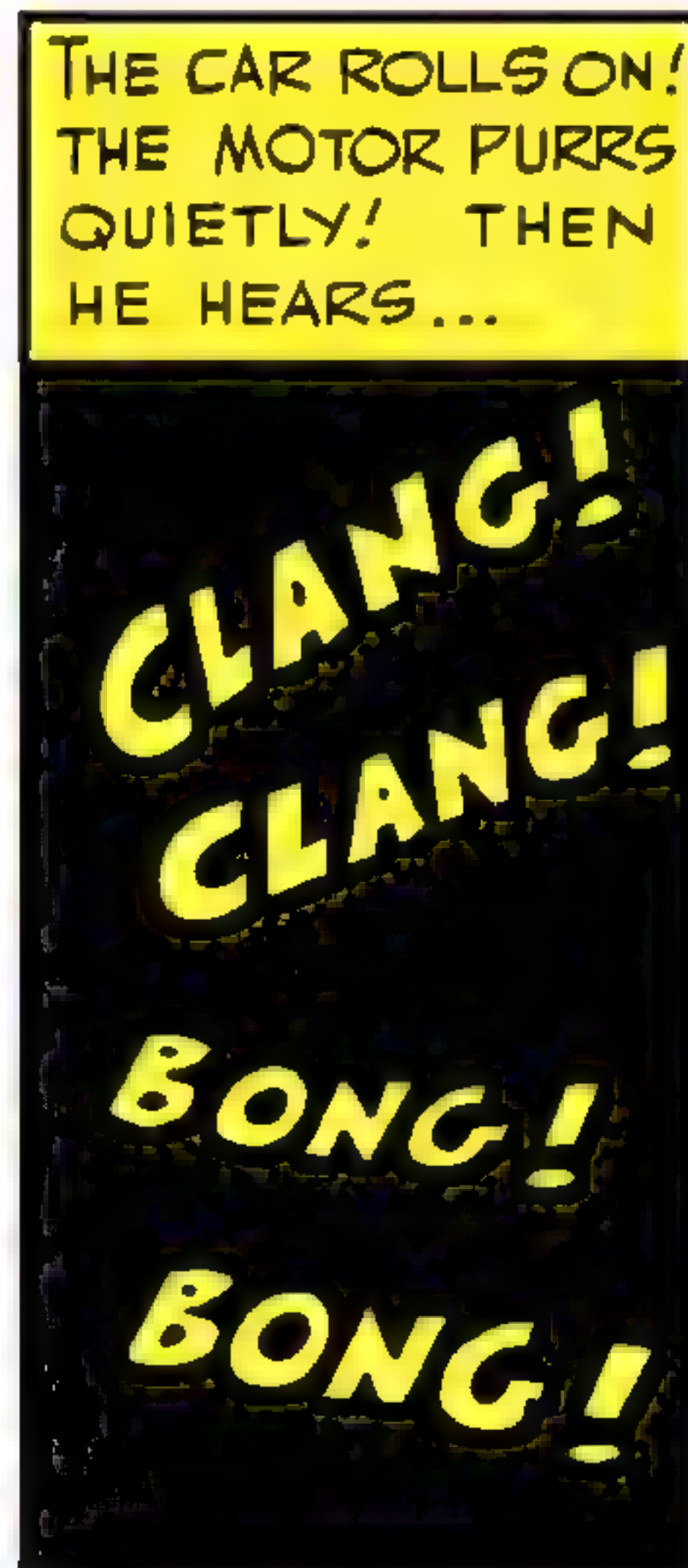
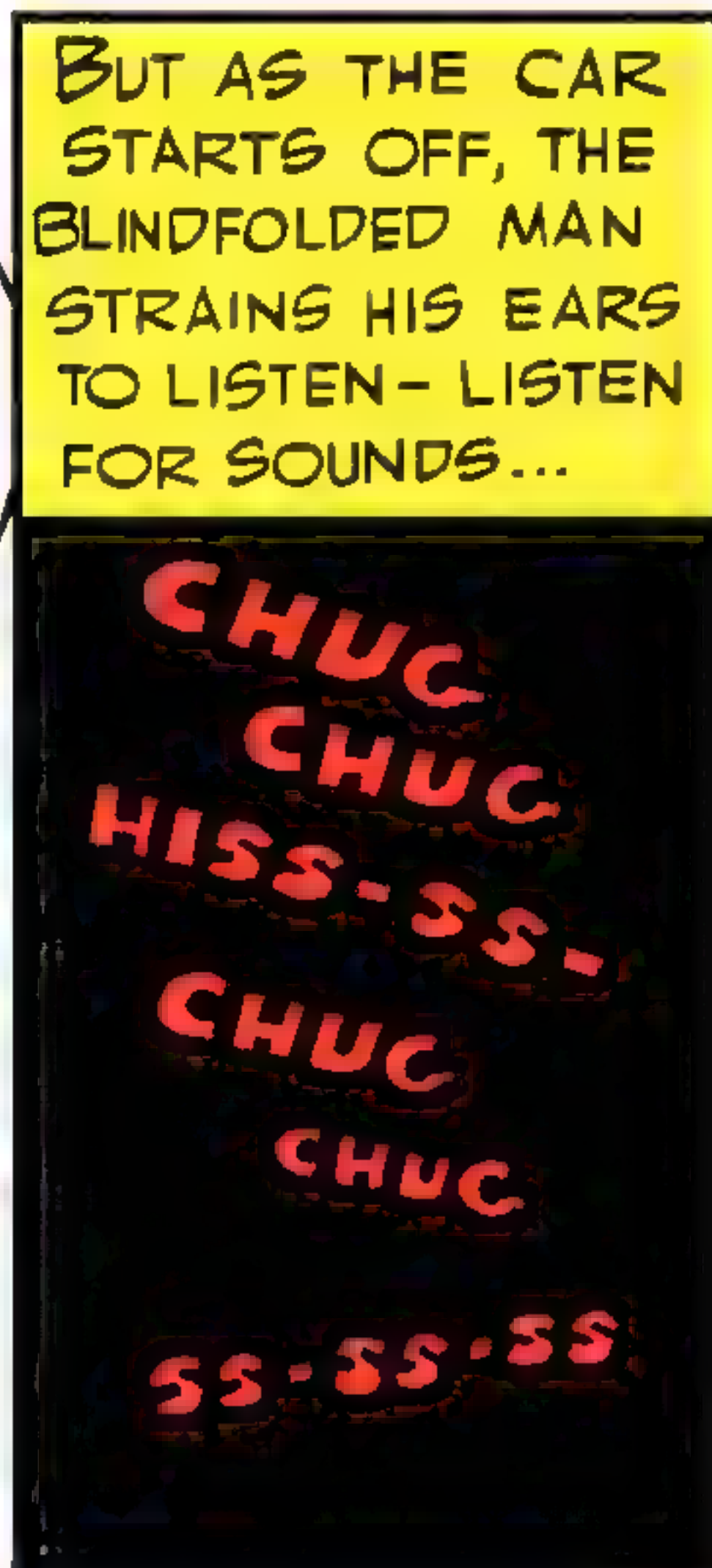


... NOT LONG AFTER...

HAVE A VITAMIN PILL, SLICK? DE DOC SENT ME AROUND TO SEE YOU! YOU'RE A BIG SHOT HERE AND -

OKAY! I GOT A JOB IN MIND THAT'S MAKING ME SICK! LET'S GET STARTED!

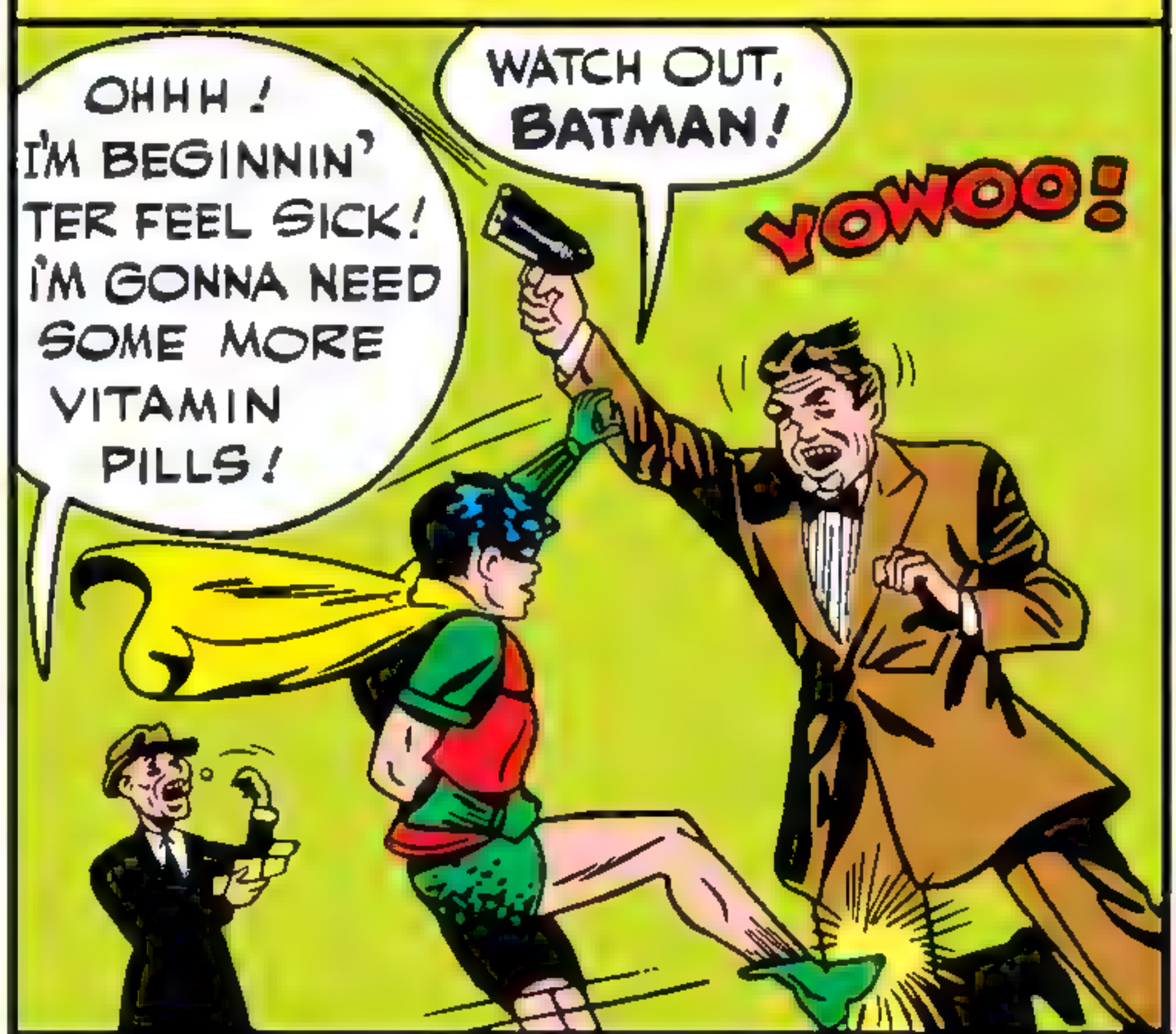




SWIFT AS LIGHT, **BATMAN'S** HANDS STREAK ACROSS HIS FACE, SNATCH AWAY MAKEUP, ADJUST HIS COWL! THEN FROM OUT THE HAMPERING GARB COMES HIS SLEEK MUSCULAR FRAME...



INSTINCTIVELY, THO' DAZED AND PISTOL-WHIPPED, **ROBIN** TRIES TO LEND AID TO HIS FIGHTING COMPANION...



SNARLING ANGRILY, THE COWARDLY KILLER RETALIATES WITH THE ONE WEAPON HIS KIND ALWAYS RESORTS TO--A GUN! THE MUZZLE THUNDERS FLAME AND...



AN UNBELIEVABLE SCENE! **ROBIN** UNDER THE KNIFE OF A CRIME DOCTOR... A DOCTOR WHO HEEDS THE CALL OF HIS SWORN ENEMY! A STRANGE MAN, DOCTOR THORNE... A DOCTOR FIRST, A CRIMINAL LAST!



THEN, AT LONG LAST... THE ORDEAL IS OVER! DONE! HE'LL LIVE, BUT HE'LL NEED HOSPITAL ATTENTION NOW! YOU'D BETTER GET GOING!



NO, I'M STILL A DOCTOR EVEN THOUGH I'M BARRED FROM PRACTICE! THAT BOY NEEDS CARE! PILLS WILL BLINDFOLD YOU AND TAKE YOU TO A HOSPITAL!

THORNE, YOU'RE A CRIMINAL! AND, EVEN THOUGH YOU SAVED ROBIN'S LIFE, I MUST STILL FIGHT YOU! THIS IS A TRUCE FOR NOW... BUT NOT FOR LONG!

LATER... AT THE HOSPITAL...

HE'S SLEEPING NOW! I WOULDN'T DISTURB HIM YET! HE'S STILL SUFFERING FROM SHOCK!

I SEE!

I HAD HOPED HE MIGHT TELL ME WHERE THORNE HAS HIS HIDEOUT! HE SAW WHERE I WENT! I WAS BLINDFOLDED!

LUCKILY I TOOK NO CHANCES! ALL THROUGH THAT RIDE I WAS COUNTING THE PULSE BEATS AT MY WRIST- USING MEDICINE TO DEFEAT MEDICINE!

NORMALLY, THE HEART PULSES 76 BEATS TO THE MINUTE AND I WAS ABLE TO FIGURE OUT THE MINUTE IT TOOK TO GET TO EACH SOUND I HEARD! NOW TO RENT A CAR AND LOCATE THOSE SAME SOUNDS BY TICKING OFF THOSE MINUTES!

BATMAN, THE MAN WHO TRACKS DOWN CRIMINALS NOW TRACKS DOWN SOUND!

NOW... LET'S SEE... MY FIRST PULSE COUNT WAS 296... THAT ADDS UP TO APPROXIMATELY FOUR MINUTES WHEN I HEARD THAT CHUGGING SOUND...

... FOUR MINUTES OF RIDING ... THEN ...

CHUG! CHUG! CHUG!

THAT'S IT! A RAILROAD JUNCTION! SO IT WAS A TRAIN CHUGGING PAST!

SS-SS!

SSS!

THE TRAIN ROLLS ON! THE BATMAN'S WATCH TICKS OFF 6 MINUTES...

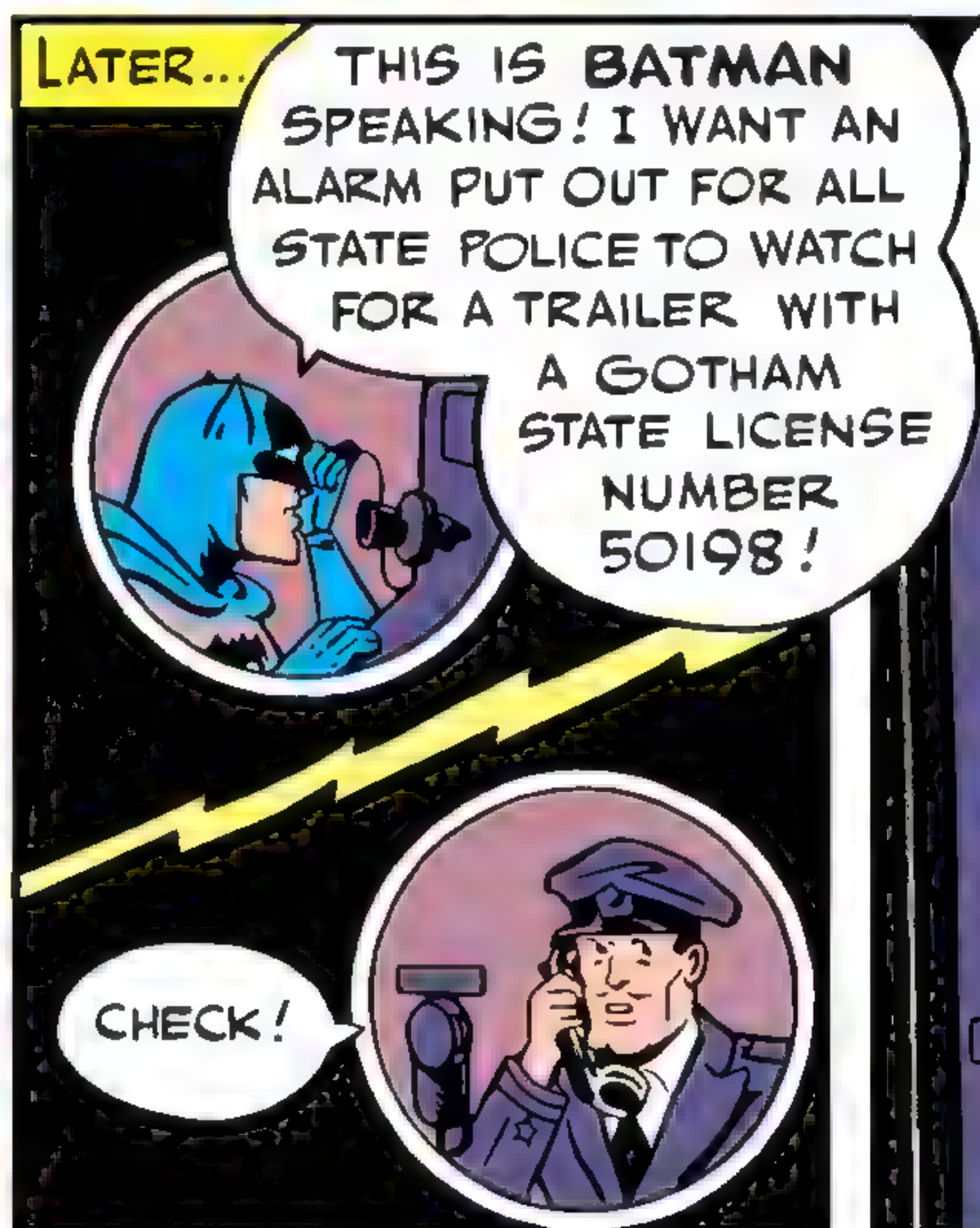
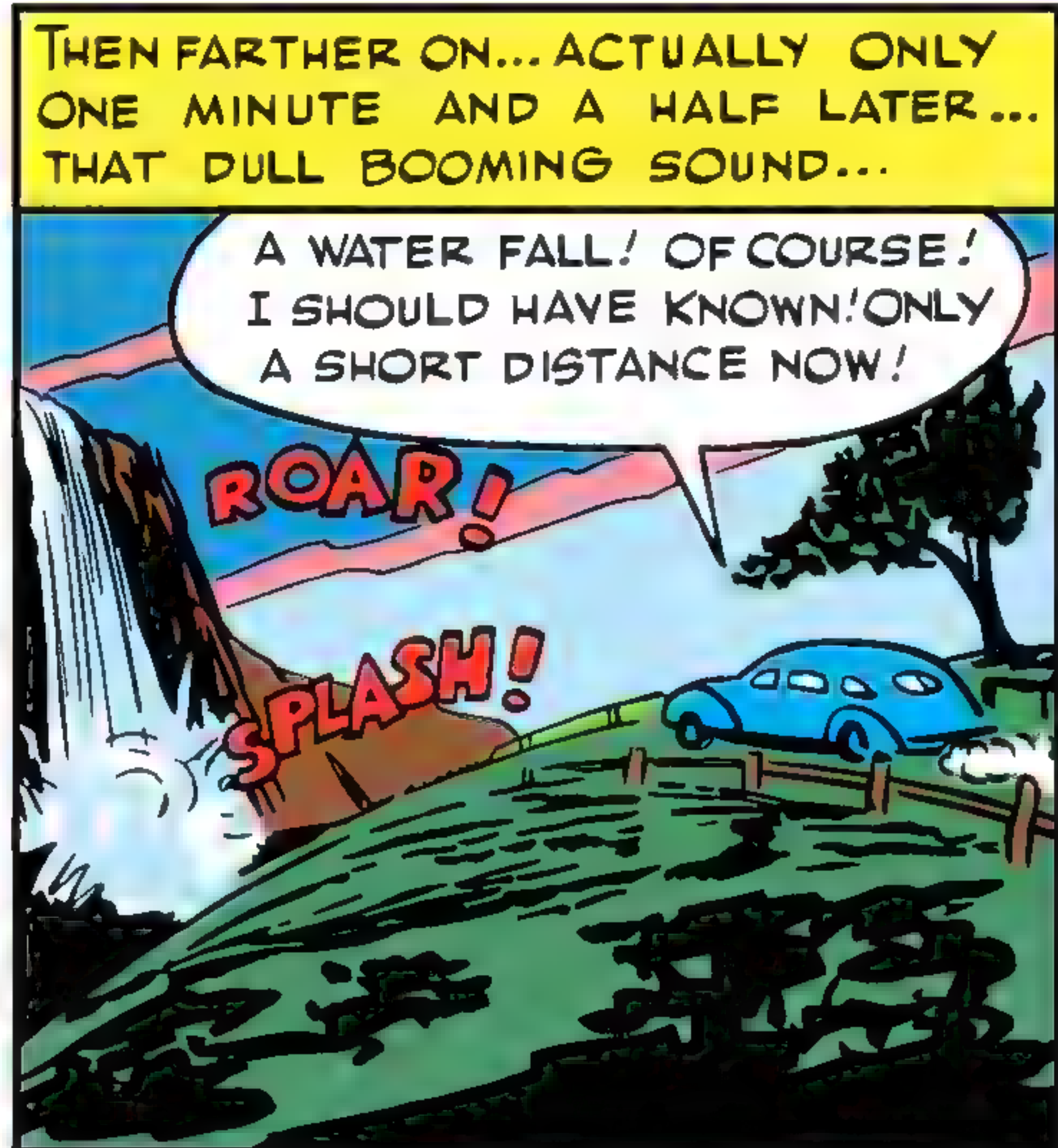
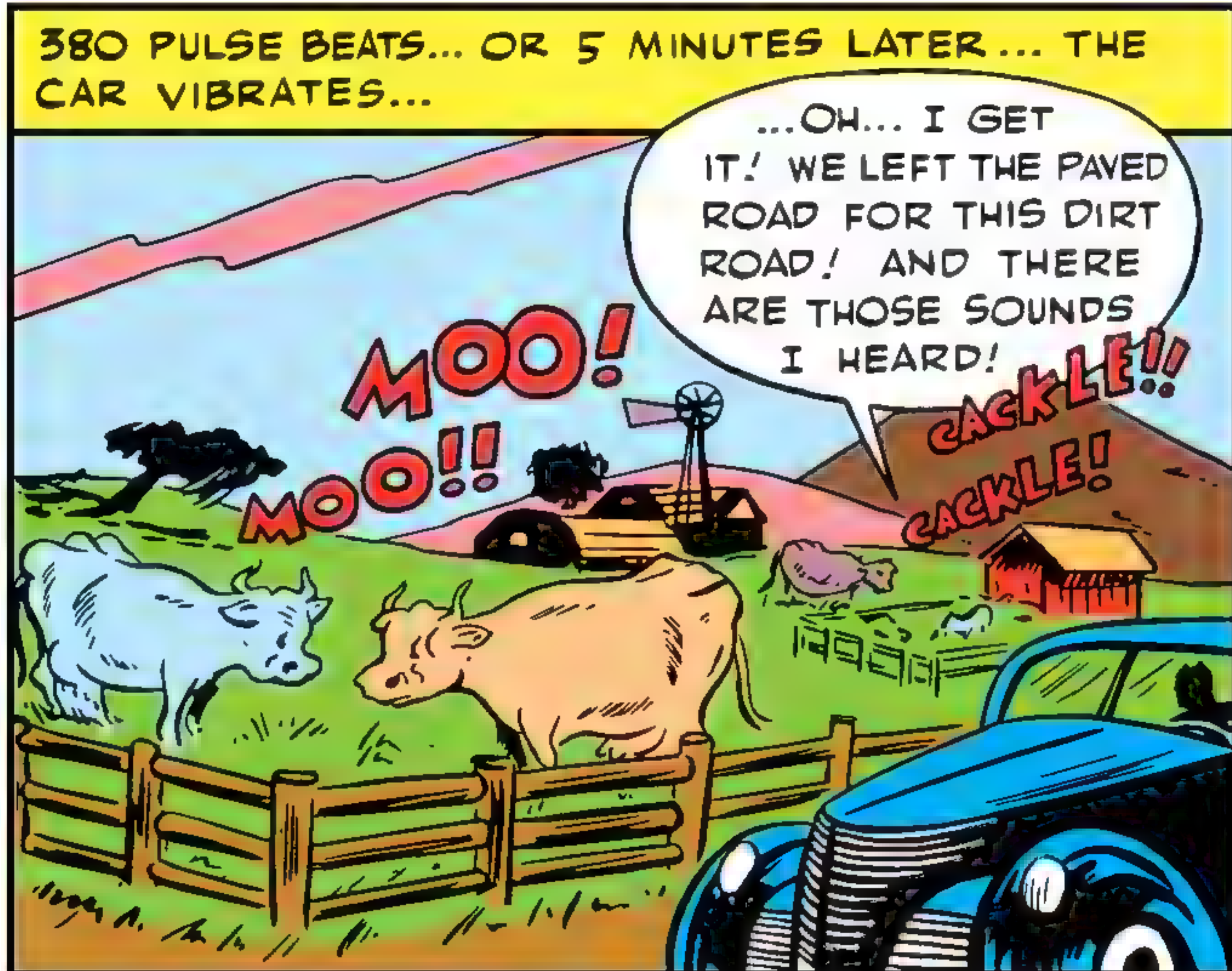
THE SECOND SOUND! A BLACKSMITH'S HAMMER STRIKING A HORSE-SHOE! I'M ON THE RIGHT TRACK! NEXT... 2 1/2 MINUTES!

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!

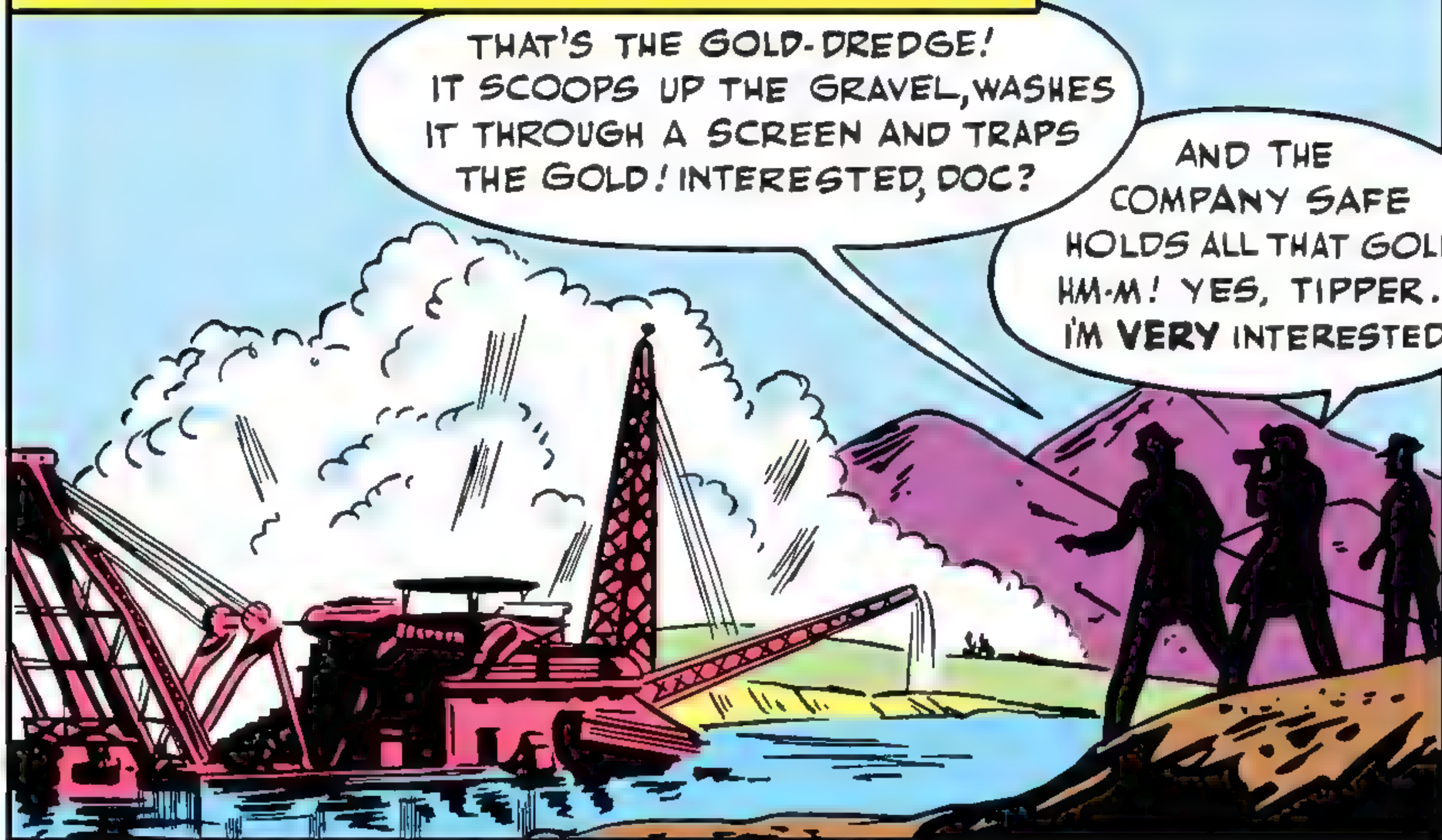
TWO AND ONE-HALF MINUTES LATER...

RIGHT ON THE NOSE! SO THAT'S WHY THE CAR SHIVERED! AND THAT HOLLOW RUMBLE! IT PASSED OVER THIS WOODEN BRIDGE!

RUMBLE! RUMBLE!



THE OUTSKIRTS OF THAT CERTAIN GOLD FIELD...



THAT'S THE GOLD-DREDGE!
IT SCOOPS UP THE GRAVEL, WASHES
IT THROUGH A SCREEN AND TRAPS
THE GOLD! INTERESTED, DOC?

AND THE
COMPANY SAFE
HOLDS ALL THAT GOLD?
HM-M! YES, TIPPER...
I'M VERY INTERESTED!

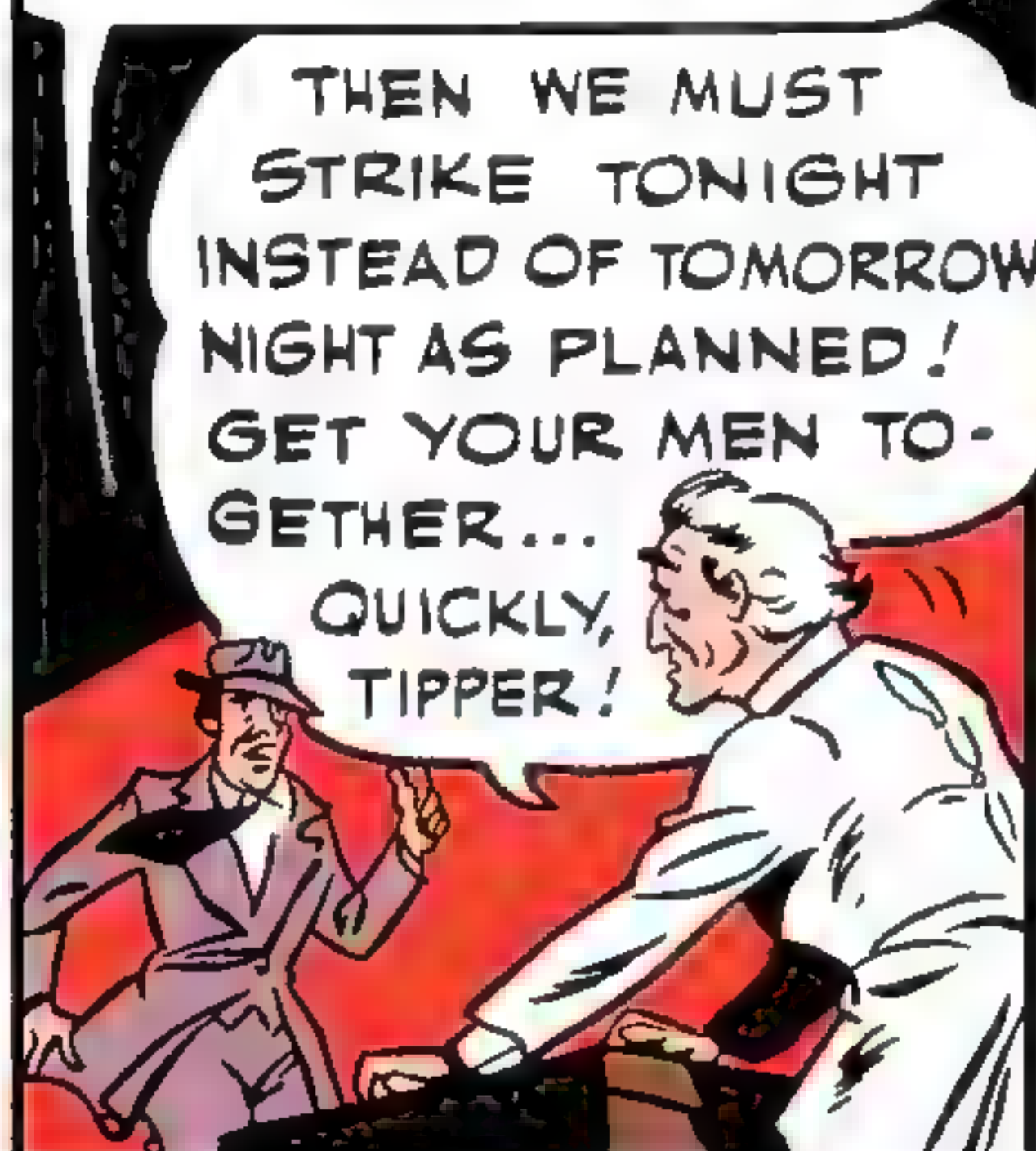
BUT DOCTOR THORNE IS
STILL INTERESTED IN
MEDICINE...

MOCCO, YOUR WIFE
NEEDS AN OPERATION!
SHE'S IN A COMA NOW!
STAY WITH HER! I'LL
RETURN TONIGHT!



LATER, THOUGH...

DOC, I GOT A TIP THE
GUARDS ARE REMOVIN'
THE MONTH'S GOLD "TAKE"
TO THE ASSAY OFFICE TO-
MORROW MORNING!



THEN WE MUST
STRIKE TONIGHT
INSTEAD OF TOMORROW
NIGHT AS PLANNED!
GET YOUR MEN TO-
GETHER...
QUICKLY,
TIPPER!

OH... I JUST
REMEMBERED!
MOCCO'S WIFE!
BUT IF I OPER-
ATE NOW I WON'T
BE ABLE TO PER-
FORM THE GOLD
OPERATION!
WHAT'LL I DO??

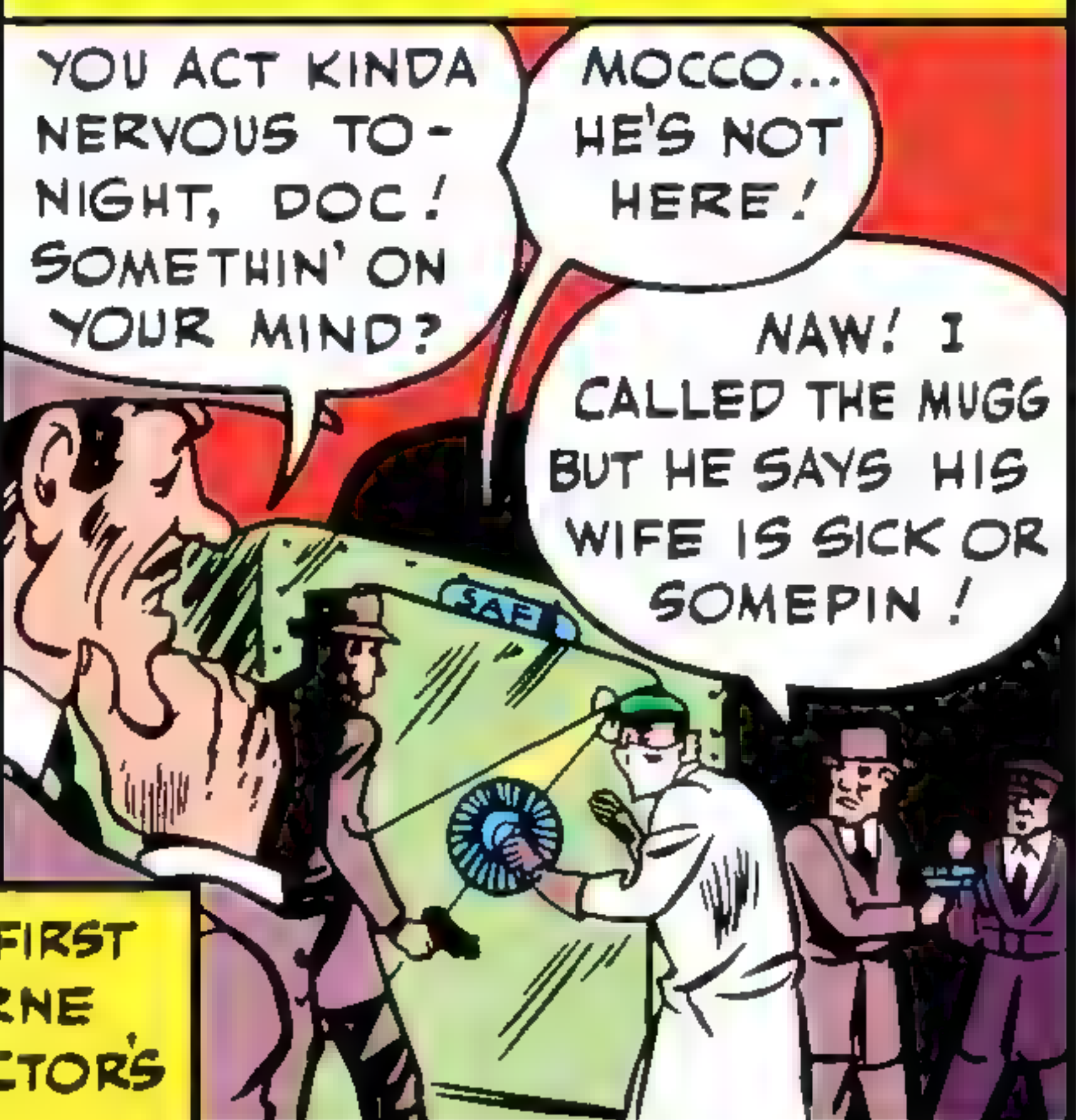


ALL THAT GOLD...
SO MUCH OF IT!
NO... I CAN'T
GIVE IT UP!
BESIDES, MOC-
CO'S WIFE ISN'T
TOO ILL! SHE
CAN WAIT! I'LL
OPERATE LATER!



AND SO FOR THE FIRST
TIME, DR THORNE
BETRAYS HIS DOCTOR'S
OATH!

BUT THOUGH HIS CRIME OPERATION
PROCEEDS SMOOTHLY, THE DOCTOR'S
CONSCIENCE BOTHERS HIM!



YOU ACT KINDA
NERVOUS TO-
NIGHT, DOC!
SOMETHIN' ON
YOUR MIND?

MOCCO...
HE'S NOT
HERE!

NAW! I
CALLED THE MUGG
BUT HE SAYS HIS
WIFE IS SICK OR
SOME PIN!



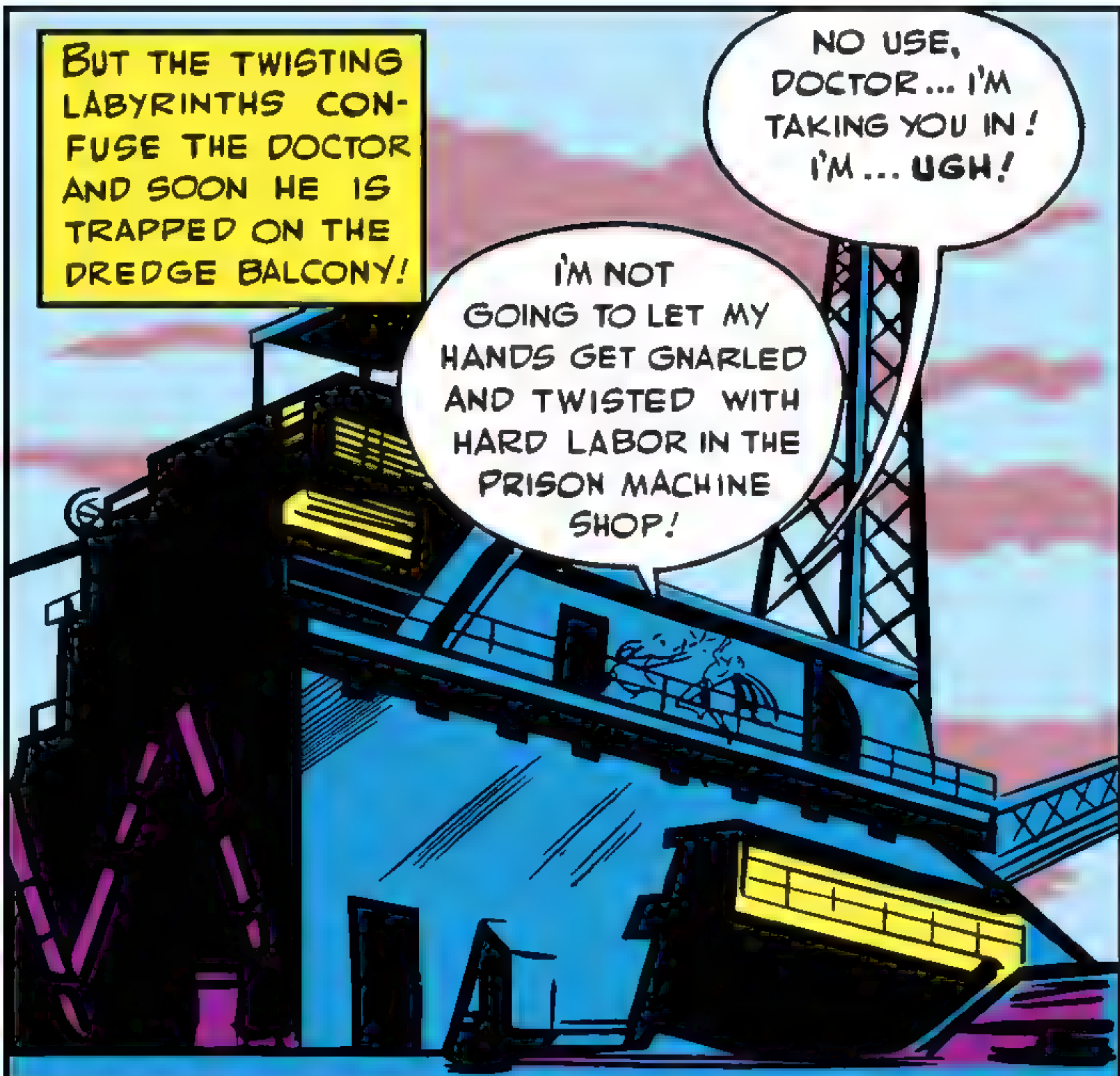
AND SO
WILL YOU BE,
BROTHER... SO
WILL YOU
BE!

LEAVING THE GUARDS TO POUNCE ON THE
SPILLED BANDITS, BATMAN CHASES
AFTER THE CRIME SURGEON... A CHASE
THAT LEADS THROUGH THE VAULTED
INTERIOR OF THE GOLD DREDGE ITSELF!



YOU'RE
A FOOL! YOU
WON'T GET
AWAY THIS
TIME!

(PUFF-PUFF)
I CAN TRY,
BATMAN...
(PUFF-PUFF)
I CAN TRY!



BUT THE TWISTING LABYRINTHS CONFUSE THE DOCTOR AND SOON HE IS TRAPPED ON THE DREDGE BALCONY!

I'M NOT GOING TO LET MY HANDS GET GNARLED AND TWISTED WITH HARD LABOR IN THE PRISON MACHINE SHOP!

NO USE, DOCTOR... I'M TAKING YOU IN! I'M... UGH!

BUT THE BATMAN PURSUES... DOGGEDLY... RELENTLESSLY... UNTIL THEY REACH THE VERY TOP OF THE GOLD-DREDGE!

I REPEAT- I'M-TAKING-YOU-IN!



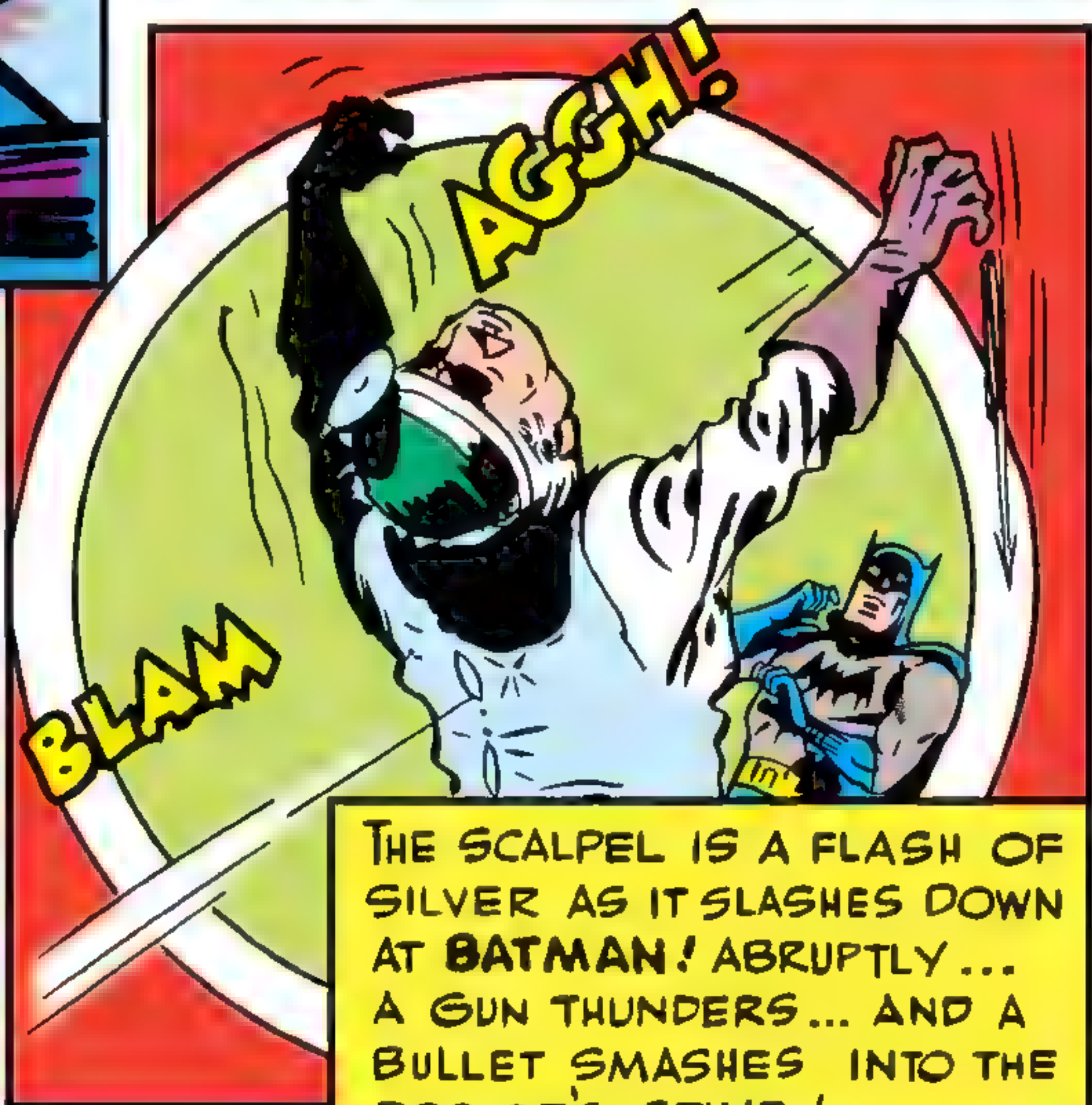
UH!

THE DOCTOR'S FEAR OF PRISON IS EVEN GREATER THAN HIS FEAR OF BATMAN'S FISTS! SOME THING SNAPS IN HIS BRAIN!....



OH-OH HE'S GOT A SCALPEL!

I SWEAR IT! I'LL KILL YOU BEFORE I'LL GO BACK TO PRISON!



AGGH!

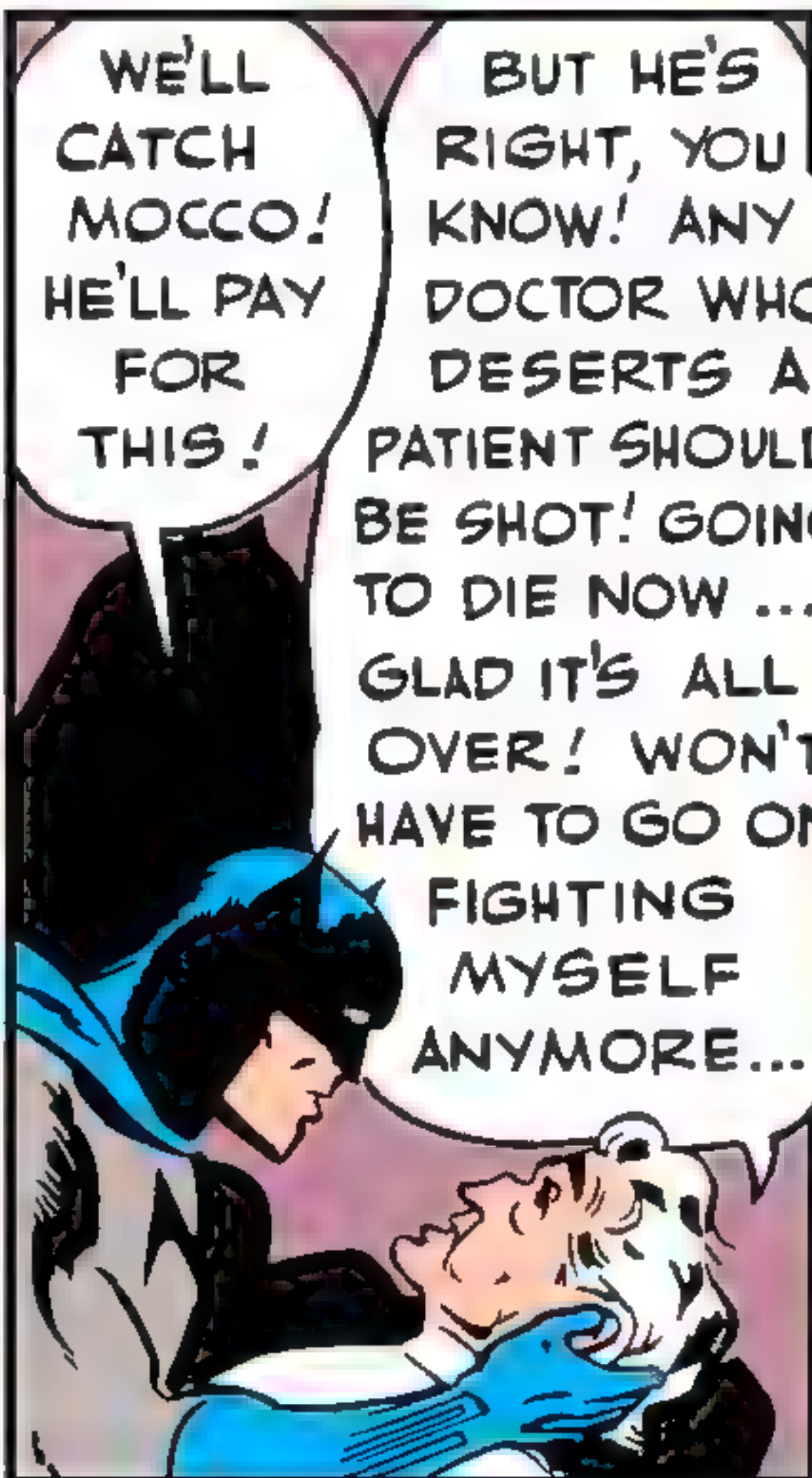
BLAM

THE SCALPEL IS A FLASH OF SILVER AS IT SLASHES DOWN AT BATMAN! ABRUPTLY... A GUN THUNDERS... AND A BULLET SMASHES INTO THE DOCTOR'S SPINE!



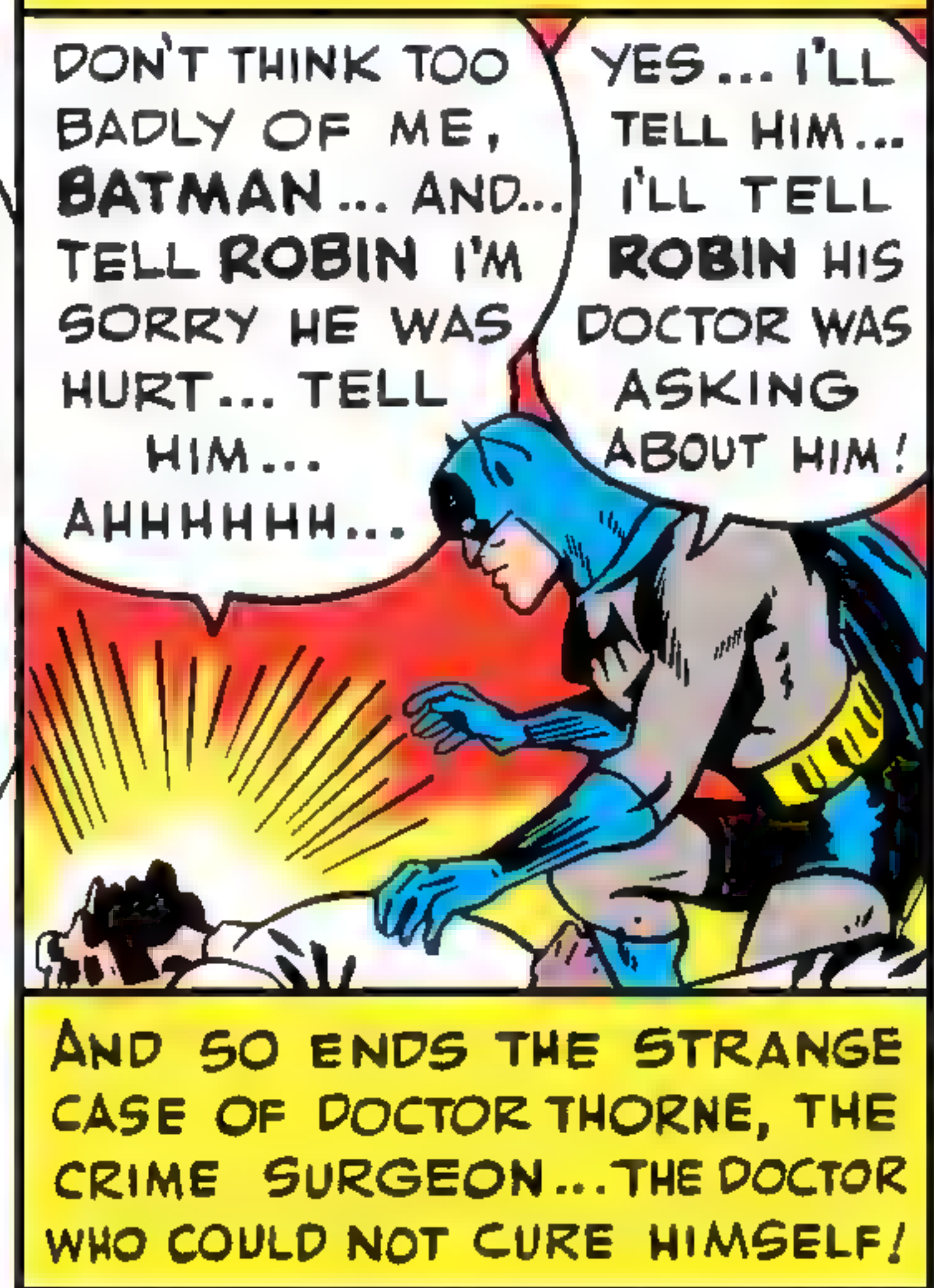
MOCCO HAS ARRIVED!

YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING RAT! SHE DIED! MY WIFE DIED! YOU COULD HAVE SAVED HER! BUT YOU DIDN'T! YOU DIDN'T!



WE'LL CATCH MOCCO! HE'LL PAY FOR THIS!

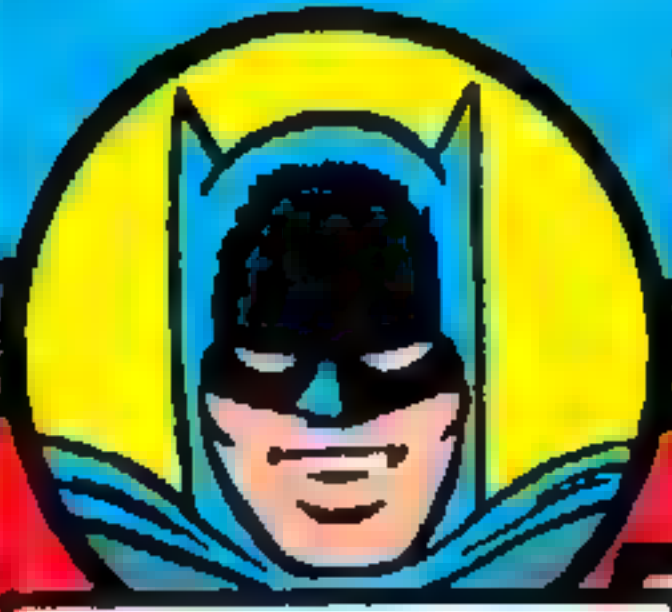
BUT HE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW! ANY DOCTOR WHO DESERTS A PATIENT SHOULD BE SHOT! GOING TO DIE NOW... GLAD IT'S ALL OVER! WON'T HAVE TO GO ON FIGHTING MYSELF ANYMORE...



DON'T THINK TOO BADLY OF ME, BATMAN... AND... TELL ROBIN I'M SORRY HE WAS HURT... TELL HIM... AHHHHHH...

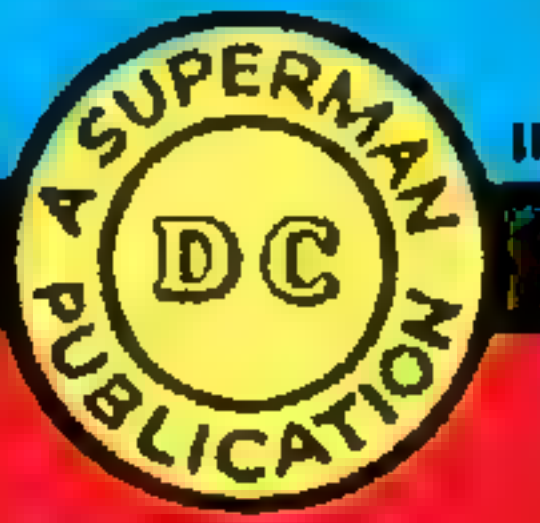
YES... I'LL TELL HIM... I'LL TELL ROBIN HIS DOCTOR WAS ASKING ABOUT HIM!

AND SO ENDS THE STRANGE CASE OF DOCTOR THORNE, THE CRIME SURGEON... THE DOCTOR WHO COULD NOT CURE HIMSELF!



No. 79

BOY COMMANDOS



The BATMAN

Detective

SEPT.

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

COMICS



BATMAN AND ROBIN
UNRAVEL THE
TANGLED THREADS
OF THREE LIVES
IN
"DESTINY'S AUCTION!"



BATMAN

TH
BIN
WONDER -

THE HAND OF FATE WHIPS BACK THE CURTAIN --AND THREE TROUBLED PEOPLE ARE CAUGHT IN THE TANGLED PLOT OF A TRAGICOMEDY OF ERRORS! THE GIRL WHO HAS FAITH IN THE FUTURE ... THE OLD MAN WHO LIVES IN THE PAST ... THE FURTIVE ONE WHO FEARS YESTERDAY AND MISTRUSTS TOMORROW -- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEIR MOST JEALOUSLY GUARDED SECRETS ARE SHUFFLED INTO THE WRONG HANDS? PLENTY! ... AND IT TAKES ALL THE MASTER STAGECRAFT OF THAT DARING DIRECTOR OF SMASH HITS --- THE **BATMAN** --- TO SHAPE THE FINAL SENSATIONAL SCENE OF --

"DESTINY'S AUCTION!"



CLIENTS OF MADAME CALAGRA, THE GYPSY FORTUNE TELLER, ARE FIRM IN THEIR BELIEF THAT SHE POSSESSES THE TRUE GIFT OF "SECOND SIGHT"

YOUR FUTURE IS PLAIN! YOUR NAME--JUDY O'CASSON--SHALL BE WRITTEN LARGE FOR ALL TO READ! YOU SHALL MOVE FROM HUMBLE LODGINGS TO A GREAT PALACE!

WHY, THEN-- MY DREAMS ARE COMING TRUE AT LAST!

AN EAGER GIRL RETURNS WITH RE-NEWED HOPE AND CONFIDENCE TO ONE OF GOTHAM CITY'S SHABBIEST ROOMING HOUSES...

I REALLY COULDN'T AFFORD TO GIVE HER THAT MONEY-- BUT I JUST HAD TO KNOW WHETHER I WAS GOING TO BE SUCCESSFUL!

BUT--THINGS PROPHESED MAY COME TO PASS IN UNEXPECTED WAYS!

WHAT'S THIS? A NOTE FOR ME--FROM THE LANDLADY!

MY NAME... "LARGE ENOUGH FOR ALL TO READ" ... AND I'LL BE MOVING, ALL RIGHT-- BUT NOT TO ANY PALACE!

MRS. MIDGE, YOU'VE LOCKED MY TRUNK IN MY ROOM, AND IN IT IS SOMETHING I SIMPLY MUST HAVE! WON'T YOU PLEASE LET ME GET IT?

OF COURSE--AS SOON AS YOU GIVE ME FOURTEEN DOLLARS!

JUDY O'CASSON:
There's a new lock on the door of your room. You get the key when you pay me the \$14.00 you owe for rent-- Mrs. Midge

BUT I HAVE PRACTICALLY NO MONEY! IF YOU'D WAIT A DAY OR TWO LONGER...

WAIT? HA! D'YE THINK I'M IN BUSINESS FOR CHARITY? OUT WITH YE-- AN' IF EVER YE COME BACK WITH THE CASH, YE'LL FIND THE TRUNK WAITIN'!

SO IT IS THAT A LONELY, DISHEARTENED GIRL SITS ALL NIGHT IN A RAILROAD STATION--AN EDIFICE WHICH MIGHT VERY WELL BE DESCRIBED AS A "GREAT PALACE"!

I-I FAILED! (SOB) I'VE LOST THE ONLY THING THAT CAN HELP ME! NOTHING TO DO BUT GO BACK HOME!

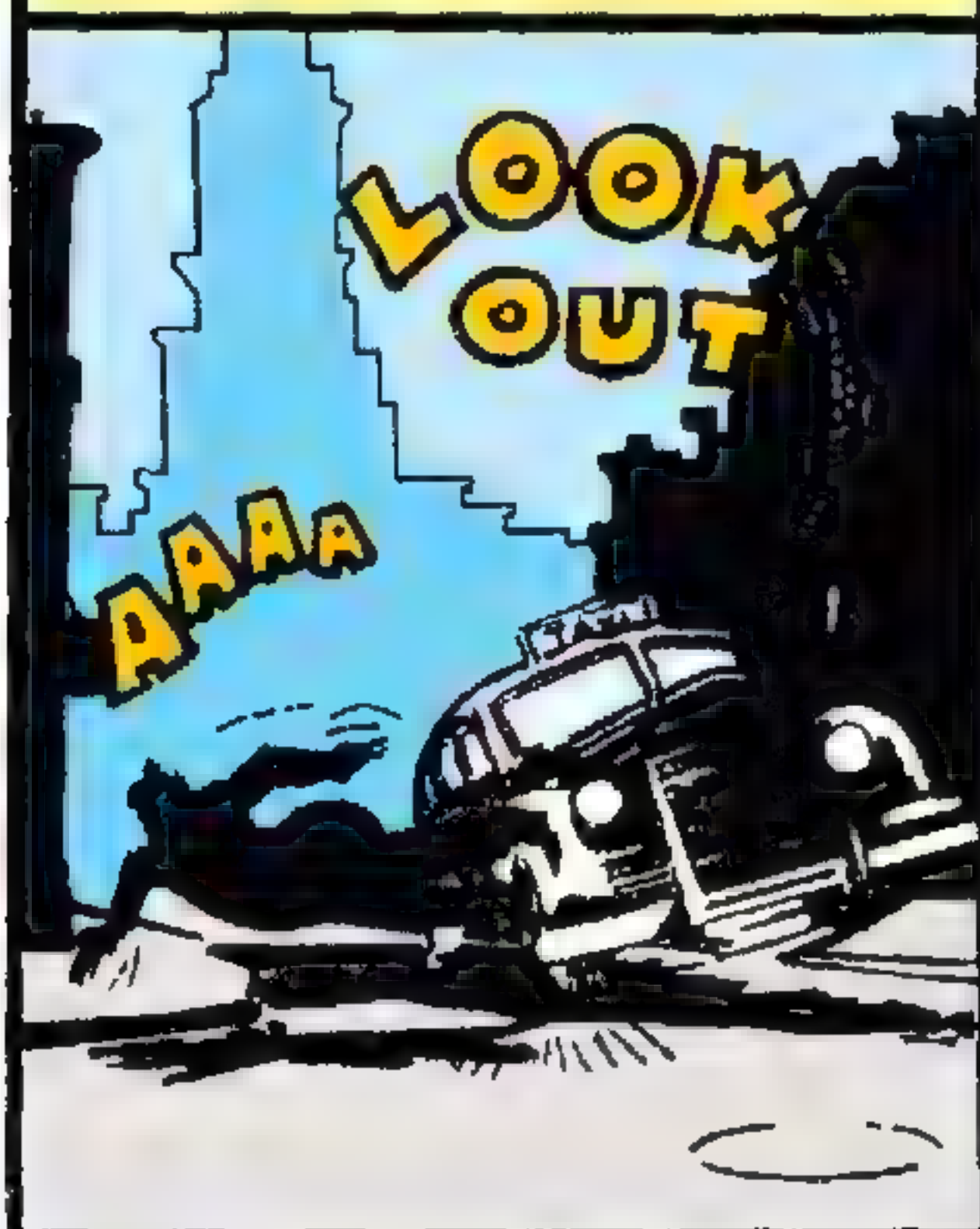
AH, YES--MADAME CALAGRA'S CLIENTS WILL TELL YOU--
HER PREDICTIONS ARE ALWAYS TO BE DEPENDED UPON!

TREMAINE
WENTWORTH, I SEE
YOU CAST IN A NEW ROLE
IN WHICH YOUR PART WILL
BE SO OVERSHADOWED THAT
YOU WILL NOT EVEN
THINK OF IT!

I KNEW IT!
I AM DESTINED FOR
NEW AND GREATER TRI-
UMPHS IN THE THEATER!
THE CRITICS WHO SAID I
WAS TOO OLD TO MAKE
A COMEBACK WILL
HAVE TO CHANGE
THEIR TUNE!

I MUST
PREPARE MYSELF!
HOW FORTUNATE THAT I
HAVE KEPT MY TRUNK
AND ITS CONTENTS THROUGH
THESE LEAN YEARS!
WITHOUT THOSE REMAIN-
DERS OF A GLAMOROUS
PAST, I SHOULD LOSE
ALL CONFIDENCE!

A HORN BLEATS WILDLY...
BRAKES SCREAM... A
TERRIFIED CRY IS CUT
SHORT...



AND SURE ENOUGH, TREMAINE
WENTWORTH IS "CAST IN A NEW
ROLE"...

WHAT
IS
YOUR
NAME?

NAME?...
MY NAME?...
WHY--WHY--
I CAN'T RE-
MEMBER!

HMM...
THE SHOCK
HAS AFFECTED
YOUR
MEMORY!

...A ROLE IN WHICH HIS PAST IS
OVERSHADOWED COMPLETELY, SO
THAT HE DOES NOT THINK OF IT,
HOWEVER MUCH HE TRIES!

WHO AM I?...
WHO WAS I?...
ARE YOU SURE
I CARRIED NO
IDENTIFICATION?

DON'T WORRY SO
MUCH ABOUT
IT...PEOPLE
OFTEN LOSE
THEIR MEM-
ORY ONLY
TO REGAIN
IT IN A
FEW WEEKS
OR MONTHS!

MEANWHILE, YET ANOTHER ANXIOUS PERSON
HAS SOUGHT THE GYPSY'S ADVICE...

THE CARDS NEVER
LIE! YOU ARE KNOWN
AS DIAMOND PETE
RANSOME, AND
PRECIOUS STONES
ARE YOUR
WEAKNESS!

WEAKNESS! THAT'S
A GOOD ONE!...BUT
TELL ME SOME-
THING I DON'T
ALREADY KNOW!

STRONG
AND DANGEROUS
FIGHTERS SHALL
FOLLOW YOU! THEY
SHALL HELP YOU ENTER
A HEAVILY - GUARDED
PLACE ... YOU SHALL
BE WELL-REWARDED
FOR YOUR
LABORS!

NOW YOU'RE
TALKING, OLD GIRL!
HERE'S A C-NOTE
FOR TAKING A
LOAD OFF MY
MIND!

LIKE MOST PEOPLE WHO LISTEN TO ORACLES, DIAMOND PETE RANSOME INTERPRETS THE FORTUNE-TELLERS WORDS TO SUIT HIS OWN WISHES...

EVERYTHING'S OKAY, BOYS! I'VE GOT IT STRAIGHT THAT, WITH YOU BACKING ME UP, WE CAN CRASH THE STEEL DOORS OF THAT JEWELRY SHOP AND MAKE A RICH HAUL!

THE WAY THE CARDS ARE RUNNIN' AGAINST ME, I'LL NEED MY SHARE!

WE ALL NEED IT, SINCE PETE WON'T LET US TOUCH THE SWAG FROM OUR LAST JOB TILL THE COPS SORTA FORGET ABOUT THE WATCH-MAN BEING BUMPED OFF!

NIGHT-- AND THE HISSING FLAME OF AN ACETYLENE TORCH CASTS AN UNEARTHLY BLUE GLOW IN AN ALLEY...

AFTER WE BURN DOWN THIS DOOR...WE'LL BLOW UP THE SAFE INSIDE!

WE OUGHTTA GET A MILLION OUTA THIS JOINT!

SUDDENLY, TWO OTHER "STRONG AND DANGEROUS FIGHTERS," WHO HAVE FOLLOWED DIAMOND PETE, SWOOP DOWN OUT OF THE DARKNESS!

I THOUGHT WE'D HAVE SOME FUN IF WE TAGGED YOU, DIAMOND PETE!

WHA--? THE GYPSY DIDN'T MENTION THEM-- OR DID SHE?

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

A LEFT TO THE JAW FOR LEFTY!

JOE IS GETTING A BIG KICK OUT OF THIS!

HERE'S WHERE I MAKE THE PARTY LOUDER AND FUNNIER!

JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES, PETE, AND YOU'LL SEE DIAMONDS!

AT THE POLICE STATION...

SO YOU WON'T TELL US YOUR ADDRESS, PETE?

I'M NOT SAYING A WORD!

PETE WAS SUSPECTED OF THAT FATAL JEWEL ROBBERY... IF THERE WAS EVIDENCE AT HIS HIDEOUT, NATURALLY HE WOULDN'T TELL!

SCORE 100 FOR MME. CALAGRA FOR IN DUE TIME PETE ENTERS A "HEAVILY-GUARDED PLACE" WELL REWARDED FOR HIS ILLEGAL LABORS!

A YEAR TO SERVE-- IF THE COPS FIND MY TRUNK, I'LL NEVER COME OUT!

So FATE BEGINS THE WEAVING OF A WEIRD DESIGN IN THREADS OF THREE CONTRASTING COLORS -- THREE LIVES, AS DIFFERENT AS SPRING IS FROM AUTUMN, AND AUTUMN FROM MIDWINTER! AND YET, YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED THAT THESE THREE HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON, BESIDES THEIR CURIOSITY ABOUT THE FUTURE... EACH OWNS A TRUNK AND PRIZES ITS CONTENTS.. AND EACH, FOR THE TIME BEING, HAS LOST IT!

A YEAR PASSES-- AND ONE OF THE SLENDER THREADS REACHES INTO THE HOME OF **BRUCE WAYNE** AND HIS YOUNG WARD, **DICK GRAYSON**--

HUH?...TIME TO GET UP?... BUT IT'S NOT DAY-LIGHT YET!

THE EARLY BIRD GETS THE WORM!

THE EARLY BIRD COULD BE **ROBIN**-- BUT WHO'S THE WORM?

A FRIEND NAMED **DIAMOND PETE** RANSOME LEAVES PRISON THIS MORNING! RE-MEMBER HIM?

PRESENTLY...

HERE'S STATE PRISON, BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY WE'RE GOING TO TRAIL PETE! WE DIDN'T BOTHER WHEN HE TURNED HIS PALS LOOSE, THREE MONTHS AGO!

THEY'RE SMALL FRY-- BUT PETE HAS ENGINEERED A GOOD MANY CRIMES BESIDES ATTEMPTED ROBBERY FOR WHICH HE WAS SENTENCED... WE'RE GOING TO TRY TO FIND OUT ABOUT THEM!

NOR ARE **BRUCE** AND **DICK** THE ONLY ONES ON HAND TO GREET THE PRISON-WEARY CRIMINAL...

THE GATE'LL OPEN ANY MINUTE, JOE!

I'M MORE INTERESTED IN THAT TRUNKFUL O' SWAG SWINGIN' OPEN! I AIN'T SEEN ANY BIG DOUGH SINCE THEY TURNED ME LOOSE!

A BOLT SNICKS BACK... A METAL-STUDDED GATE OPENS ON MASSIVE HINGES... AND **DIAMOND PETE** IS A FREE MAN AGAIN!

SO YOU DID REMEMBER ME!

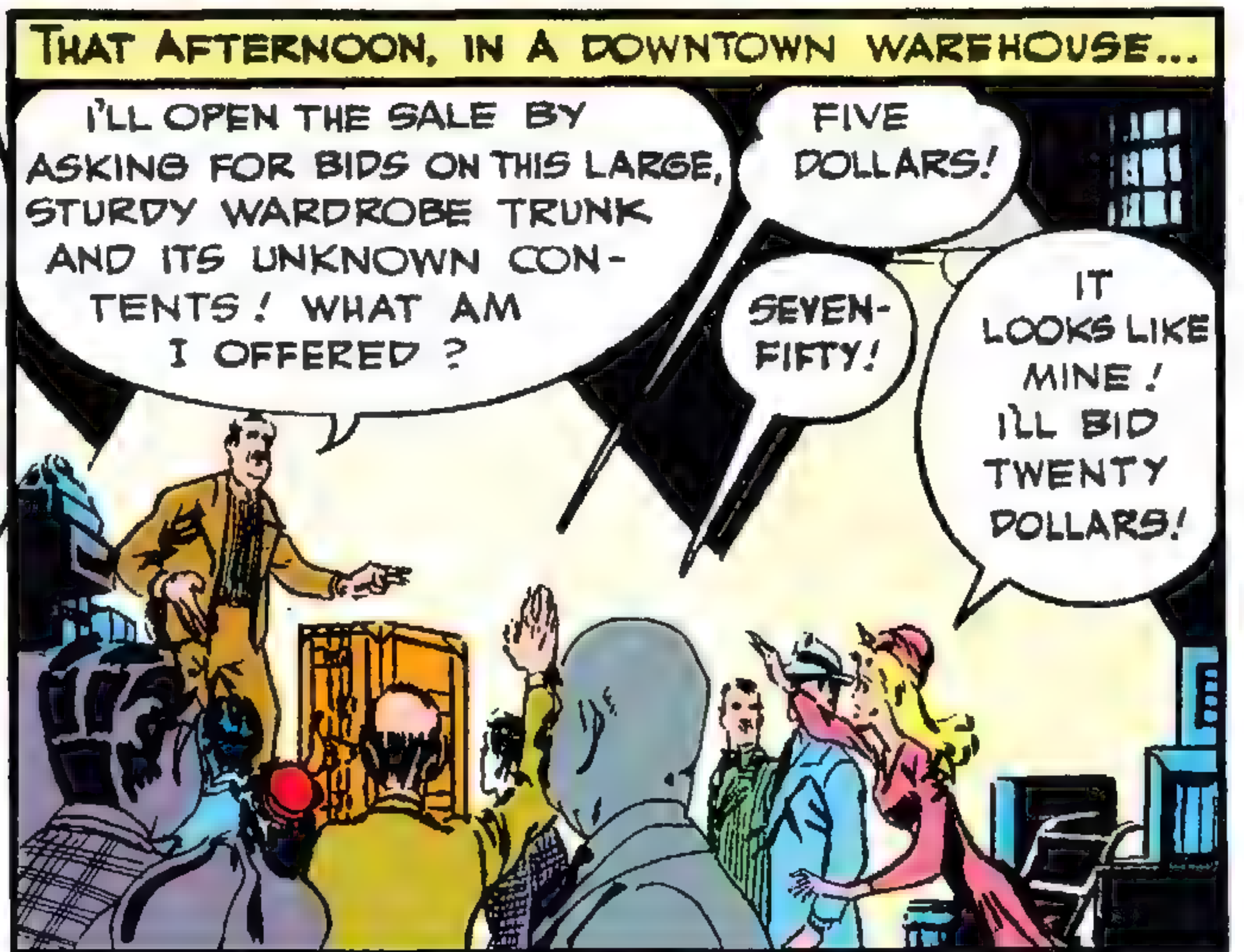
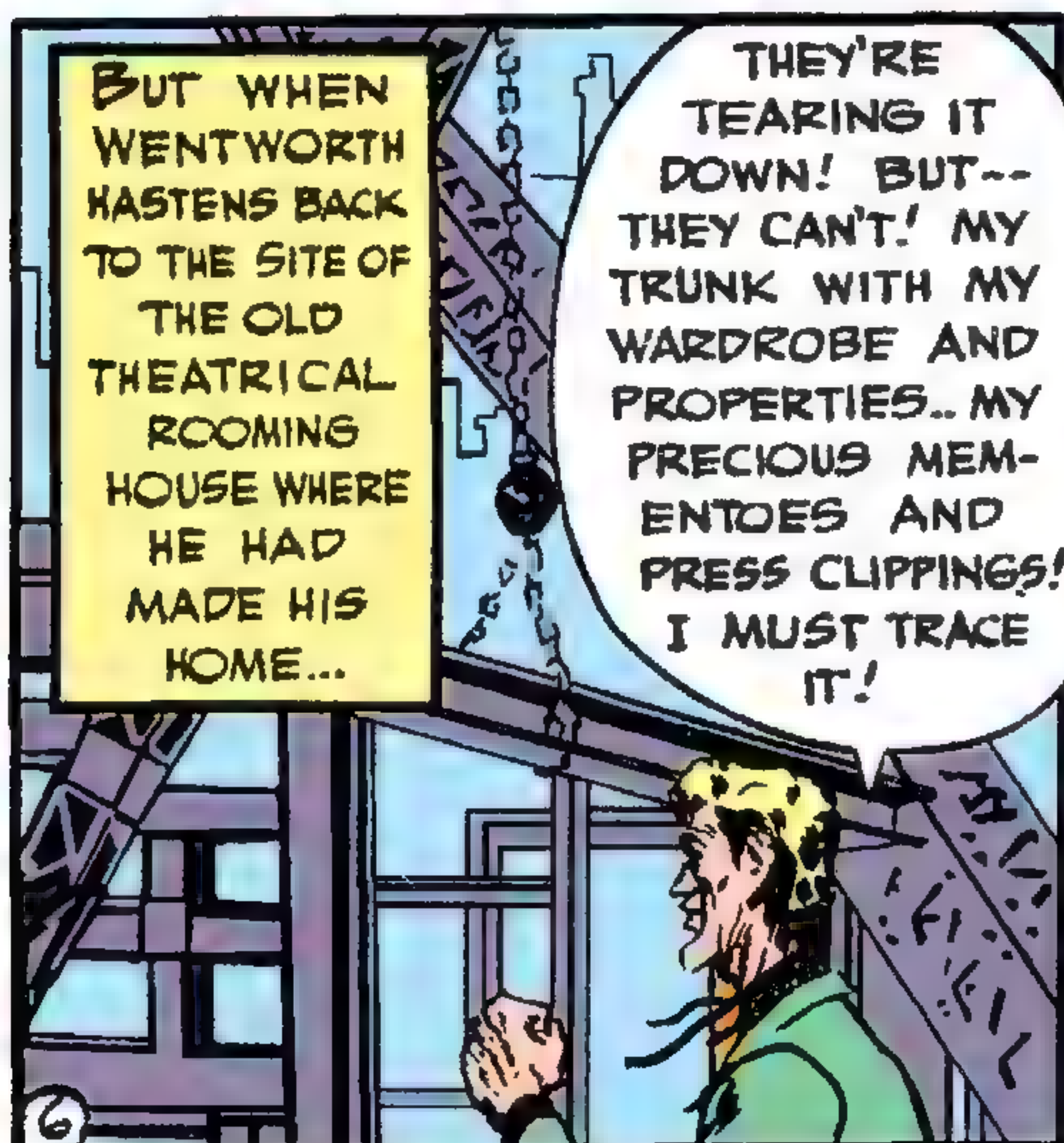
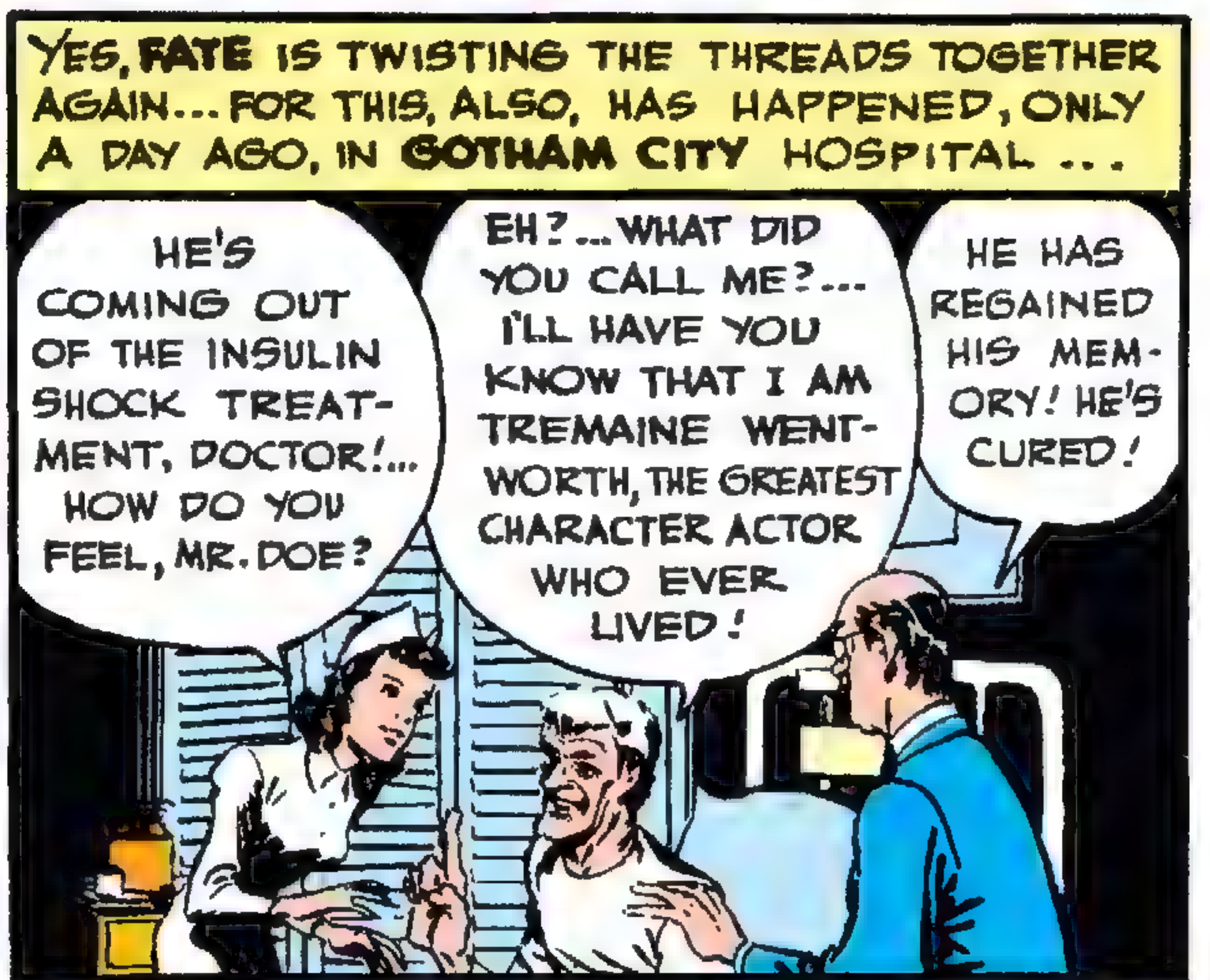
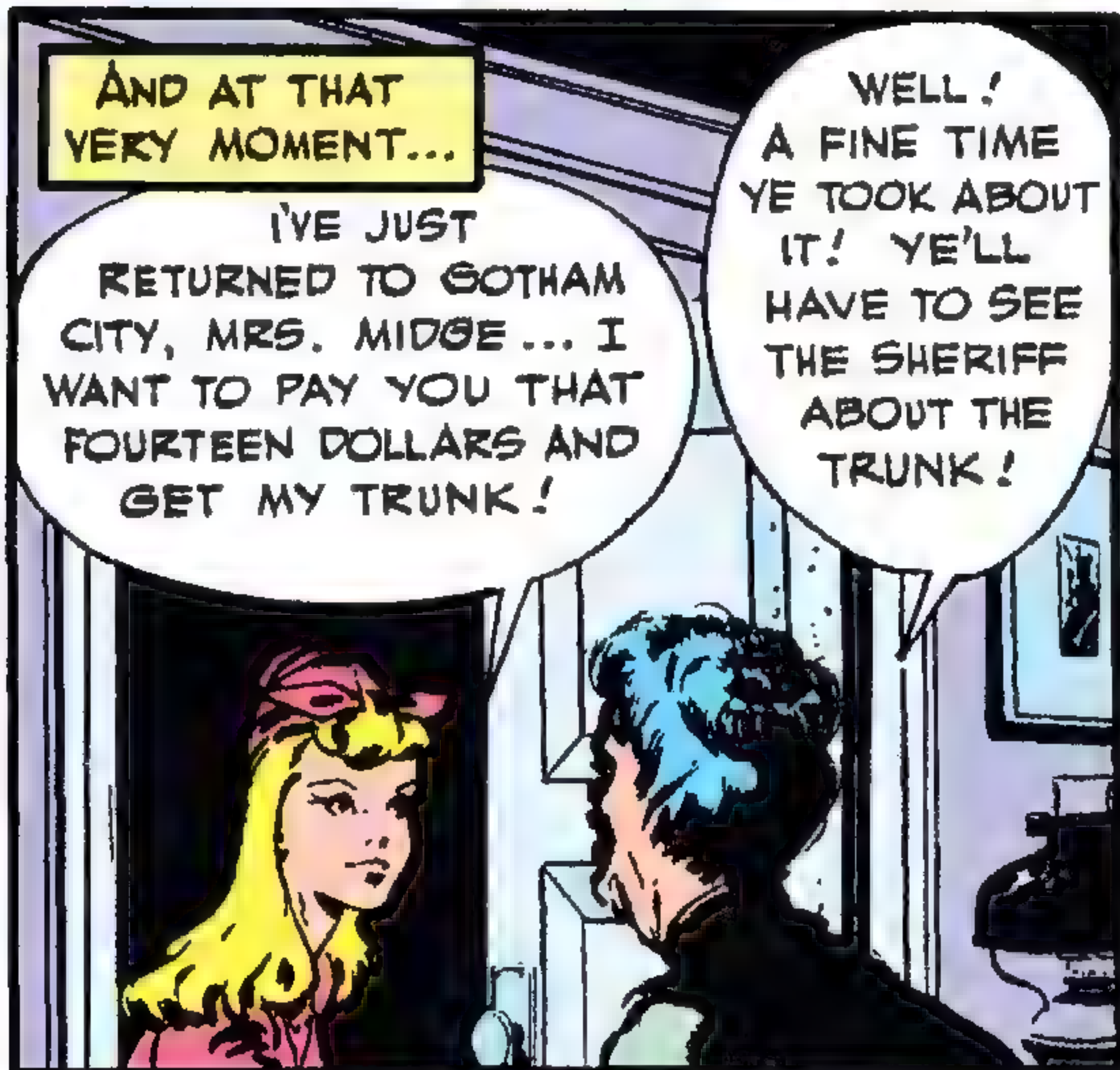
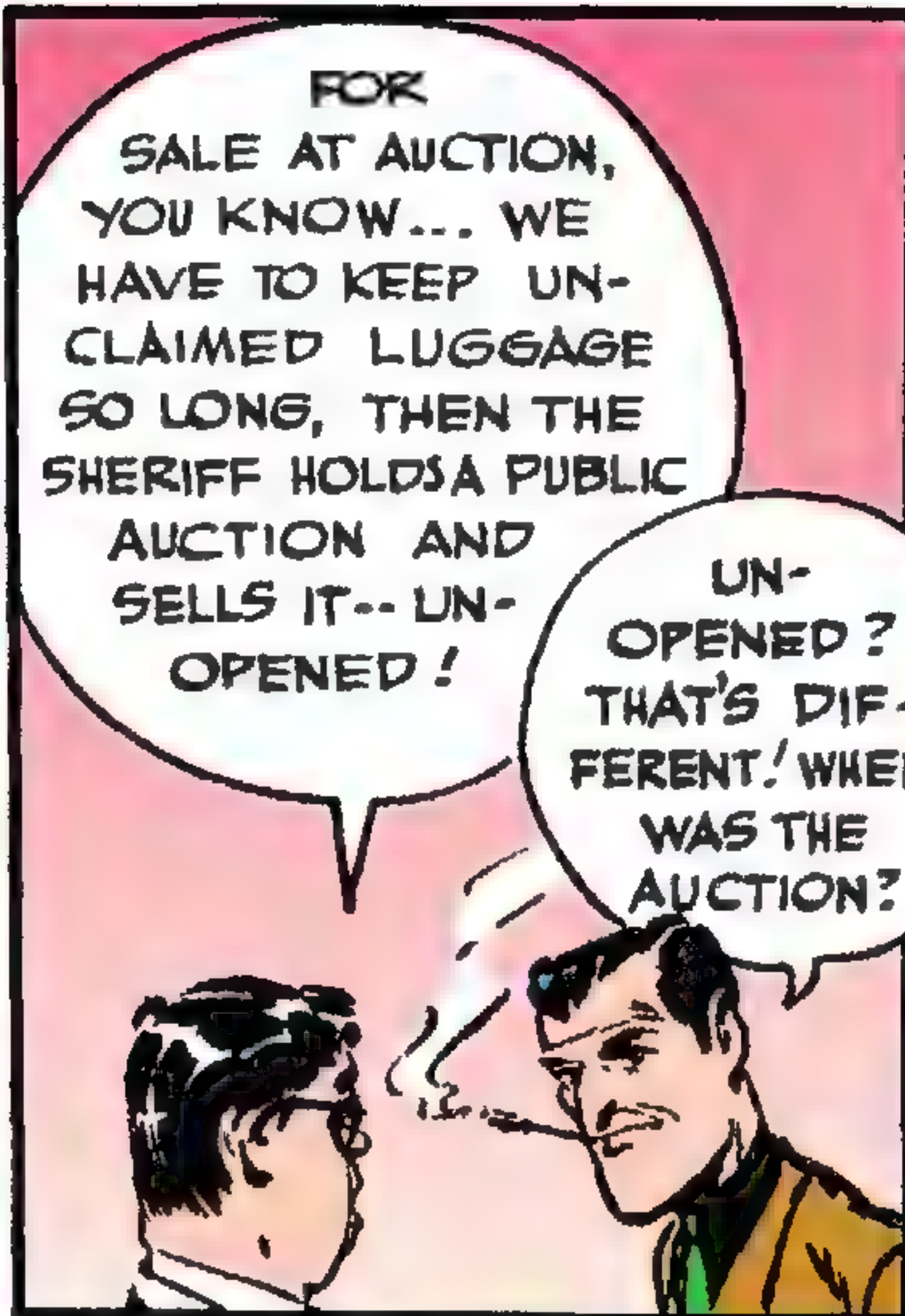
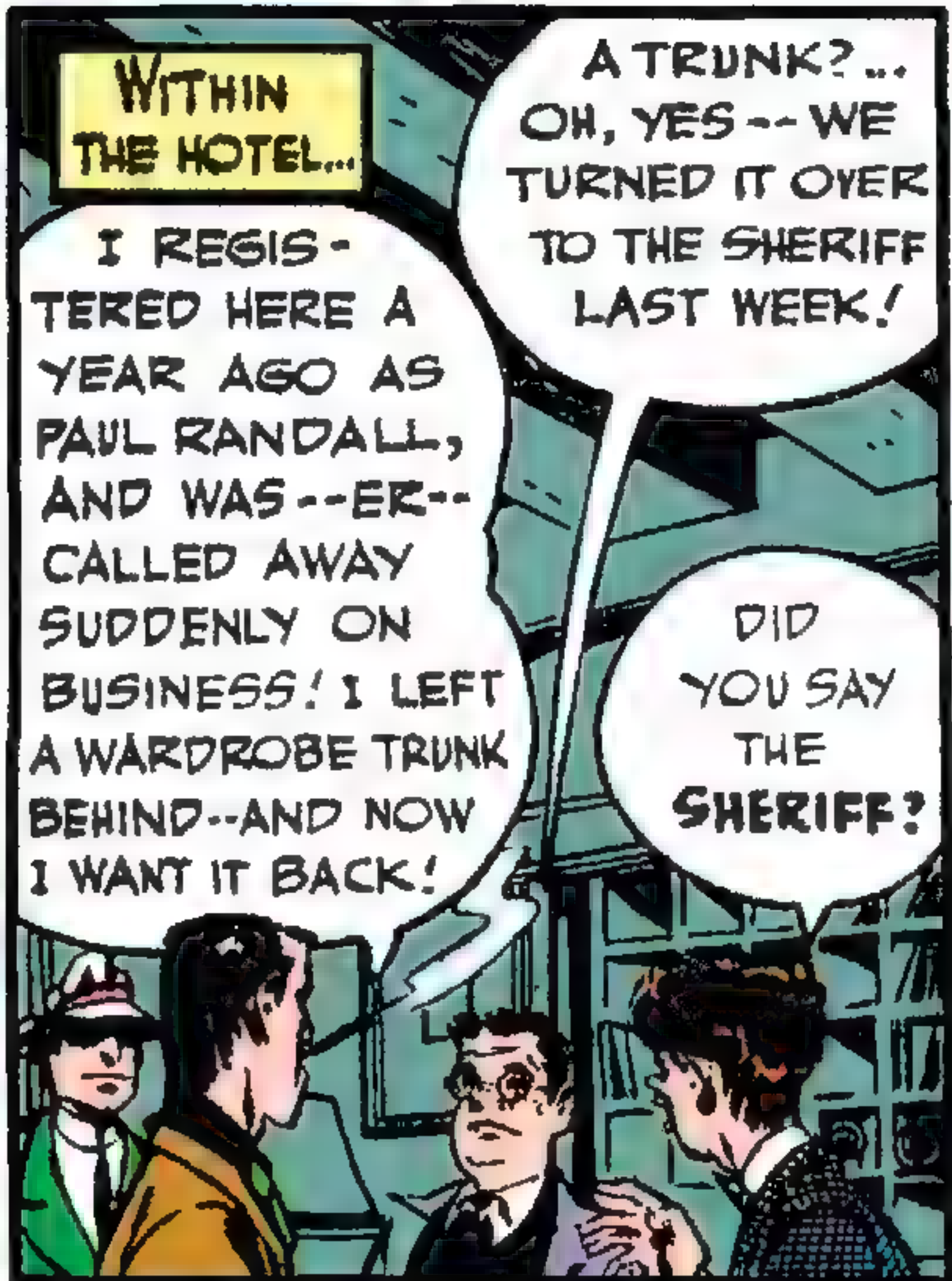
WHY NOT? AIN'T YOU OUR PAL?

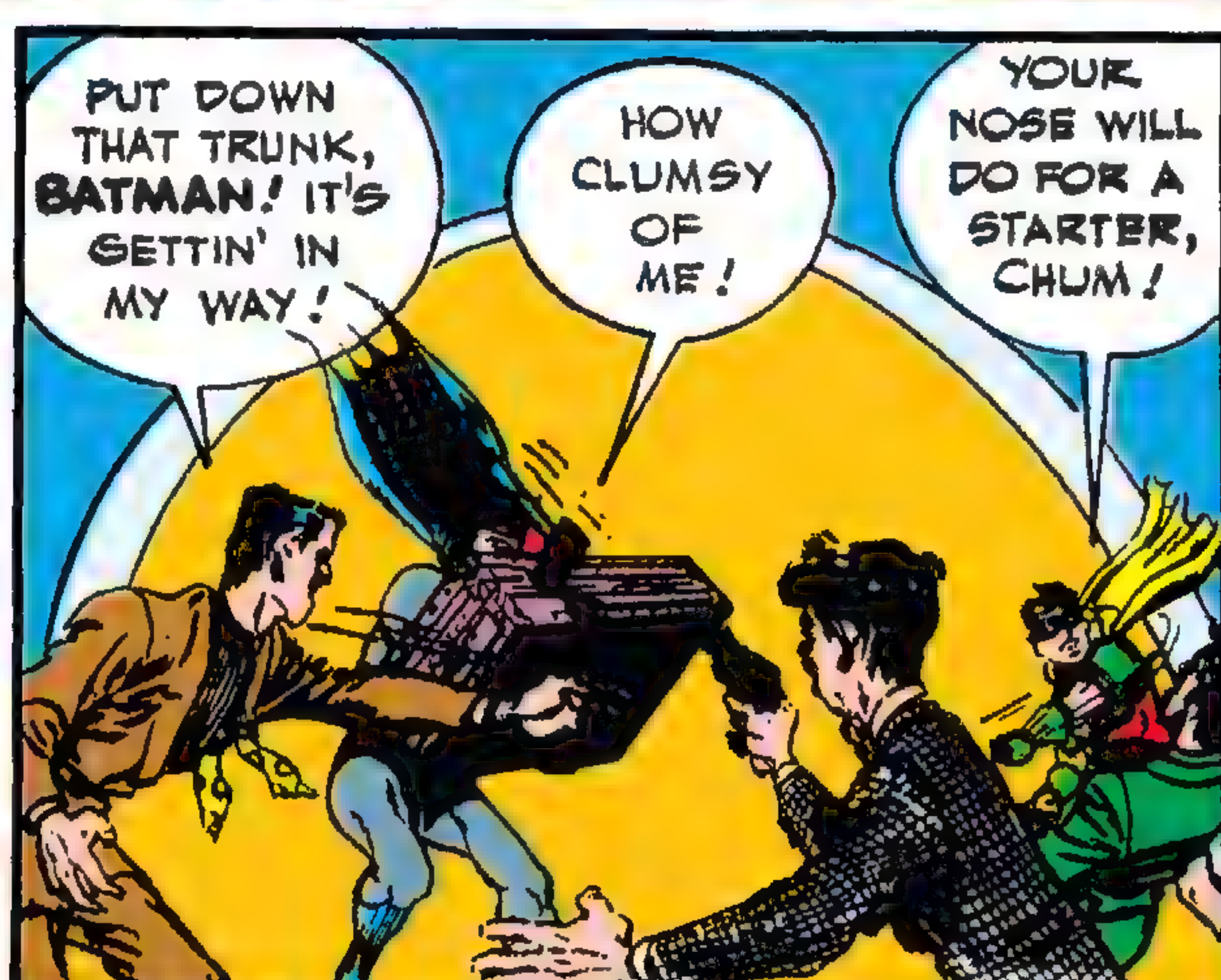
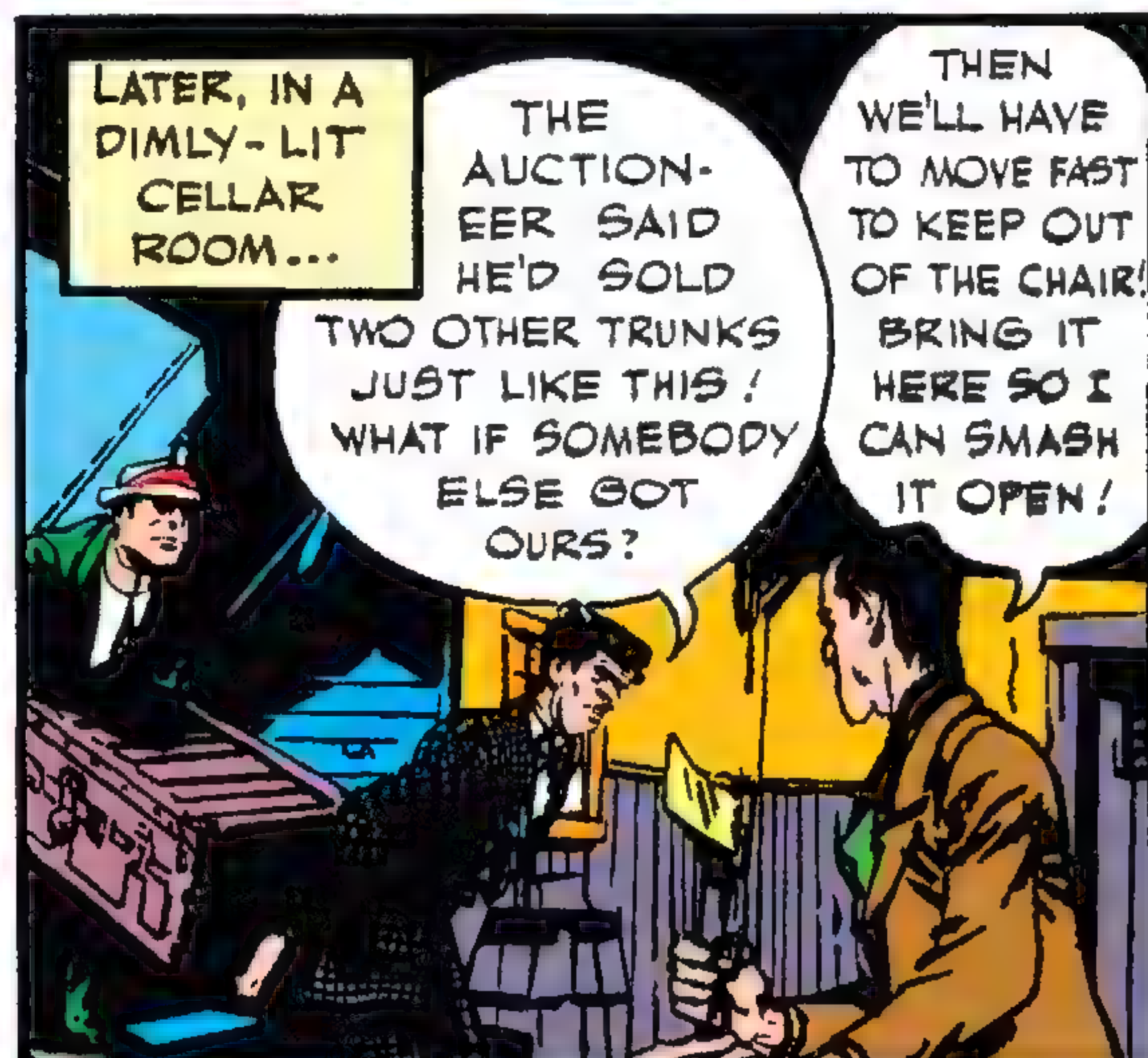
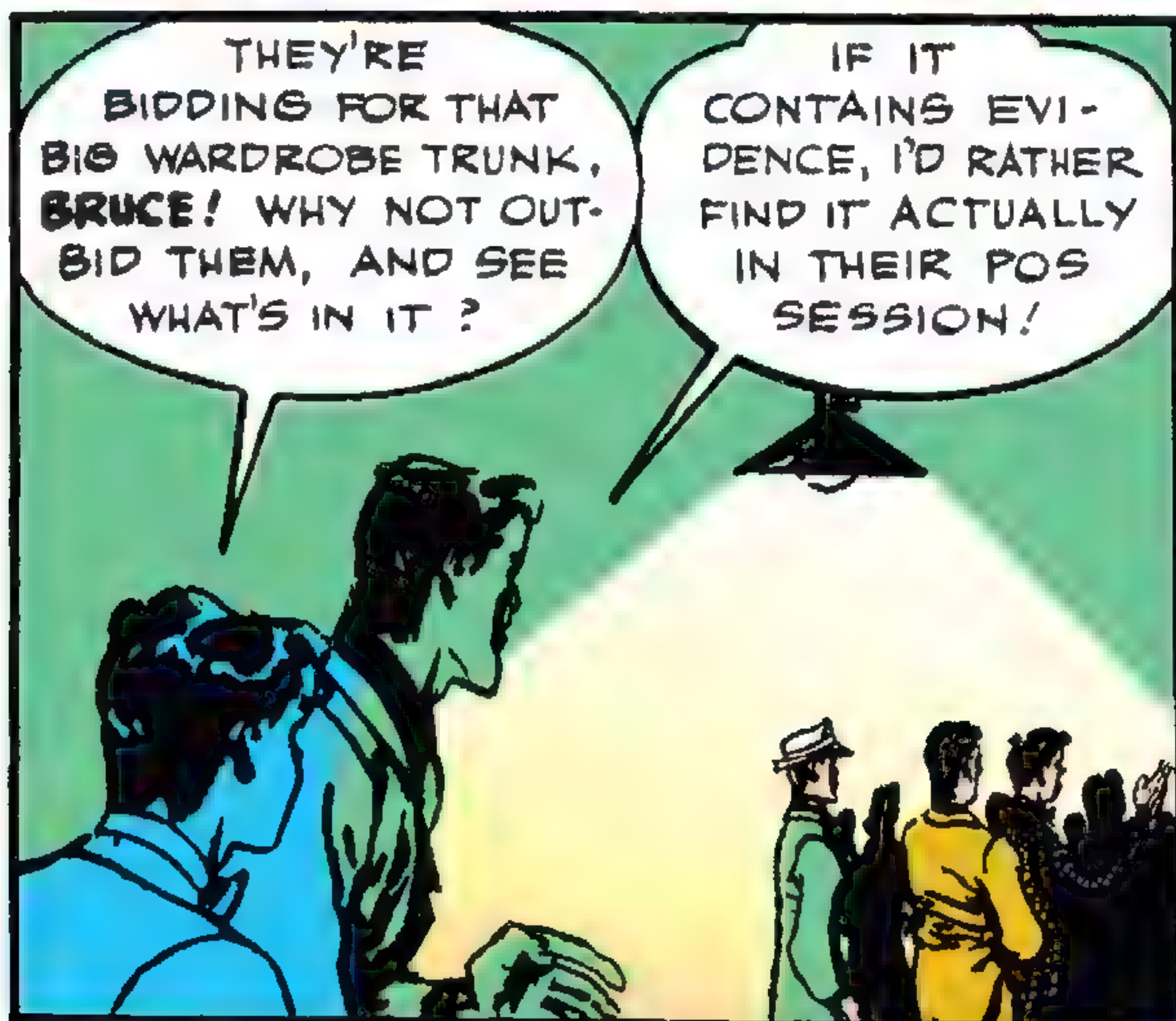
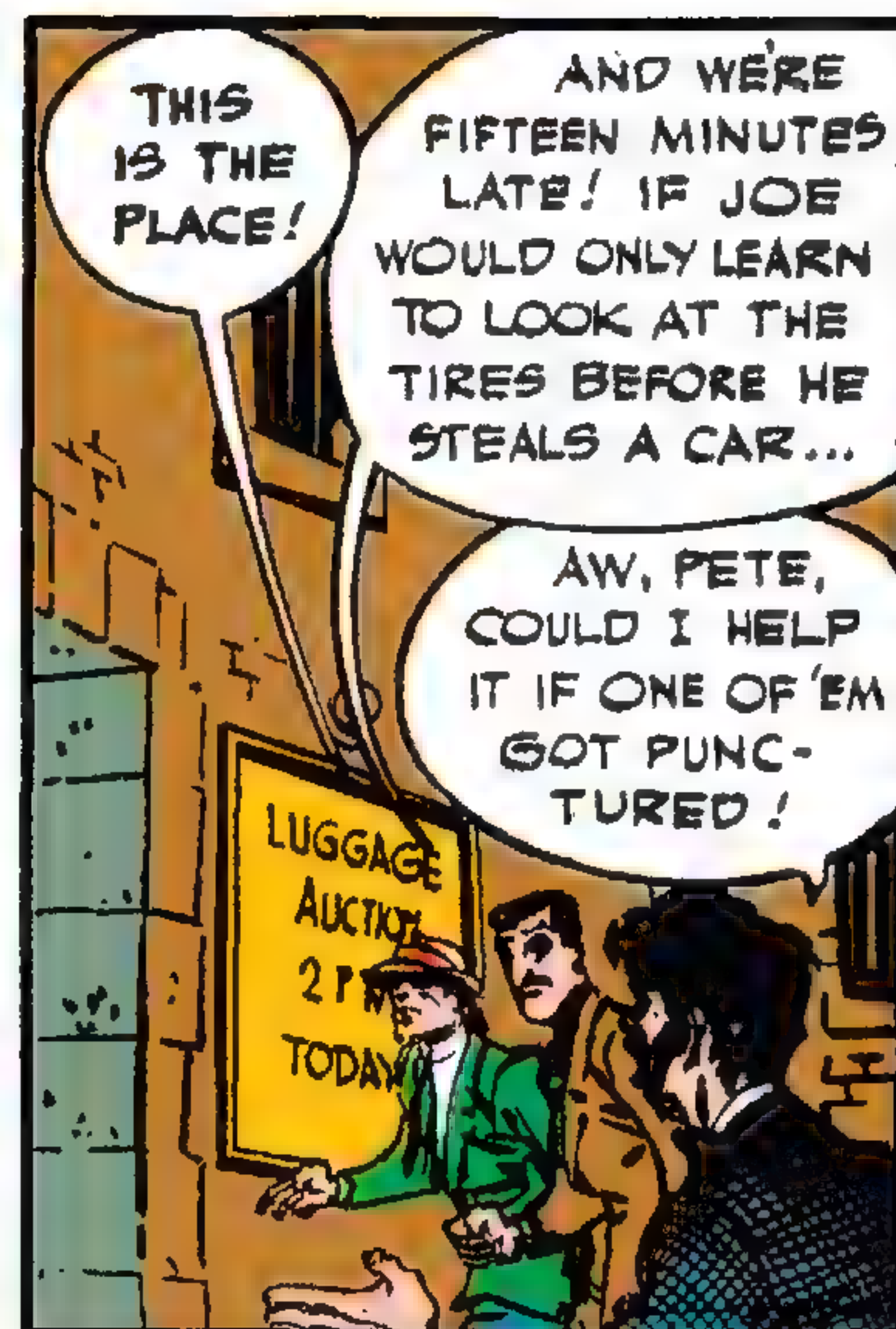
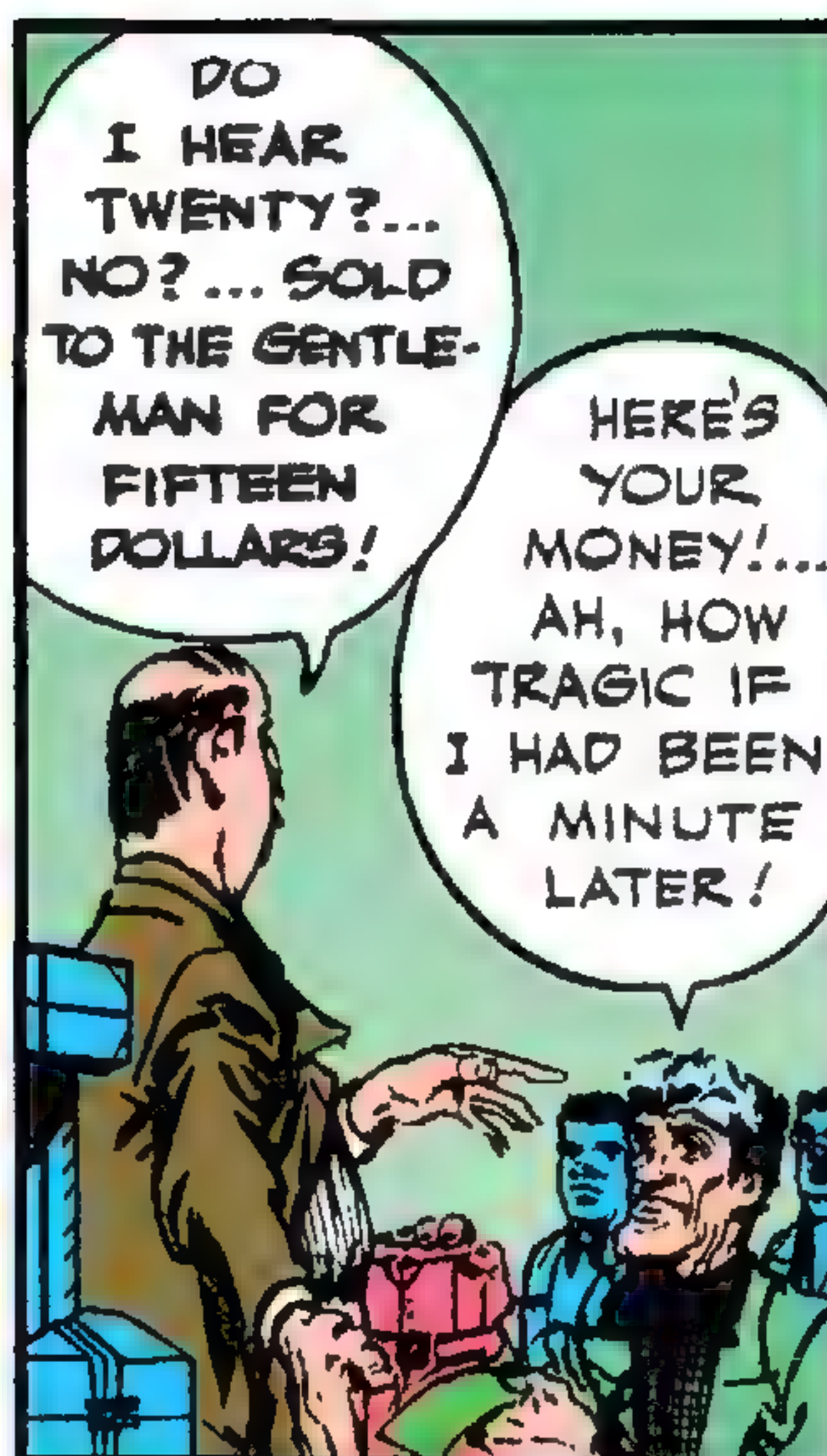
AN' BESIDES, THERE'S THAT MESS O' DIAMONDS YOU GOT STOWED AWAY-- ENOUGH TO KEEP US ON EASY STREET FOR A LONG TIME!

UNNOTICED IN THE MORNING TRAFFIC, **BRUCE WAYNE'S** ROADSTER TRAILS THE GANGSTER'S CAR TO A SMALL HOTEL IN A SHABBY SECTION OF TOWN...

WE KEEP OUR EYES SKINNED!

THEY'RE GOING INTO THAT HOTEL! WHAT NOW?

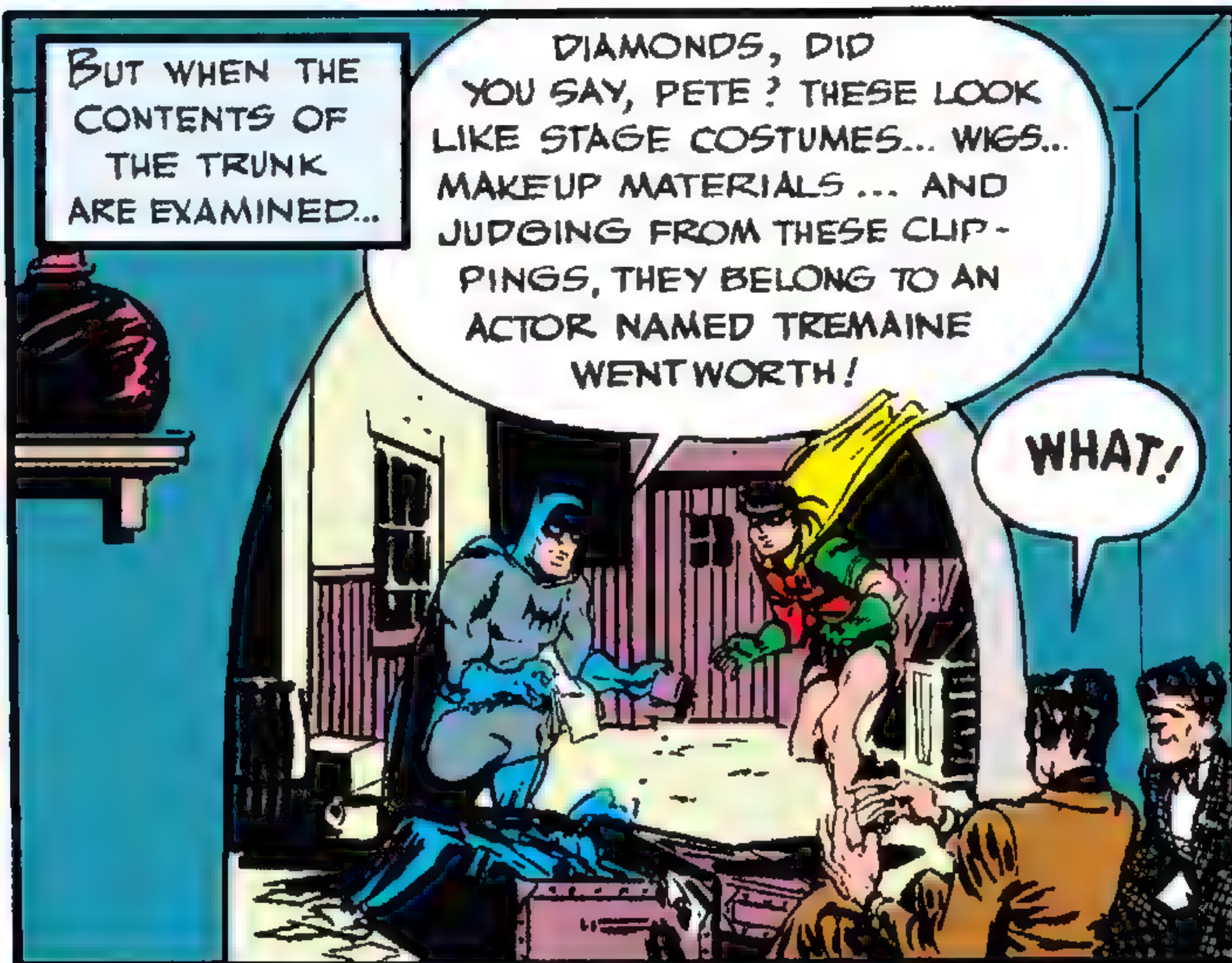






IT'S
OPENING!
THE
DIAMONDS
WILL SPILL!

I'LL
PUT IT DOWN
OVER
HERE!



BUT WHEN THE
CONTENTS OF
THE TRUNK
ARE EXAMINED...

DIAMONDS, DID
YOU SAY, PETE? THESE LOOK
LIKE STAGE COSTUMES... WIGS...
MAKEUP MATERIALS ... AND
JUDGING FROM THESE CLIP-
PINGS, THEY BELONG TO AN
ACTOR NAMED TREMAINE
WENTWORTH!

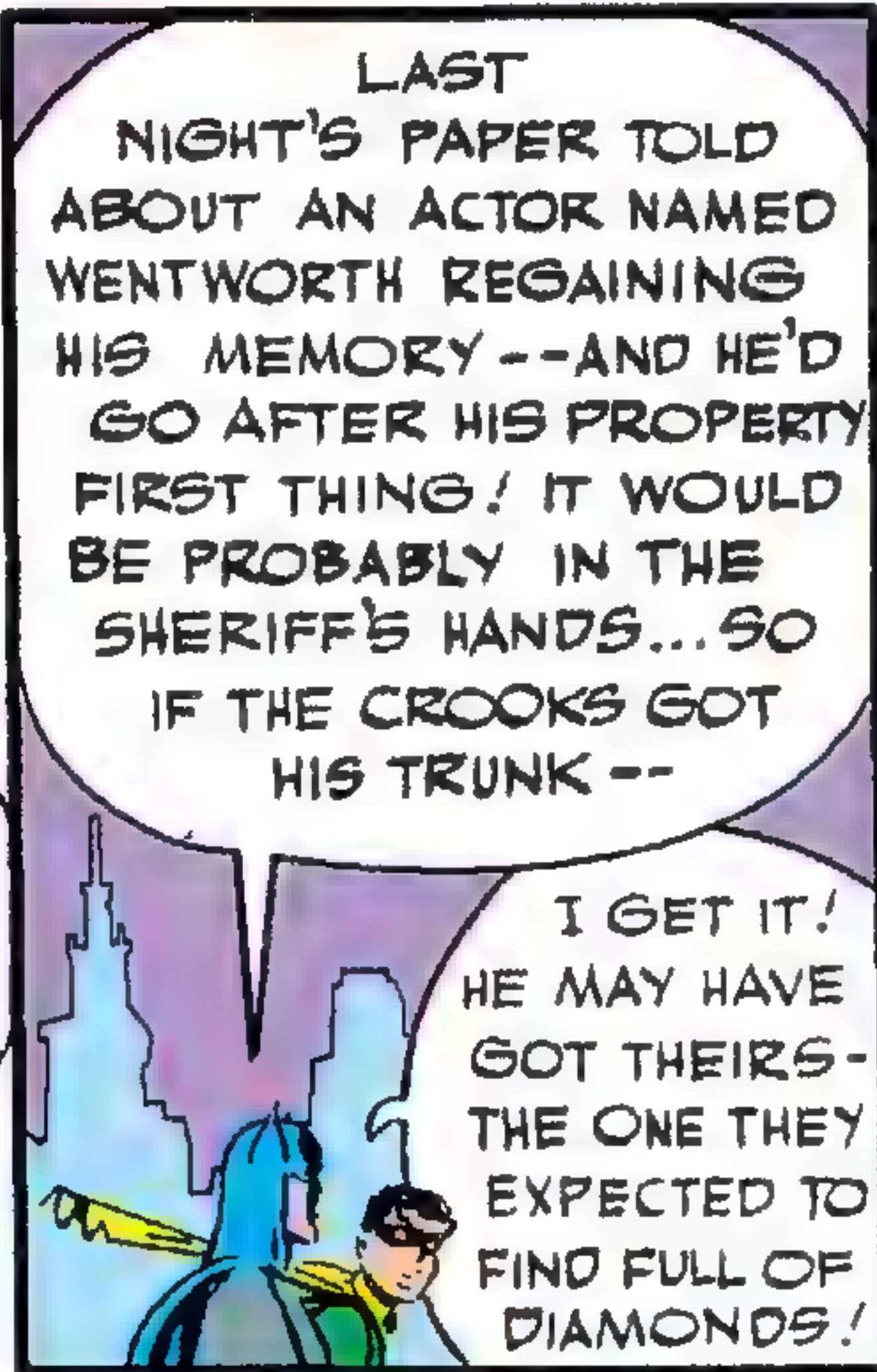
WHAT!



AREN'T
WE GOING
TO TURN THEM
OVER TO THE
POLICE FOR
TRYING TO
SHOOT US?

NO...
WE CAME HERE
WITHOUT AN IN-
VITATION ... AND
THEY BOUGHT THE
TRUNK HONESTLY!
WE SIMPLY MADE
A MISTAKE!

SOMEDAY,
BATMAN, YOU'RE
GOING TO MAKE
ONE MISTAKE
TOO MANY!



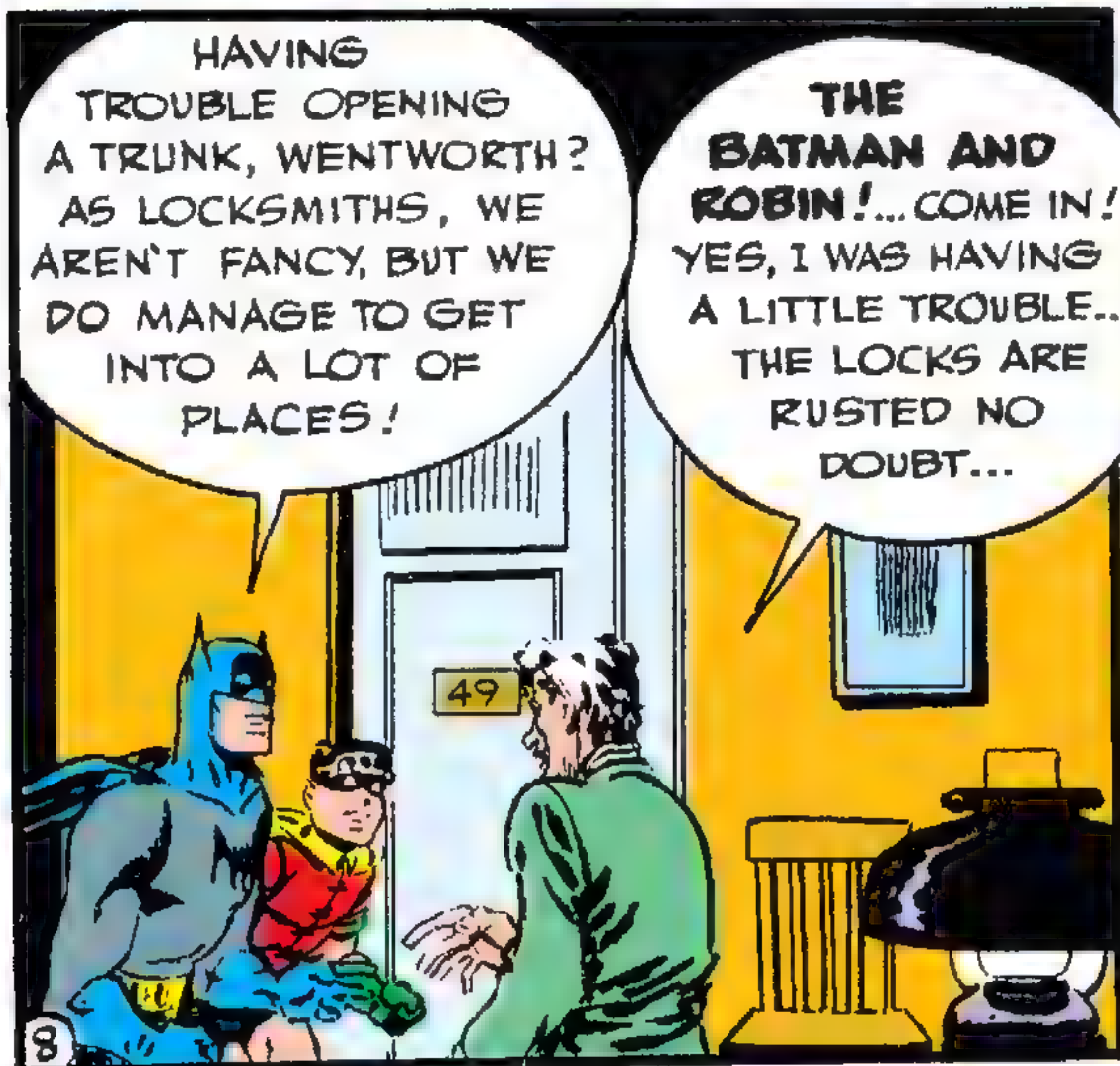
LAST
NIGHT'S PAPER TOLD
ABOUT AN ACTOR NAMED
WENTWORTH REGAINING
HIS MEMORY --AND HE'D
GO AFTER HIS PROPERTY
FIRST THING! IT WOULD
BE PROBABLY IN THE
SHERIFF'S HANDS... SO
IF THE CROOKS GOT
HIS TRUNK --

I GET IT!
HE MAY HAVE
GOT THEIRS-
THE ONE THEY
EXPECTED TO
FIND FULL OF
DIAMONDS!



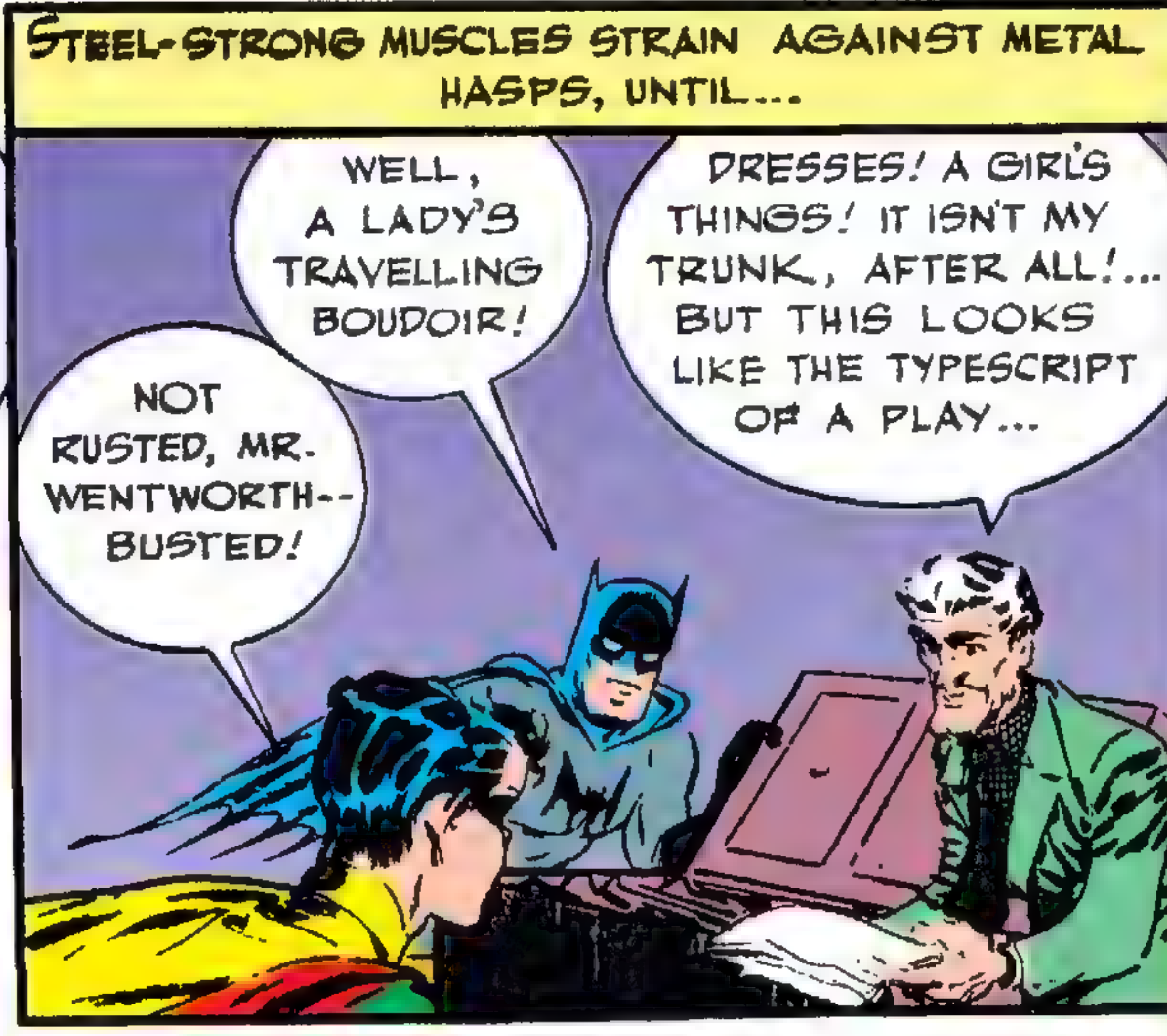
IN A HALL BEDROOM IN THE
THEATER DISTRICT...

STRANGE-
MY KEY DOESN'T FIT!
... HUH? ... SOME-
ONE'S AT THE
DOOR...



HAVING
TROUBLE OPENING
A TRUNK, WENTWORTH?
AS LOCKSMITHS, WE
AREN'T FANCY, BUT WE
DO MANAGE TO GET
INTO A LOT OF
PLACES!

THE
**BATMAN AND
ROBIN**!... COME IN!
YES, I WAS HAVING
A LITTLE TROUBLE...
THE LOCKS ARE
RUSTED NO
DOUBT...

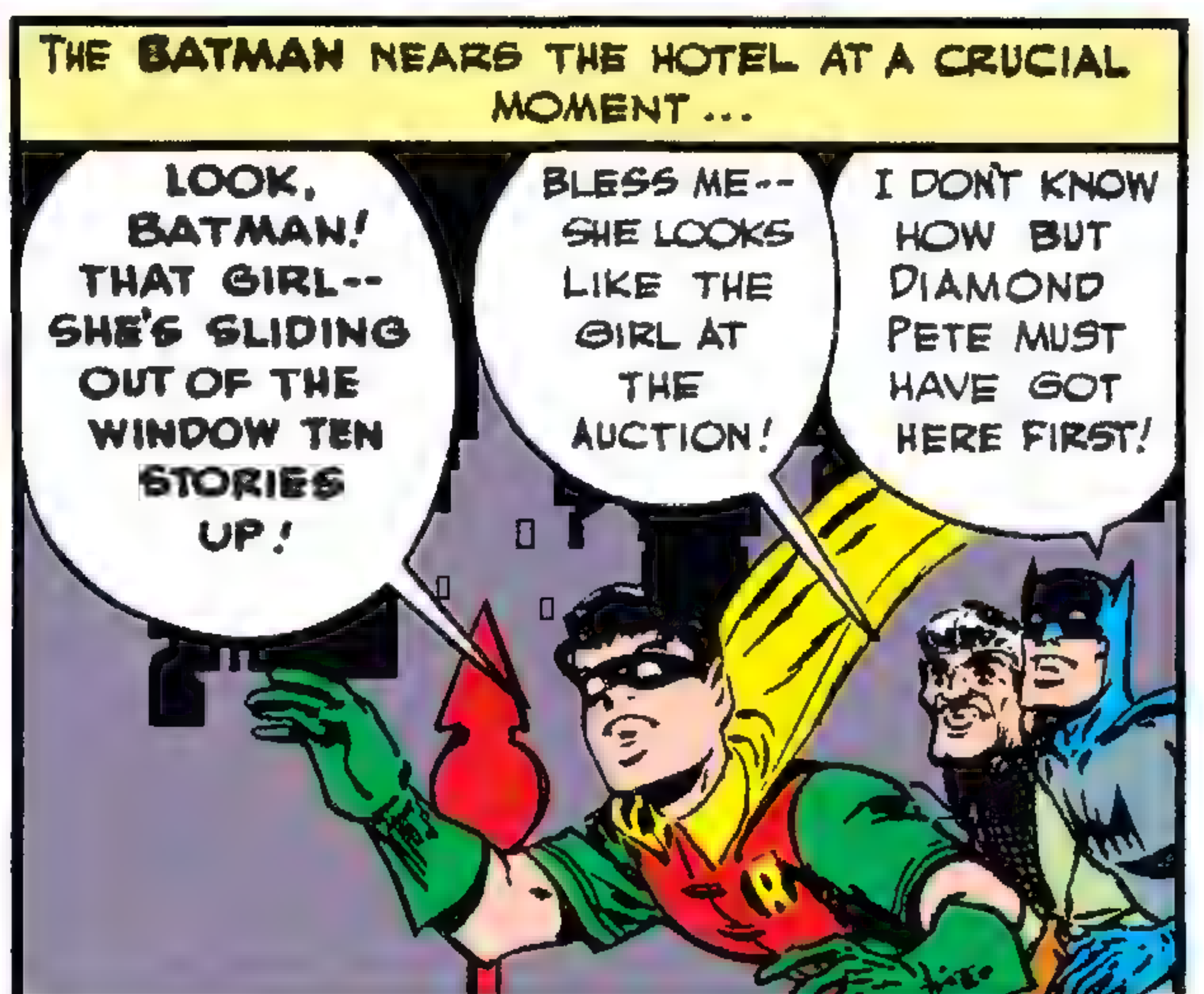
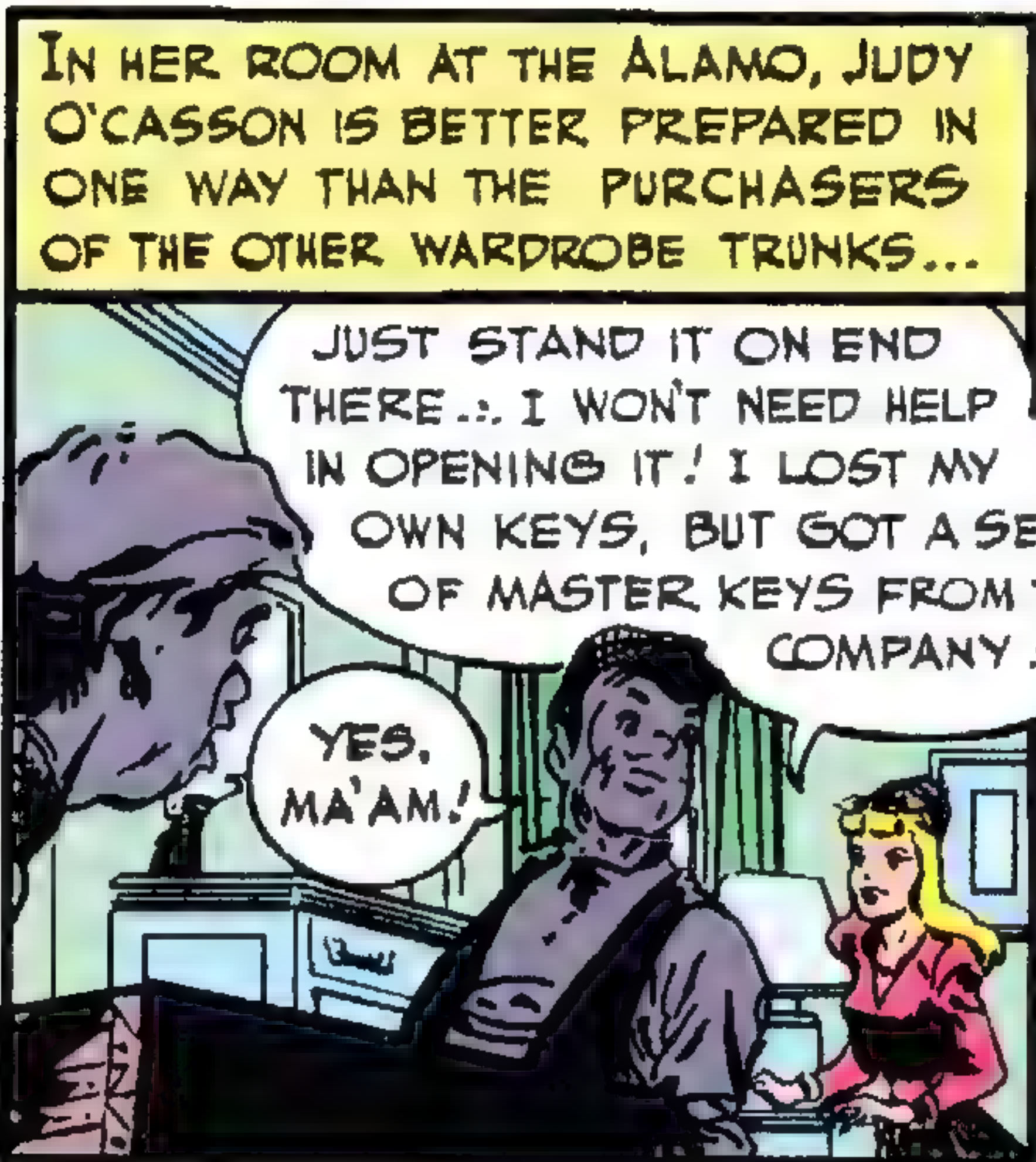
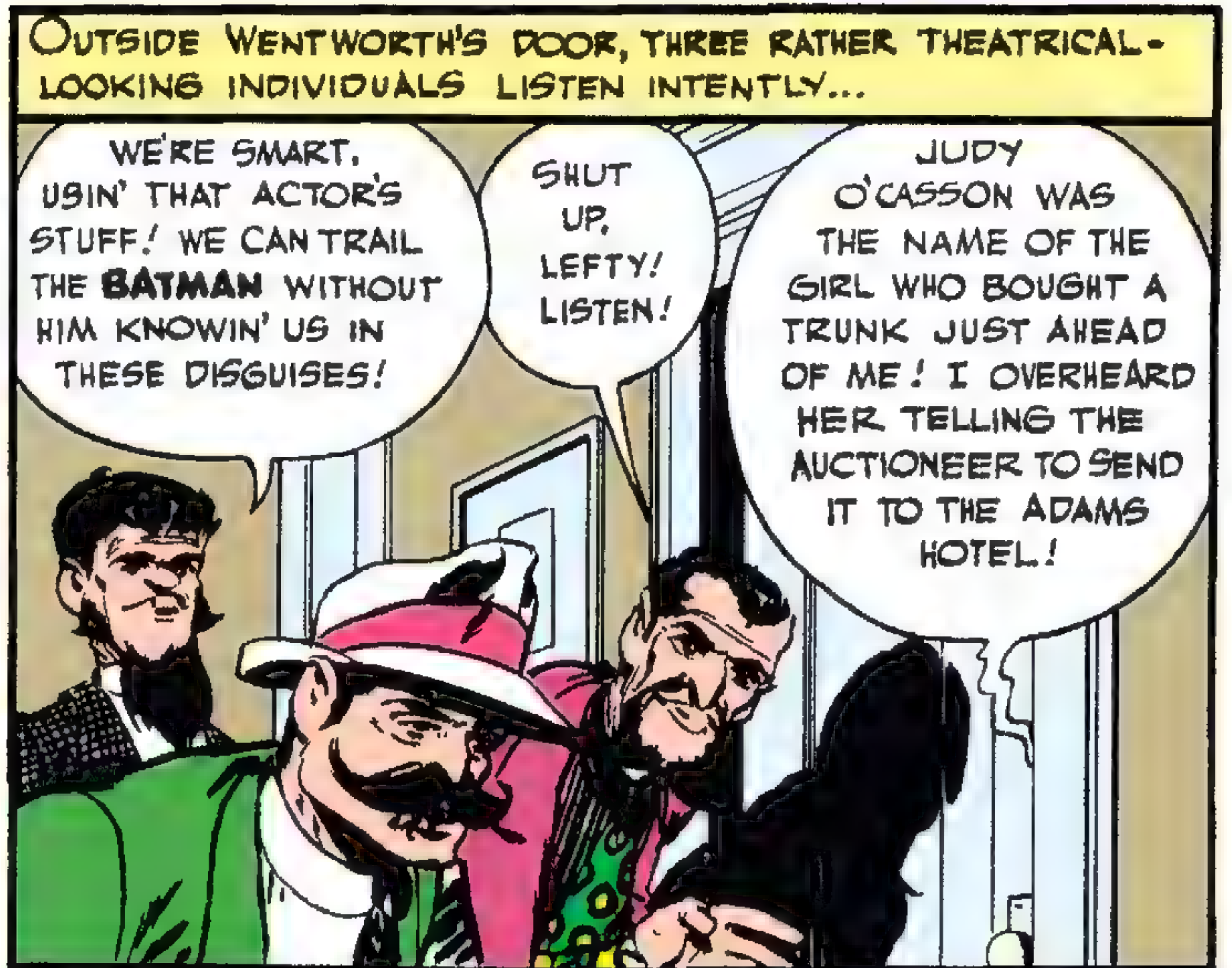
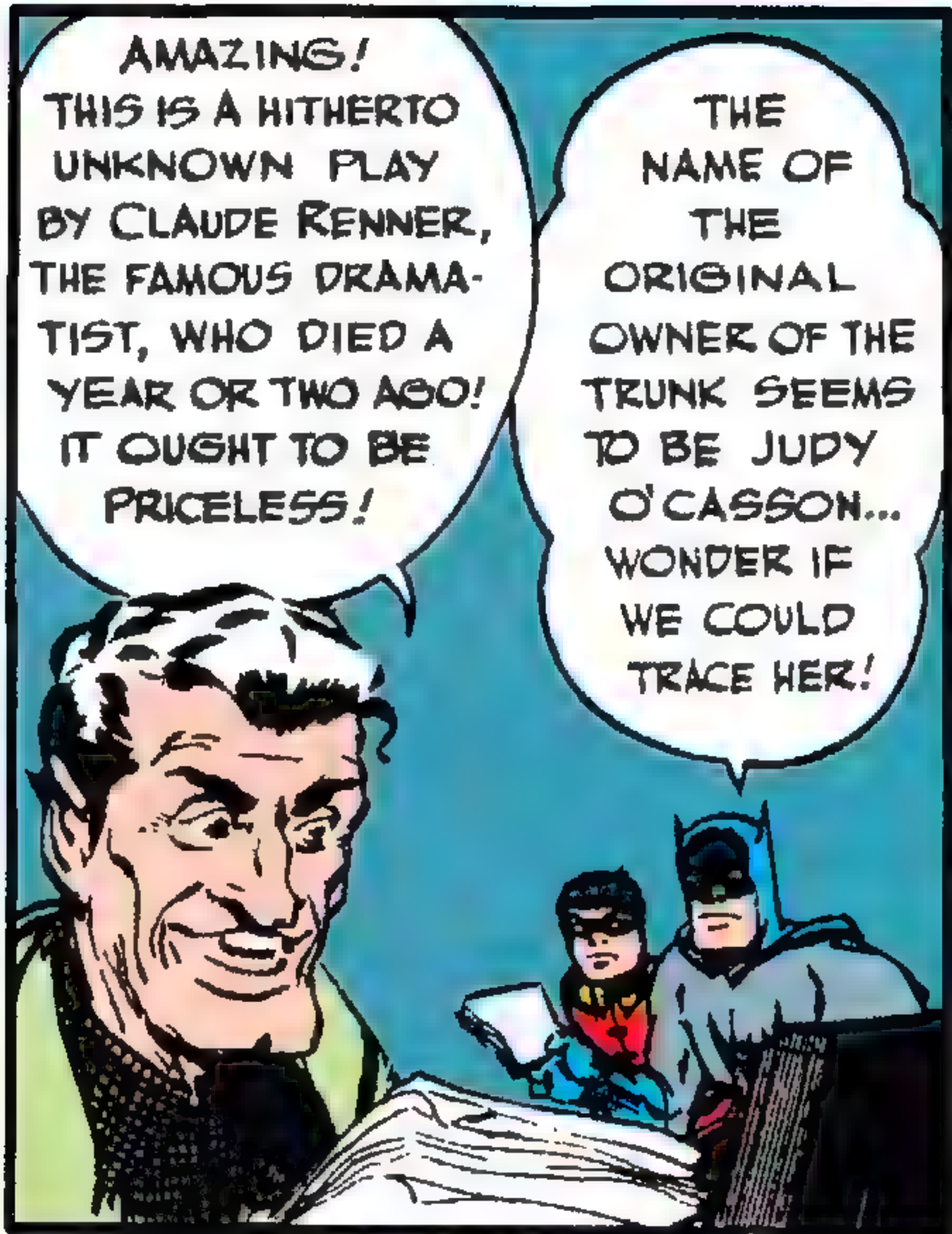


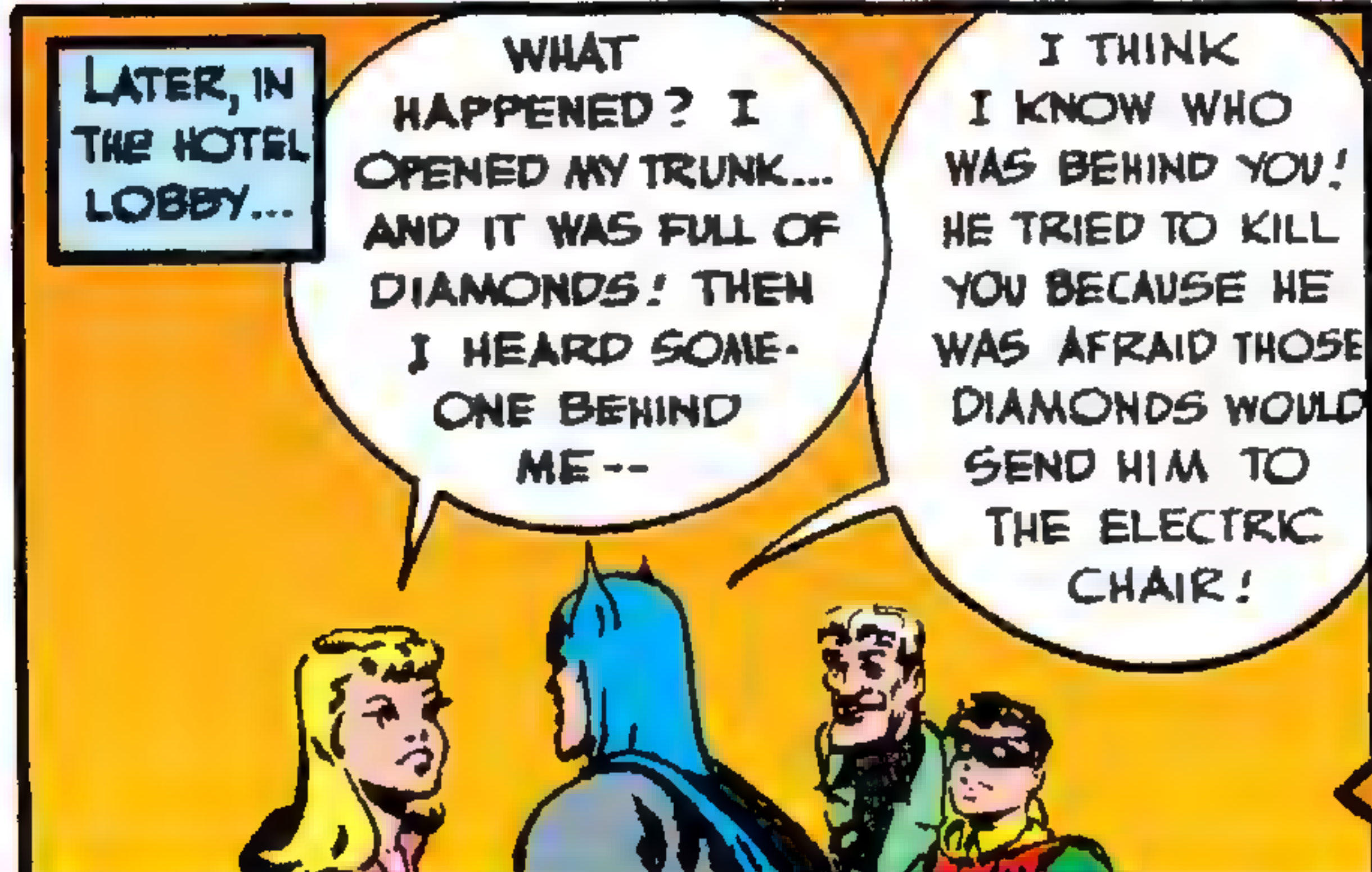
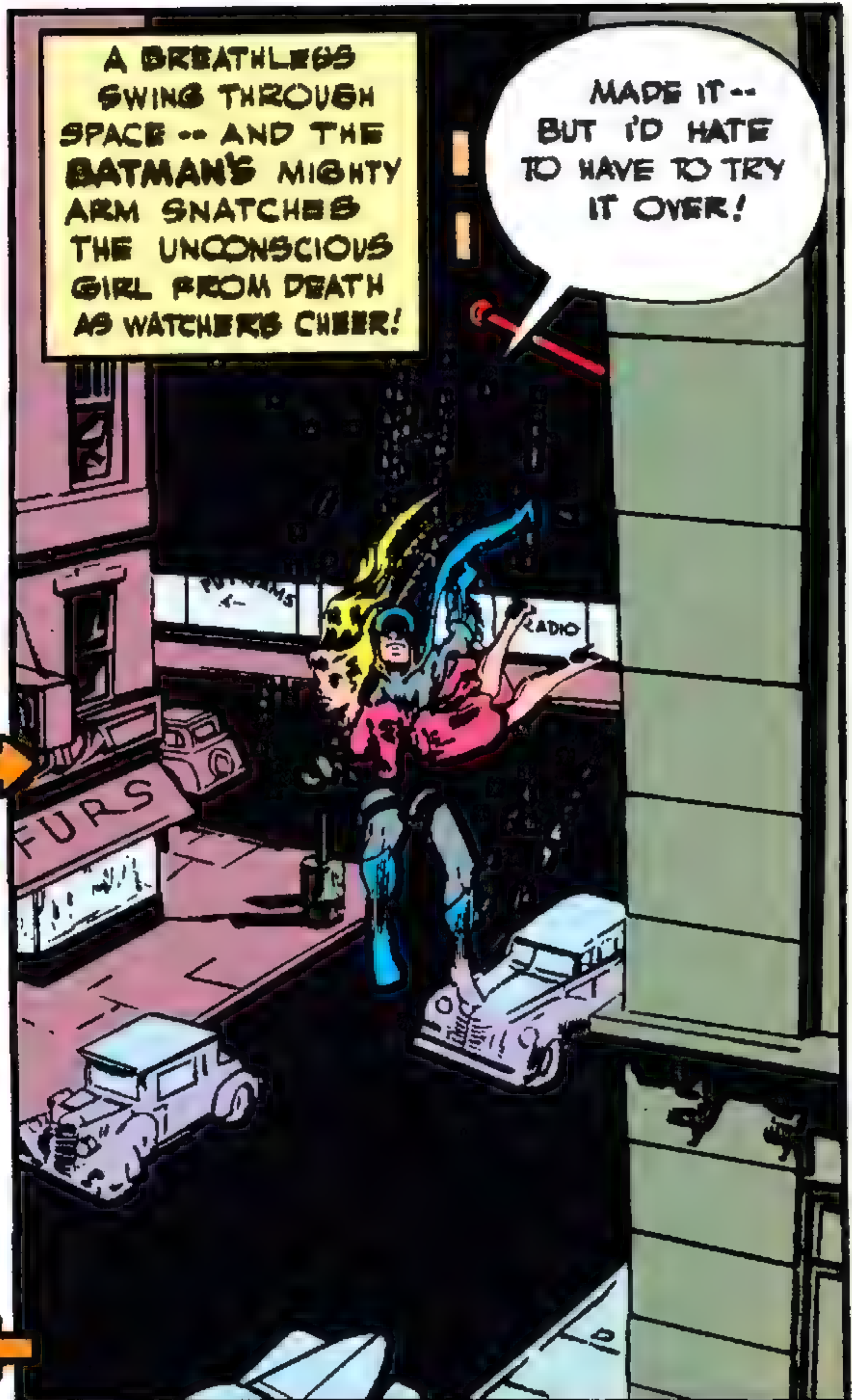
STEEL-STRONG MUSCLES STRAIN AGAINST METAL
HASPS, UNTIL...

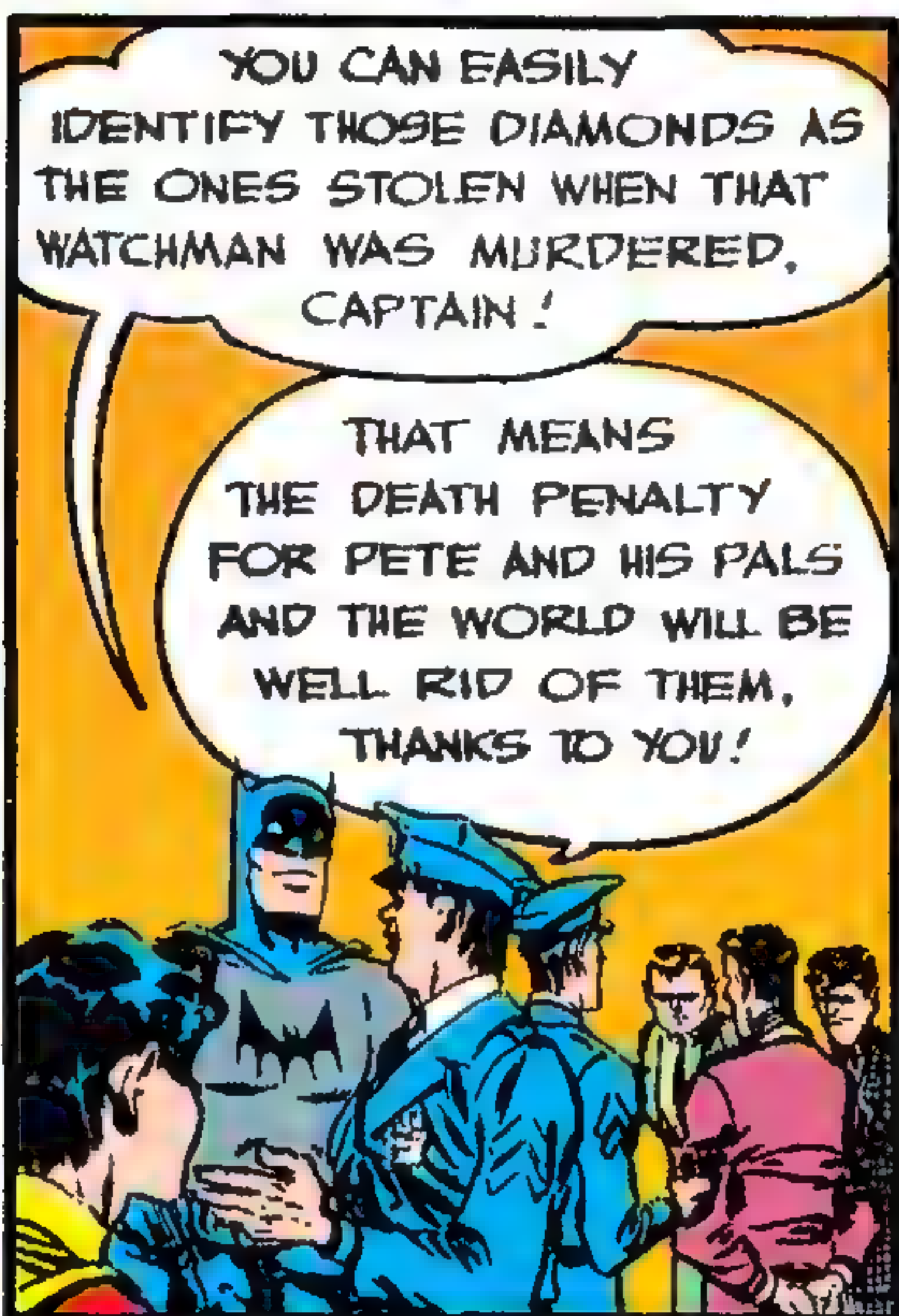
WELL,
A LADY'S
TRAVELLING
BOUDOIR!

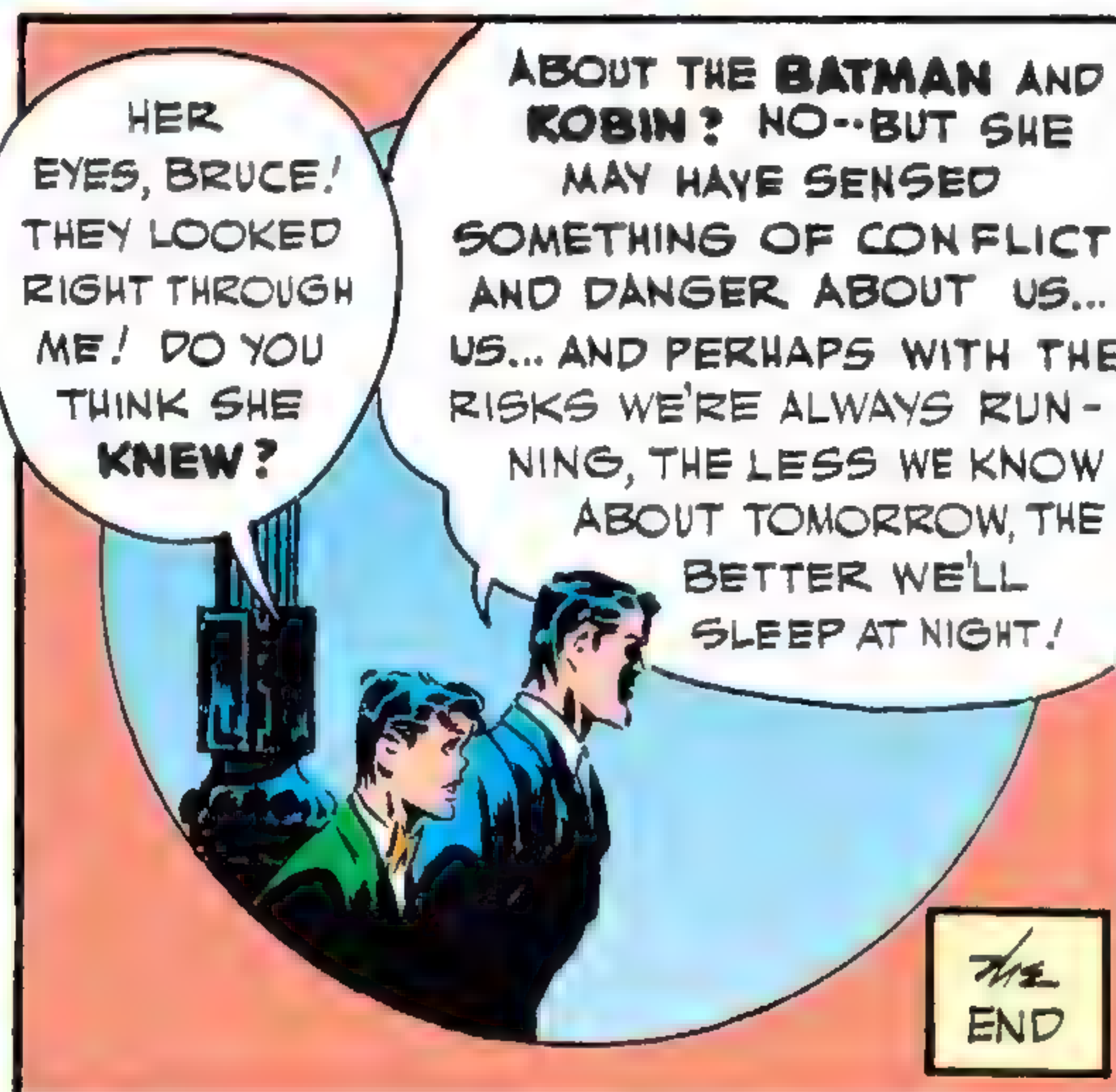
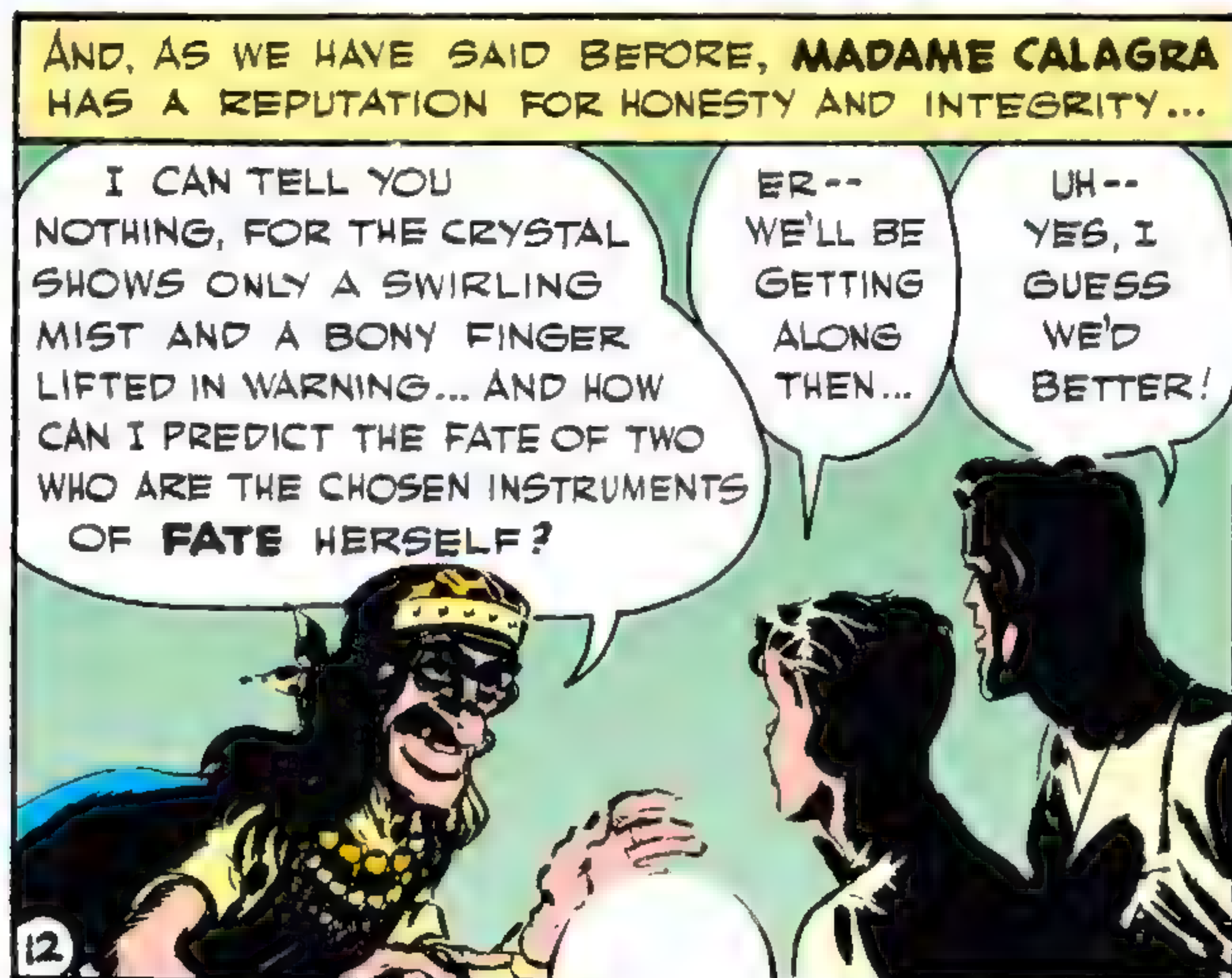
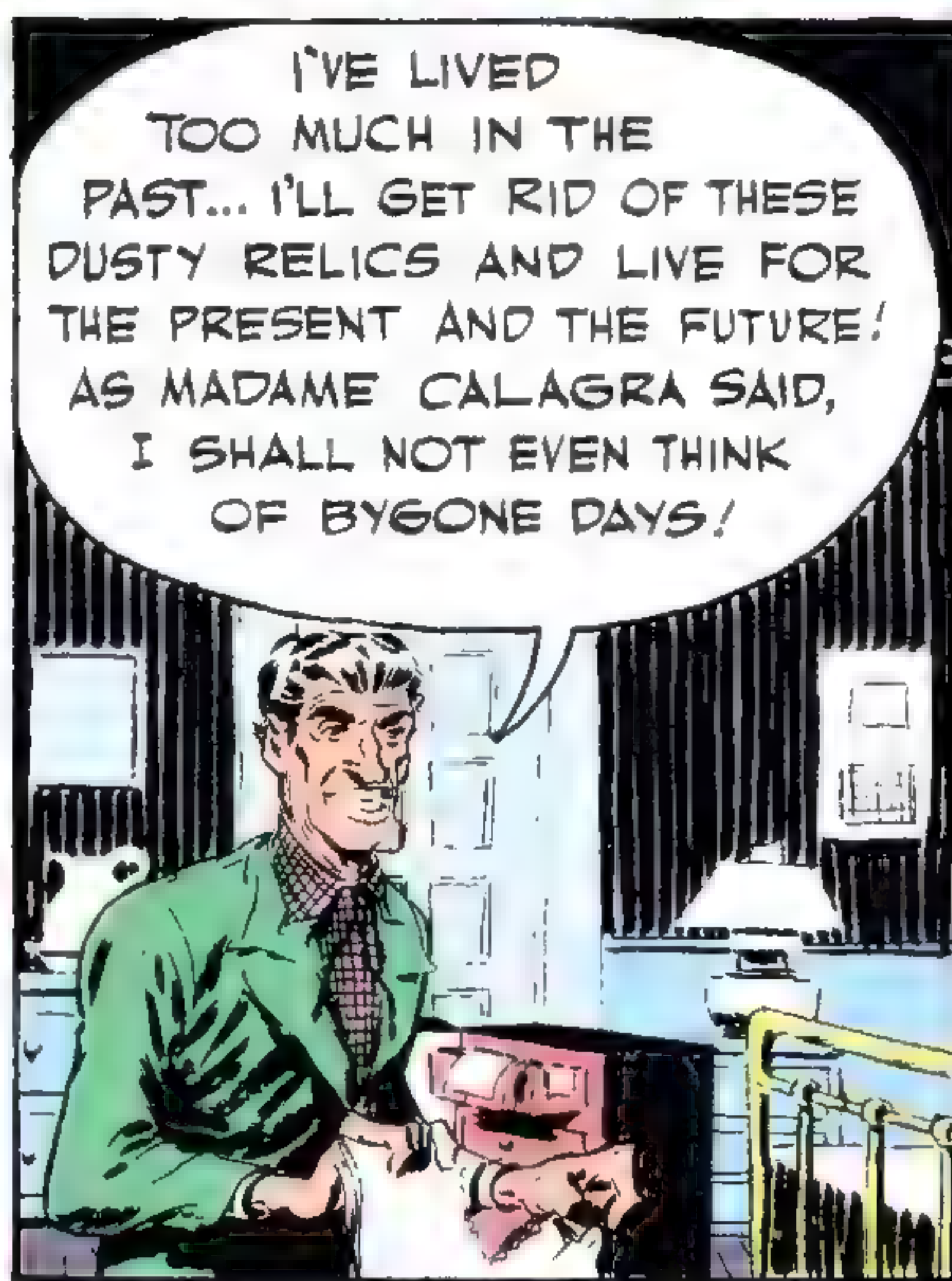
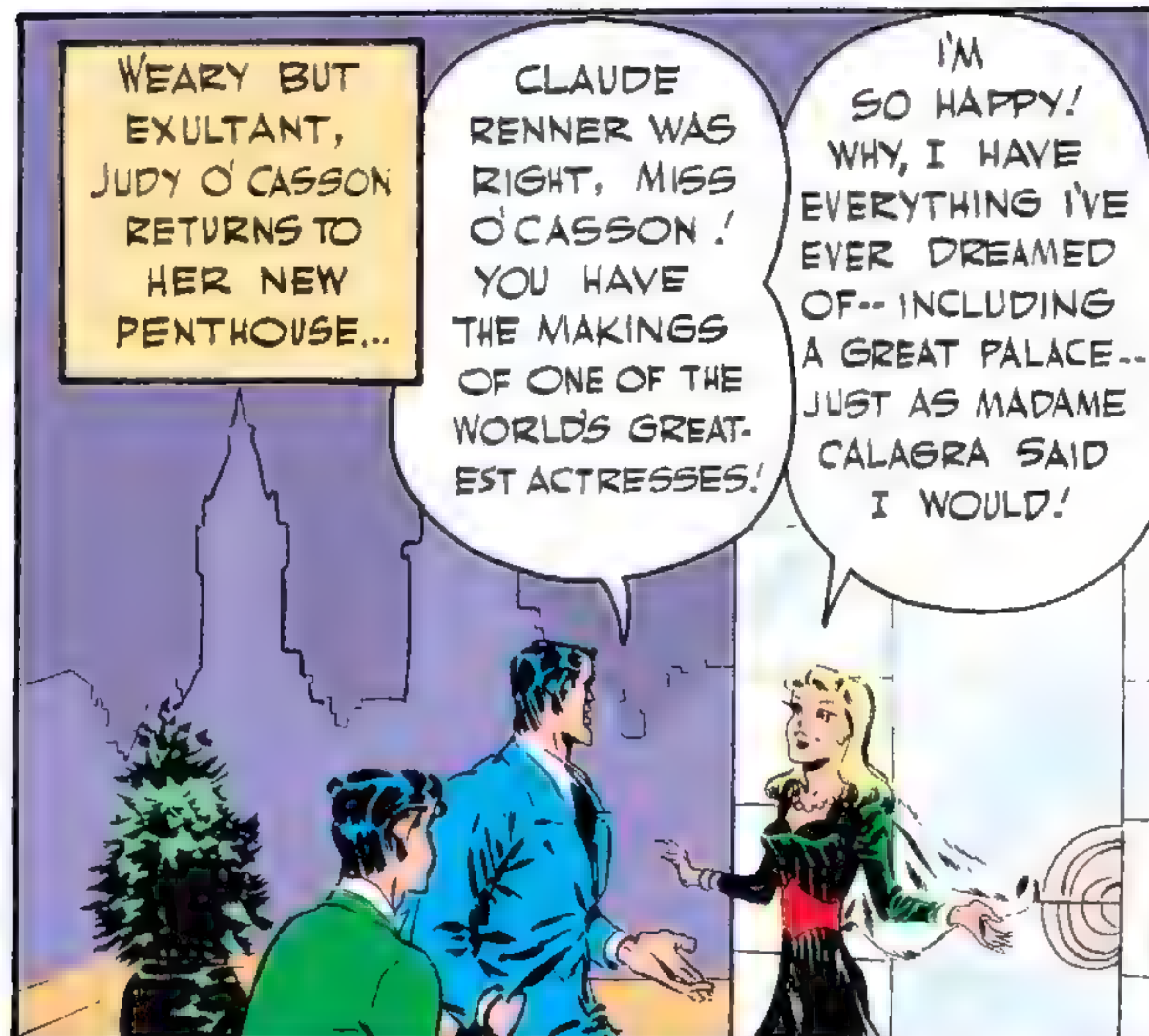
DRESSES! A GIRL'S
THINGS! IT ISN'T MY
TRUNK, AFTER ALL!...
BUT THIS LOOKS
LIKE THE TYPESCRIPT
OF A PLAY...

NOT
RUSTED, MR.
WENTWORTH--
BUSTED!







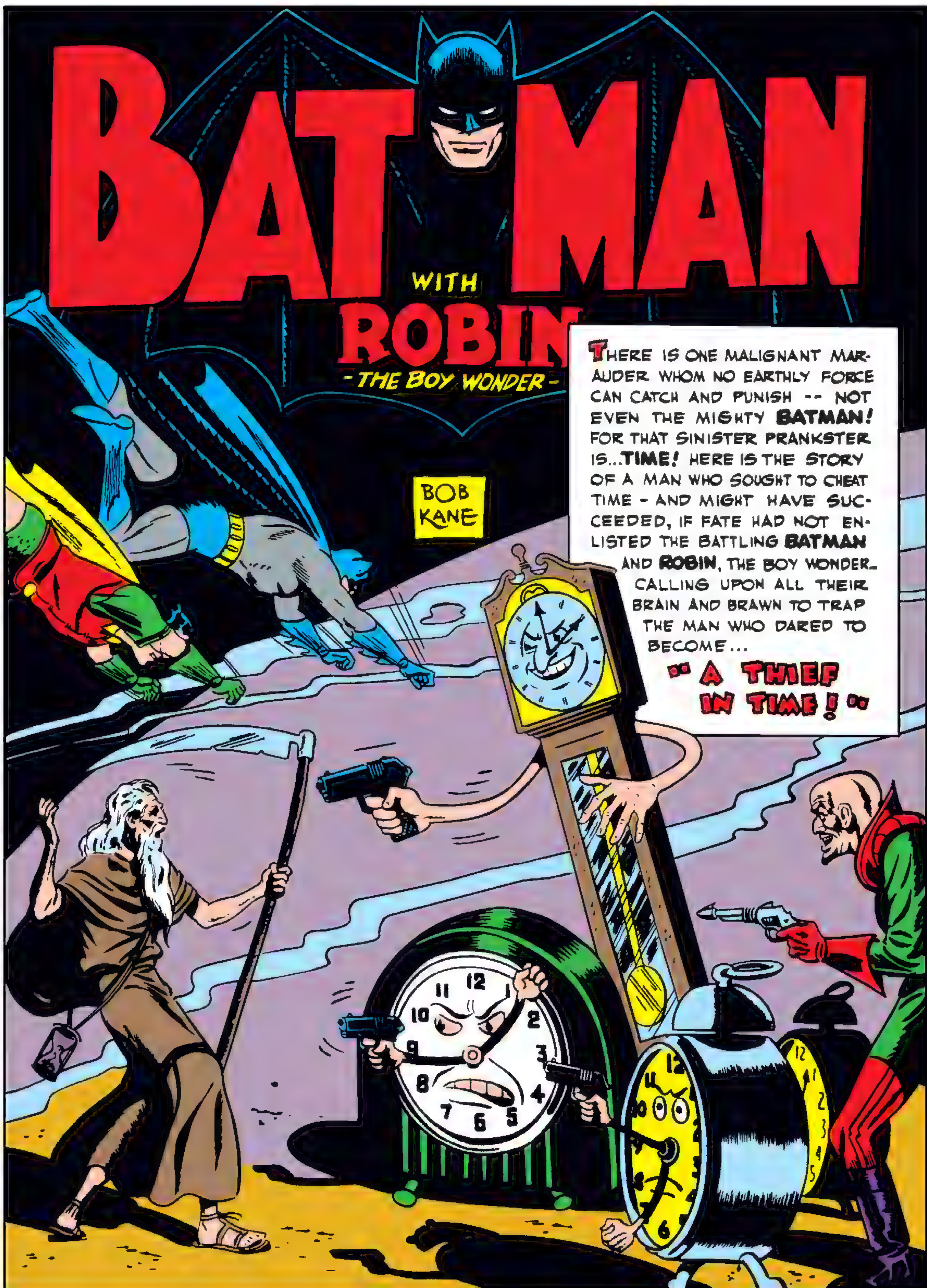


No. 11

FALL ISSUE

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS





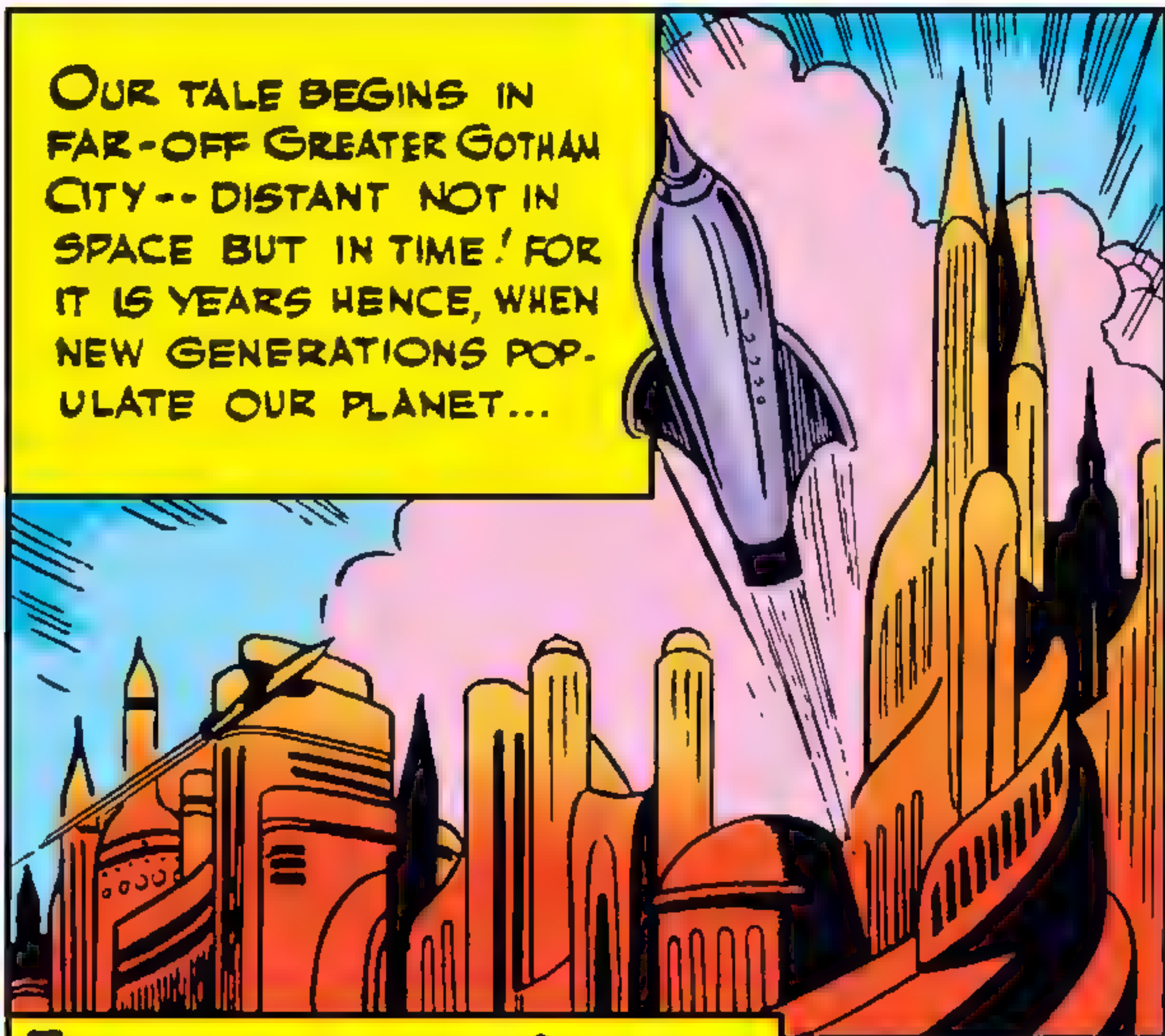
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

THERE IS ONE MALIGNANT MARAUDER WHOM NO EARTHLY FORCE CAN CATCH AND PUNISH -- NOT EVEN THE MIGHTY **BATMAN**! FOR THAT SINISTER PRANKSTER IS...**TIME**! HERE IS THE STORY OF A MAN WHO SOUGHT TO CHEAT TIME - AND MIGHT HAVE SUCCEEDED, IF FATE HAD NOT ENLISTED THE BATTLING **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER. CALLING UPON ALL THEIR BRAIN AND BRAWN TO TRAP THE MAN WHO DARED TO BECOME...

“ **A THIEF
IN TIME!** ”



AT THE HEART OF THE TEEMING METROPOLIS...



WISH I WERE BACK IN BATMAN'S TIME! I'D KNOW WHAT TO DO! I COULD BE A MILLIONAIRE!

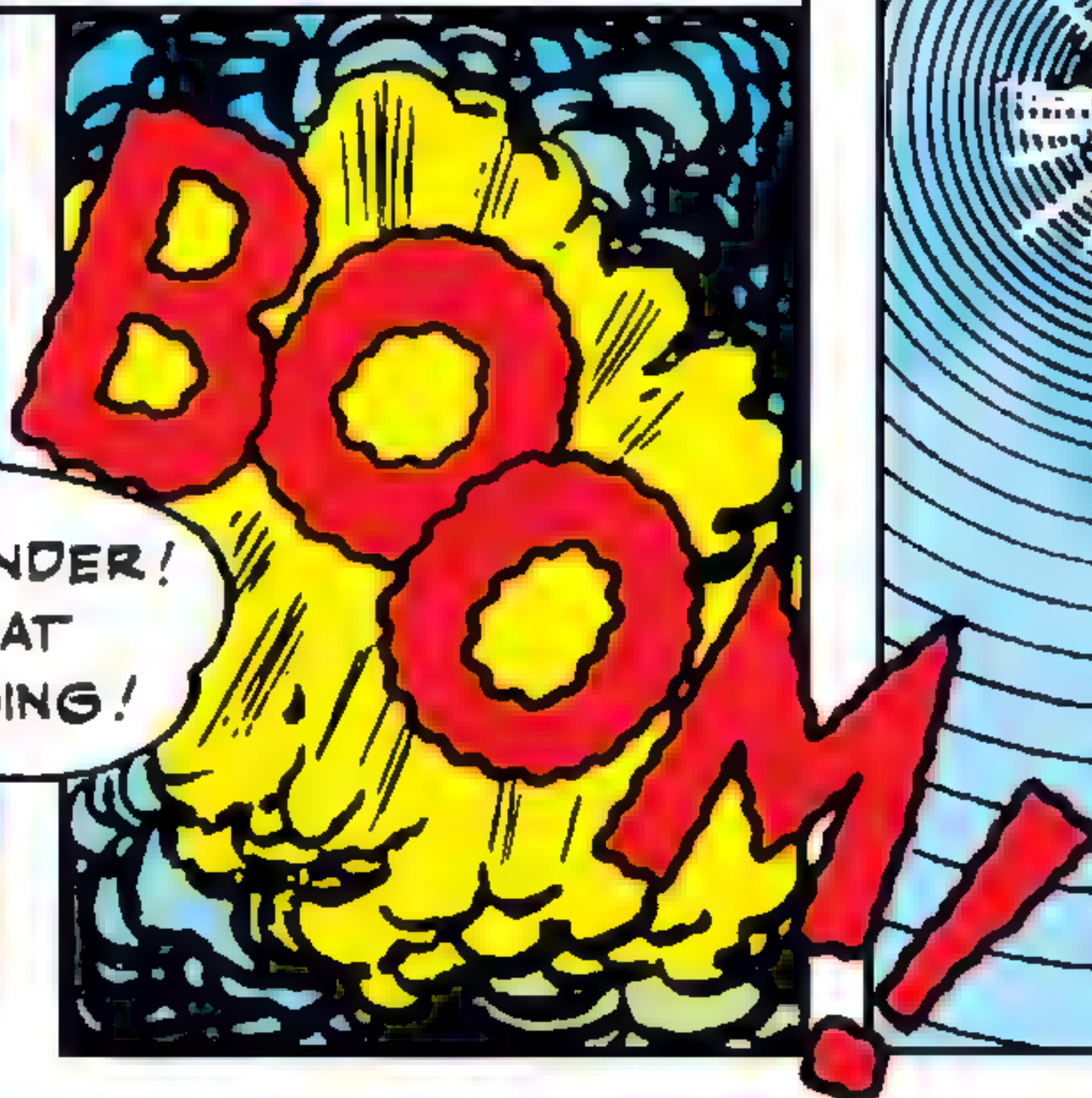
EVERY EMOTION HAS BEEN BORN IN THIS FAMOUS EXHIBIT -- ENVY, HERO-WORSHIP DAY-DREAMING! AND NOW ... GREED STIRS IN THE HEART OF ROB CALLENDER, AN OBSCURE LABORATORY WORKER!

RETURNING TO WORK, CALLENDER CONTINUES AN EXPERIMENT ... BUT WITH MIND DANGEROUSLY PREOCCUPIED!

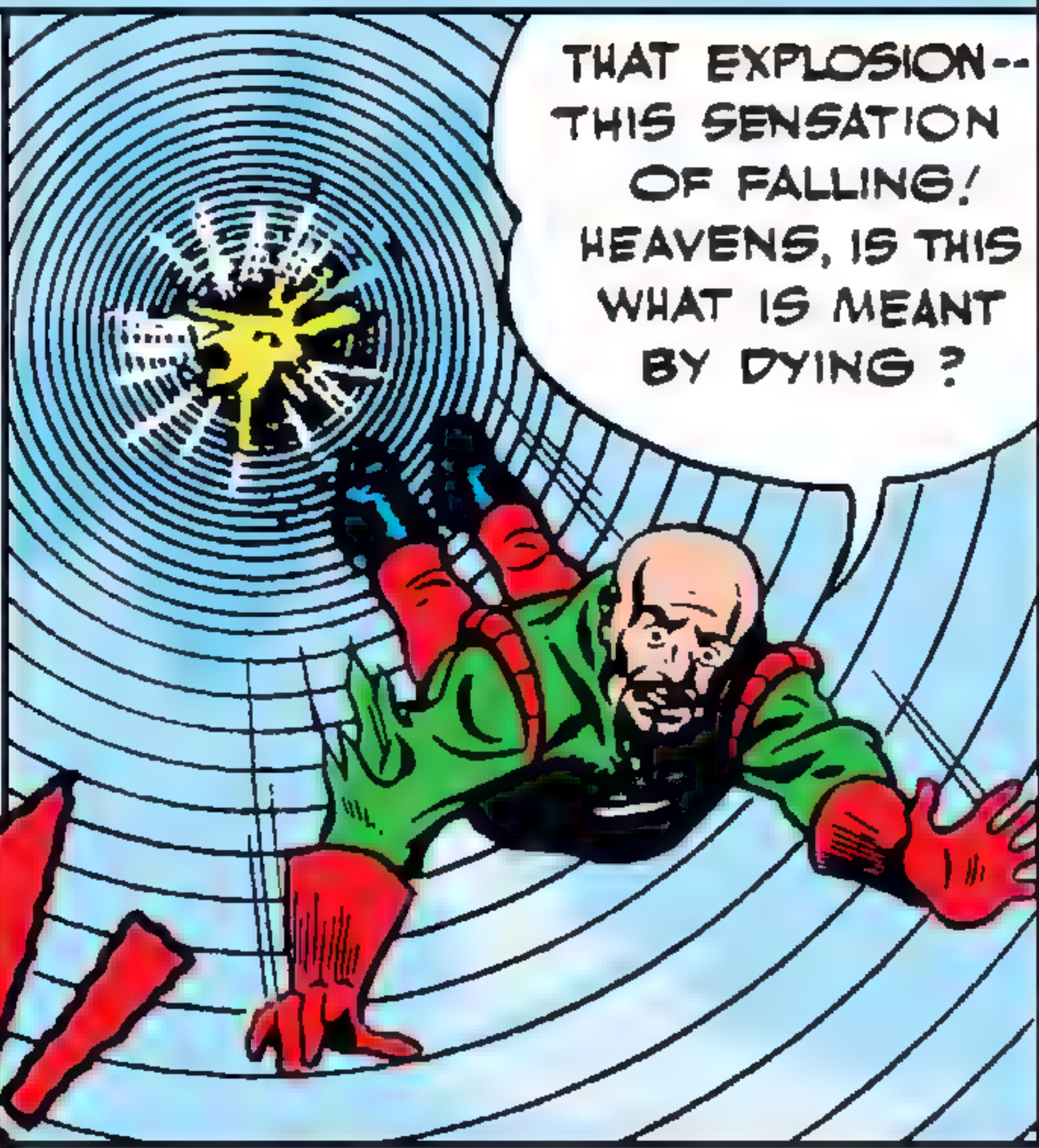
TOO LATE! FOR AS SO OFTEN HAPPENS WHEN TRAINED HANDS GROW CARELESS ...

FAME AND FORTUNE, EVERYTHING THAT'S BEEN DENIED TO ME! ALL THAT WOULD BE WITHIN MY GRASP -- IF I COULD ONLY BE BACK IN **BATMAN'S** TIME!

HEY, CALLENDER! WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

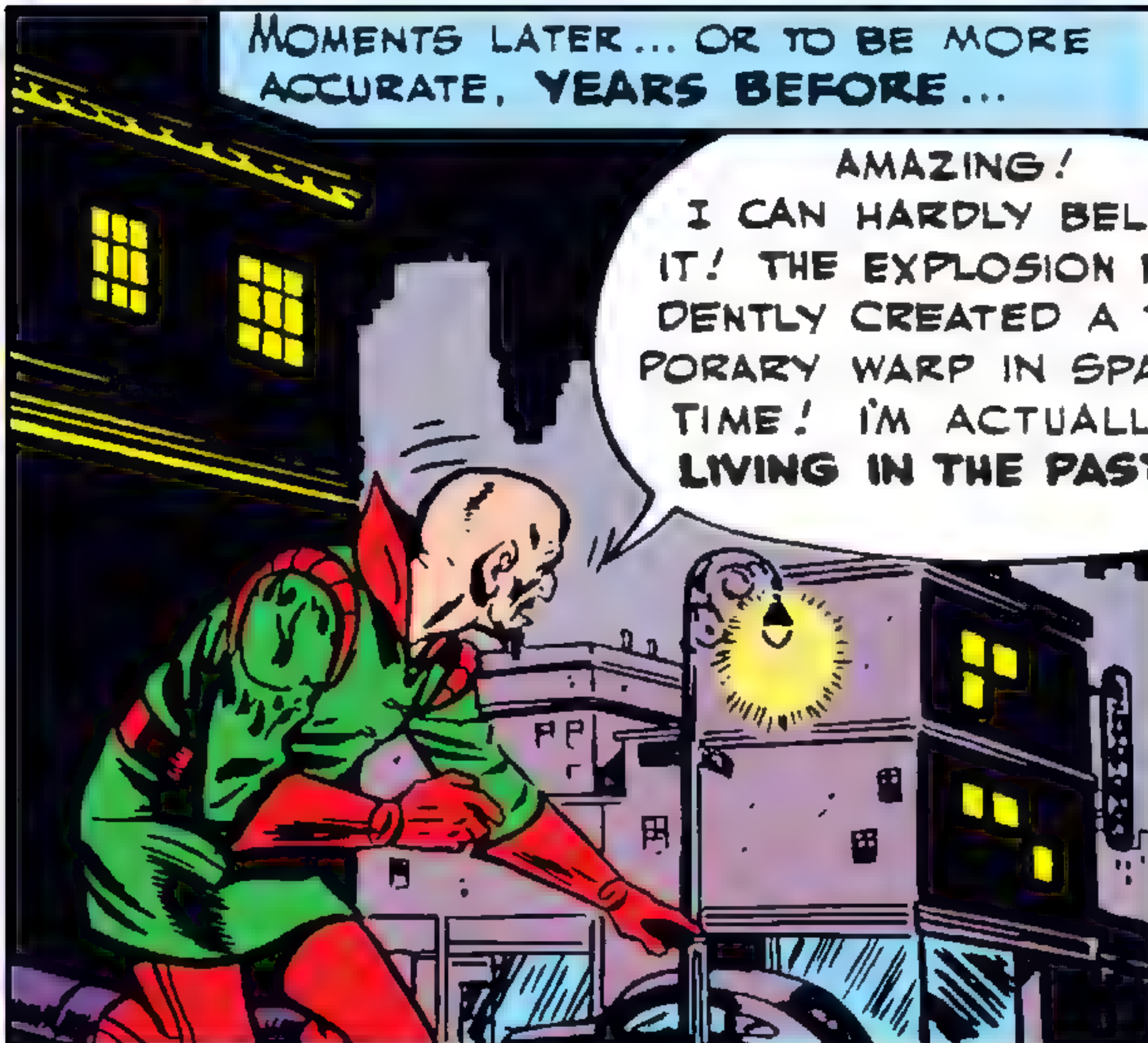


THAT EXPLOSION-- THIS SENSATION OF FALLING! HEAVENS, IS THIS WHAT IS MEANT BY DYING?



MOMENTS LATER ... OR TO BE MORE ACCURATE, YEARS BEFORE ...

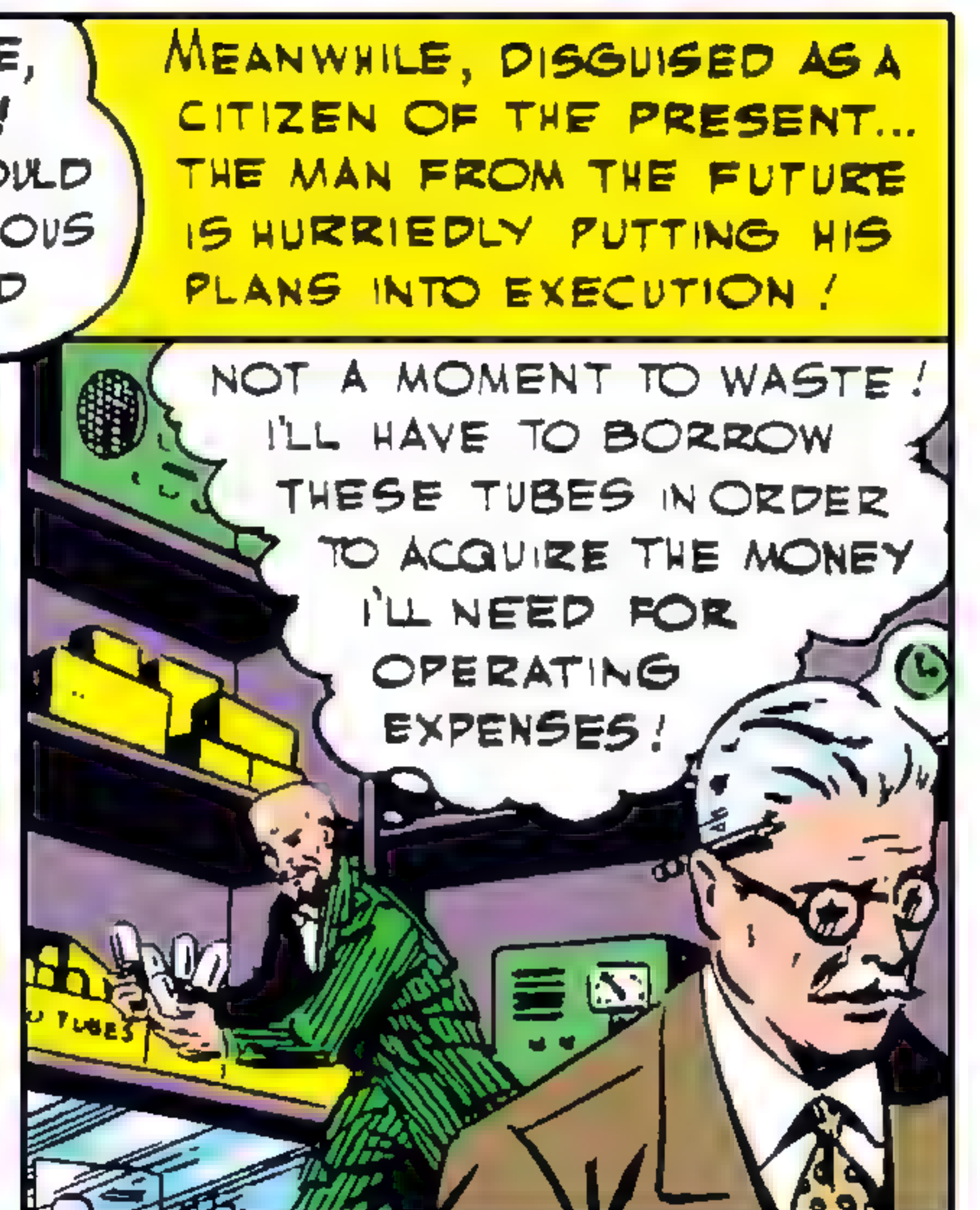
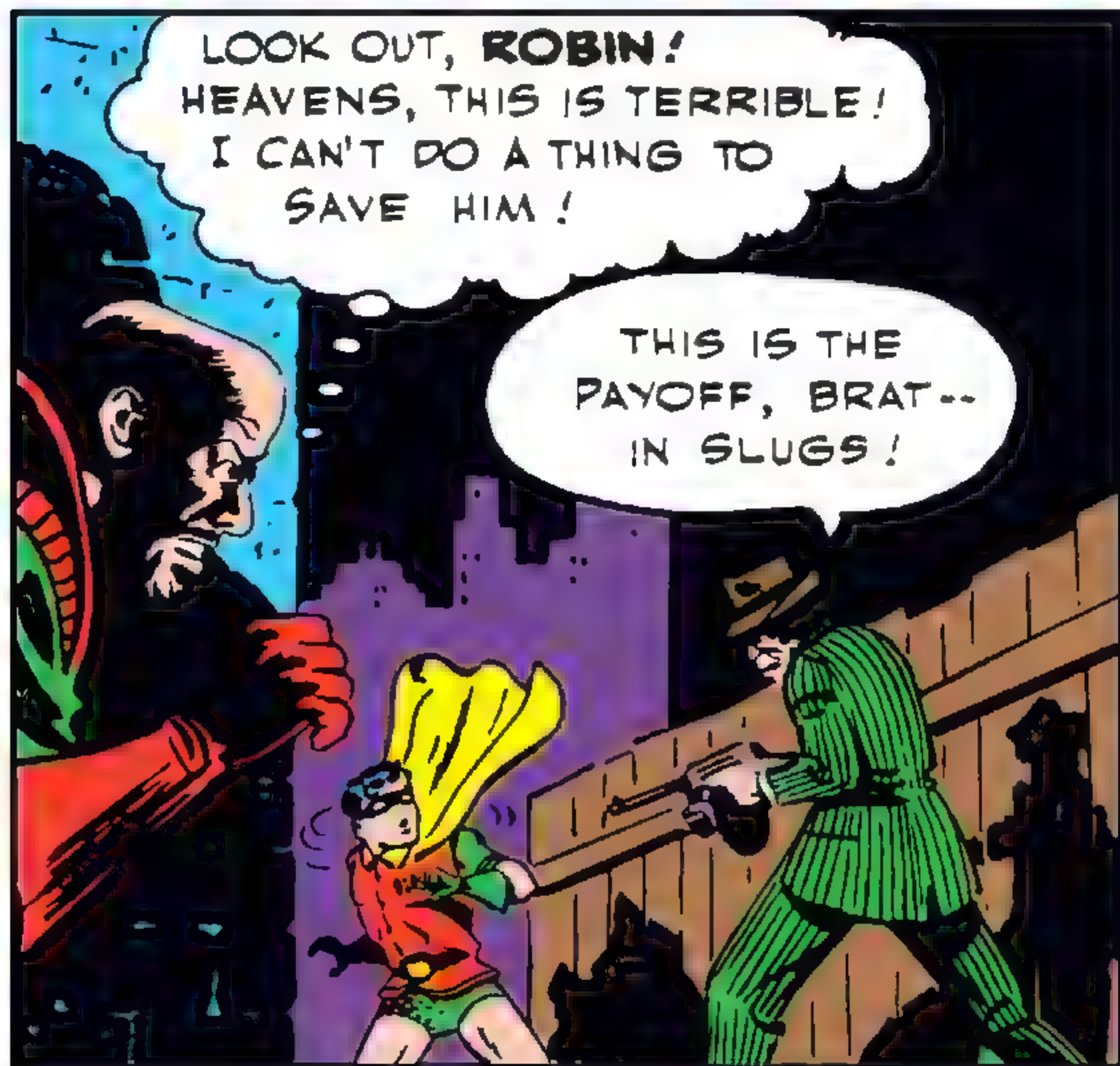
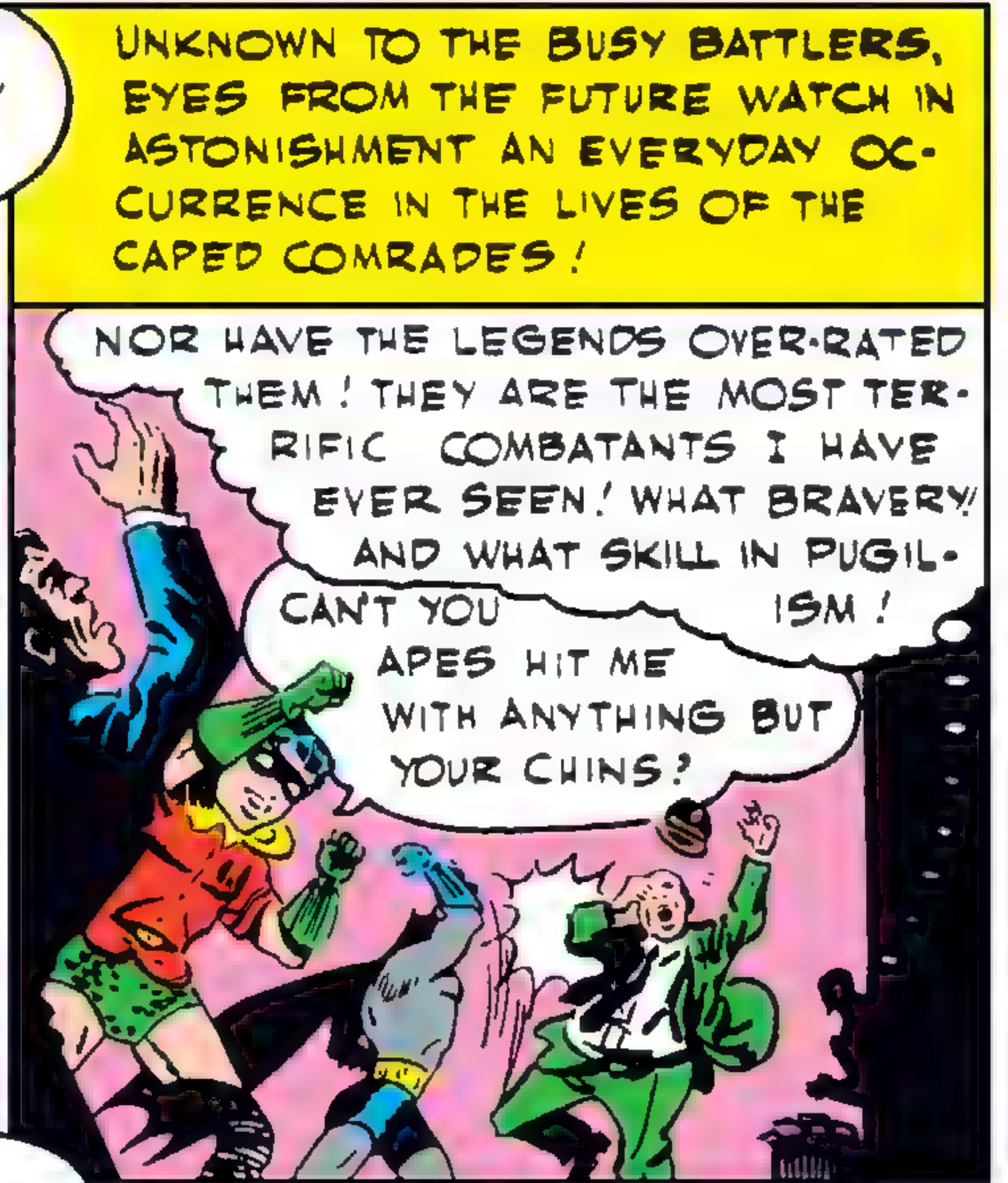
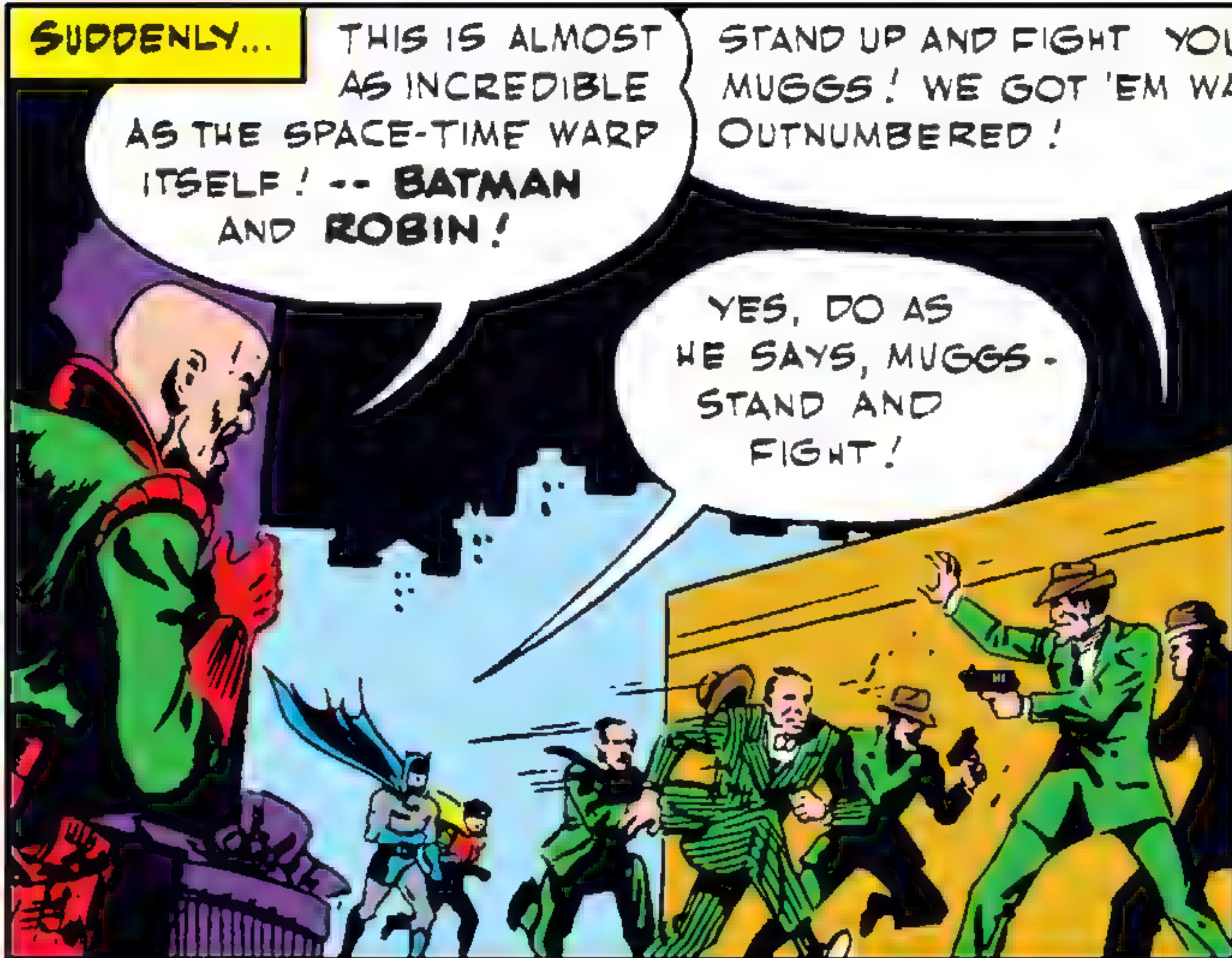
AMAZING! I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT! THE EXPLOSION EVIDENTLY CREATED A TEMPORARY WARP IN SPACE-TIME! I'M ACTUALLY LIVING IN THE PAST!



WHAT'S MORE, MY FONDEST WISH HAS COME TRUE! JUDGING FROM THE ARCHITECTURE, I'M IN **BATMAN'S** TIME! BUT I'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST! A SPACE-TIME WARP CAN'T LAST INDEFINITELY...



2



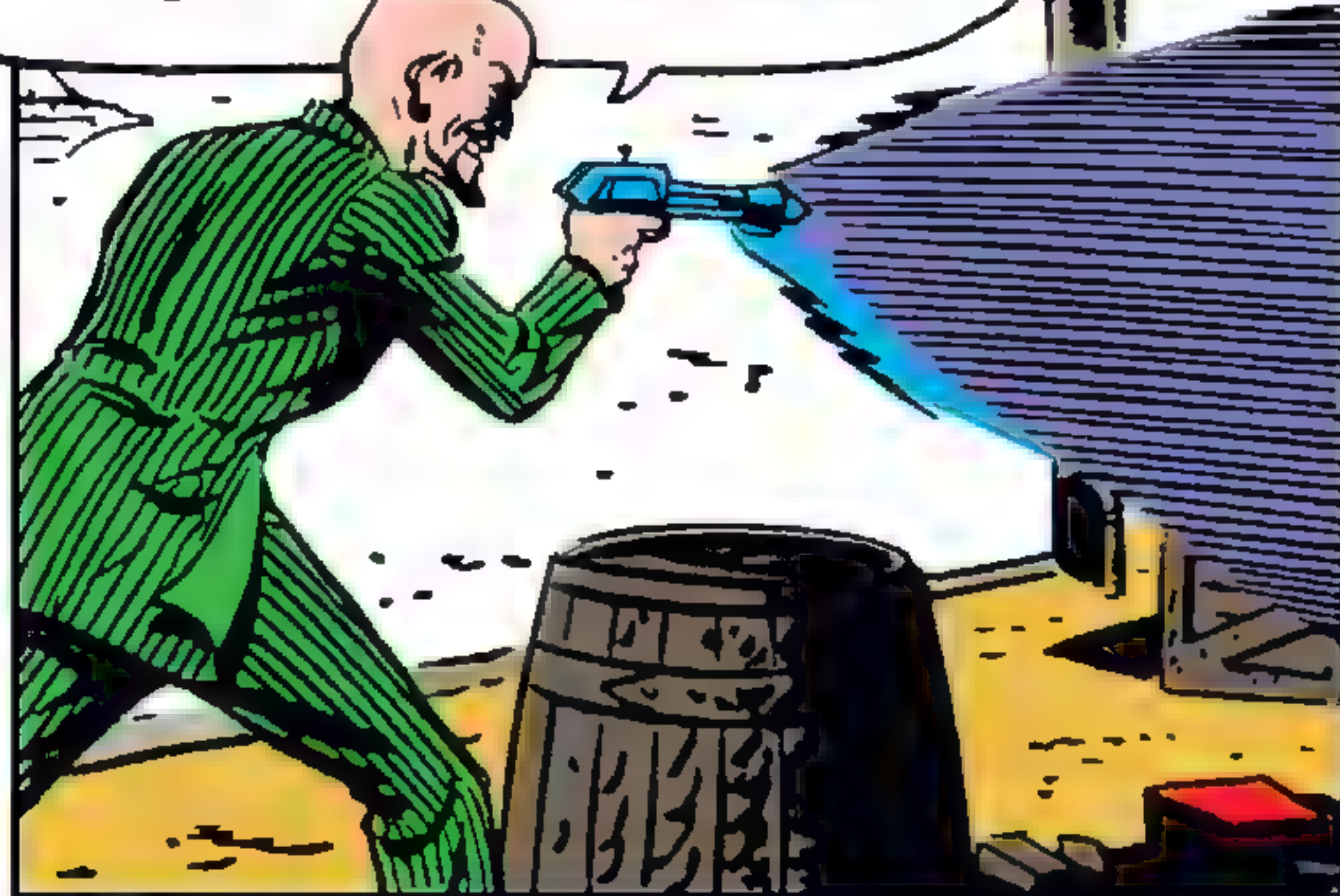
AND SO, IN A
DESERTED
BASEMENT...

VERY
PRIMITIVE
EQUIPMENT, BUT
IT WILL HAVE
TO DO!



FINISHED, CALLENDER TESTS ONE OF THE
WEAPONS HE HAS CONSTRUCTED...

THERE! THIS HAND-GENERATOR
PRODUCES A LIGHT-ABSORBING
RAY WHICH CAN OBSCURE AN AREA
IN TOTAL BLACKNESS!



BUT THESE INFRA-RED GOGGLES
PENETRATE THE ARTIFICIAL PALL,
ENABLING ME TO SEE CLEARLY
WHILE OTHERS CANNOT! NOW...
I AM READY TO CARRY
OUT THE PLAN I
DREAMT ABOUT IN
THE FUTURE!

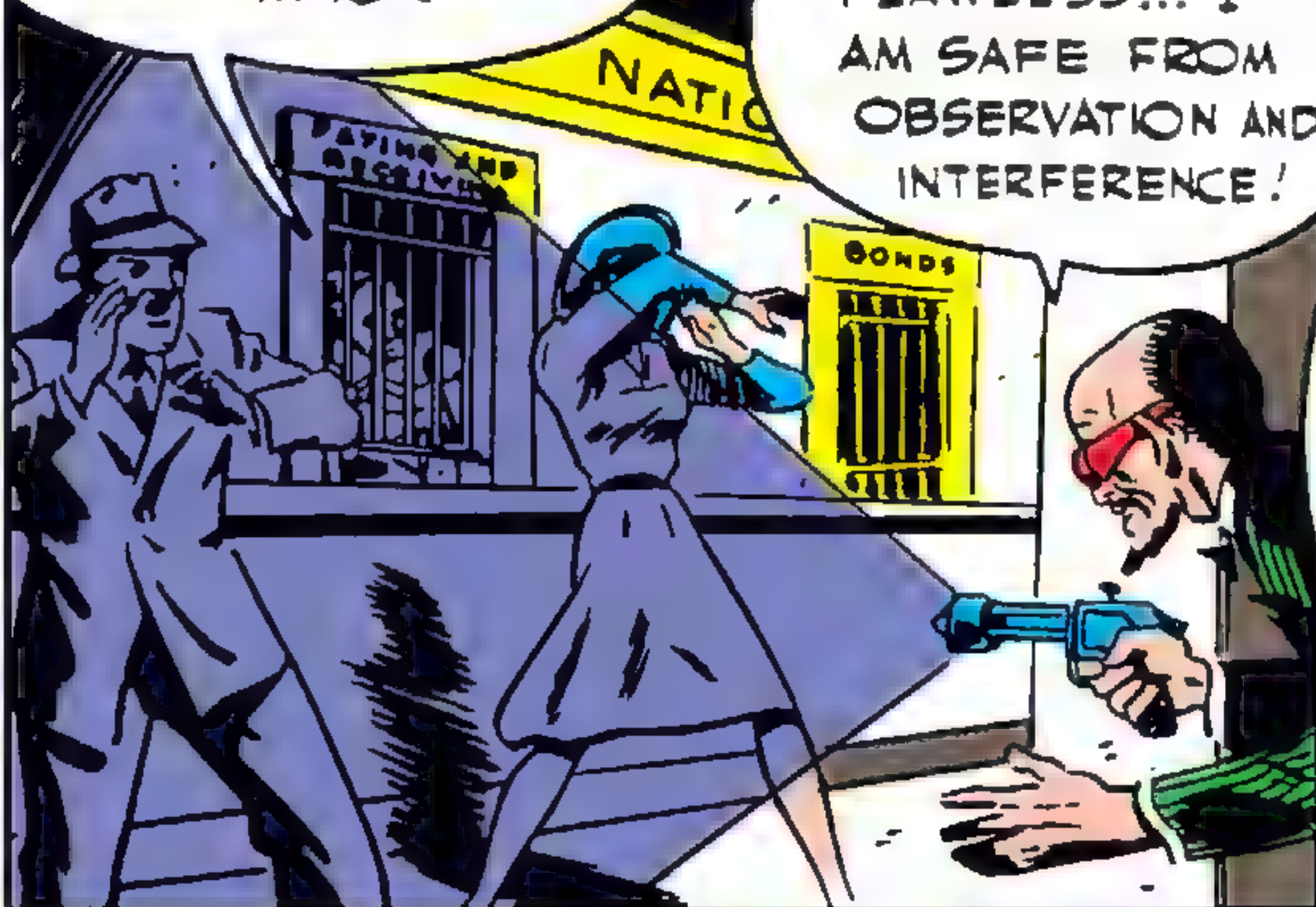


WHAT IS THE
PURPOSE OF
ROB
CALLENDER,
THE MAN
FROM THE
FUTURE?
WHAT RICHES
DOES HE
SEEK THAT
APPARENTLY
CAN BE
FOUND
ONLY IN
THE
PAST?

PRESENTLY... A FAMILIAR SITUATION -- A
BANK, A CROOK AND A GUN!

HELP! I'VE GONE
BLIND! I CAN'T SEE
A THING!

SPLENDID!
MY METHOD IS
FLAWLESS... I
AM SAFE FROM
OBSERVATION AND
INTERFERENCE!



BUT WHAT'S THIS -- A SCRUPU-
LOUS ROBBER?

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, THAT
SHOULD BE ENOUGH! I WANT
ONLY WHAT I ABSOLUTELY
NEED! IF ANY IS LEFT, I SHALL
RETURN THE REST TO THE
BANK BY MAIL!



SURE, WE'LL
WORK FOR YOU!
WE'LL WORK
FOR ANYBODY
WHO C'N PAY US!
WHAT DO YOU
WANT US T'DO?

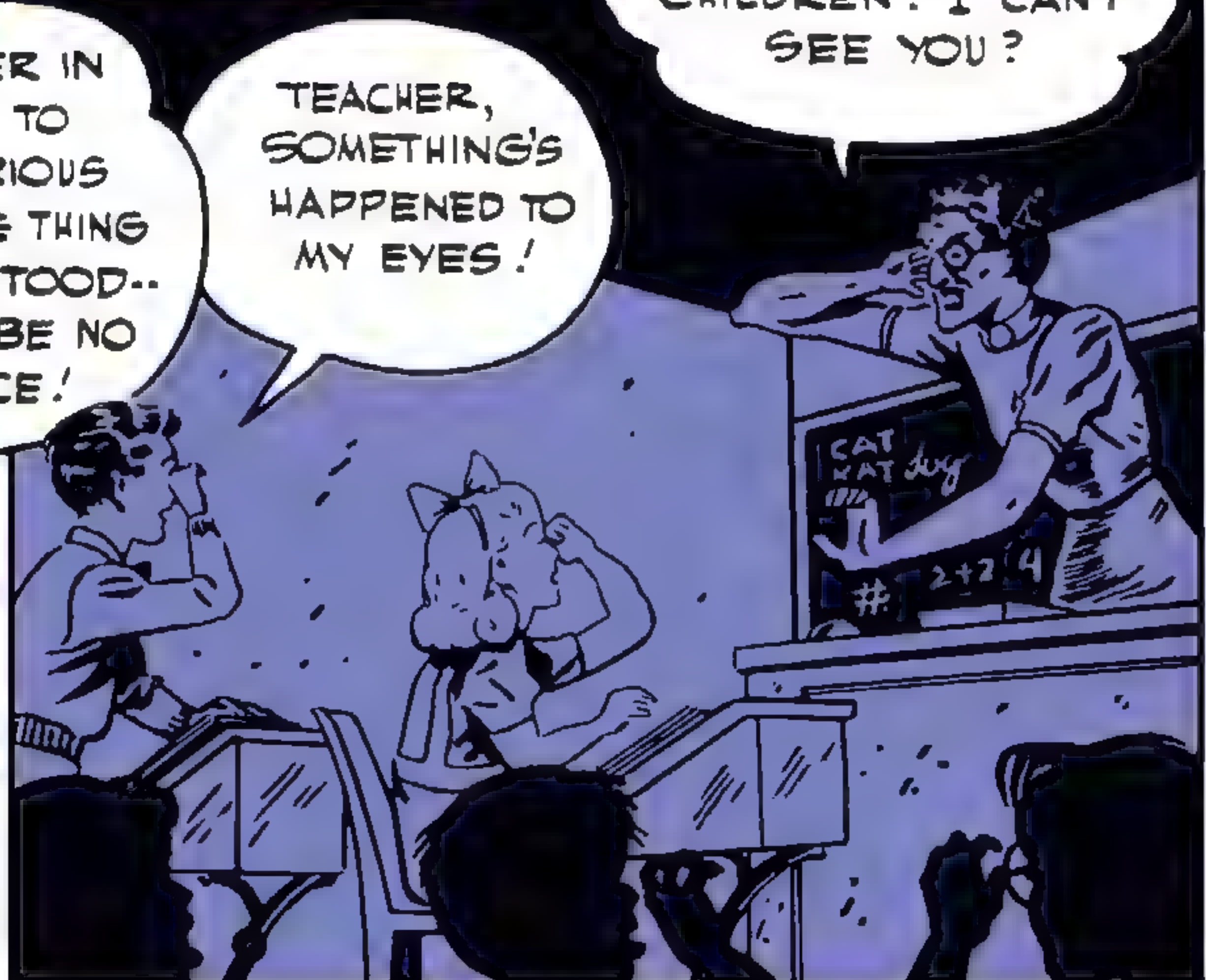
AND THEN, SEEKING OUT
AN UNDERWORLD DIVE...

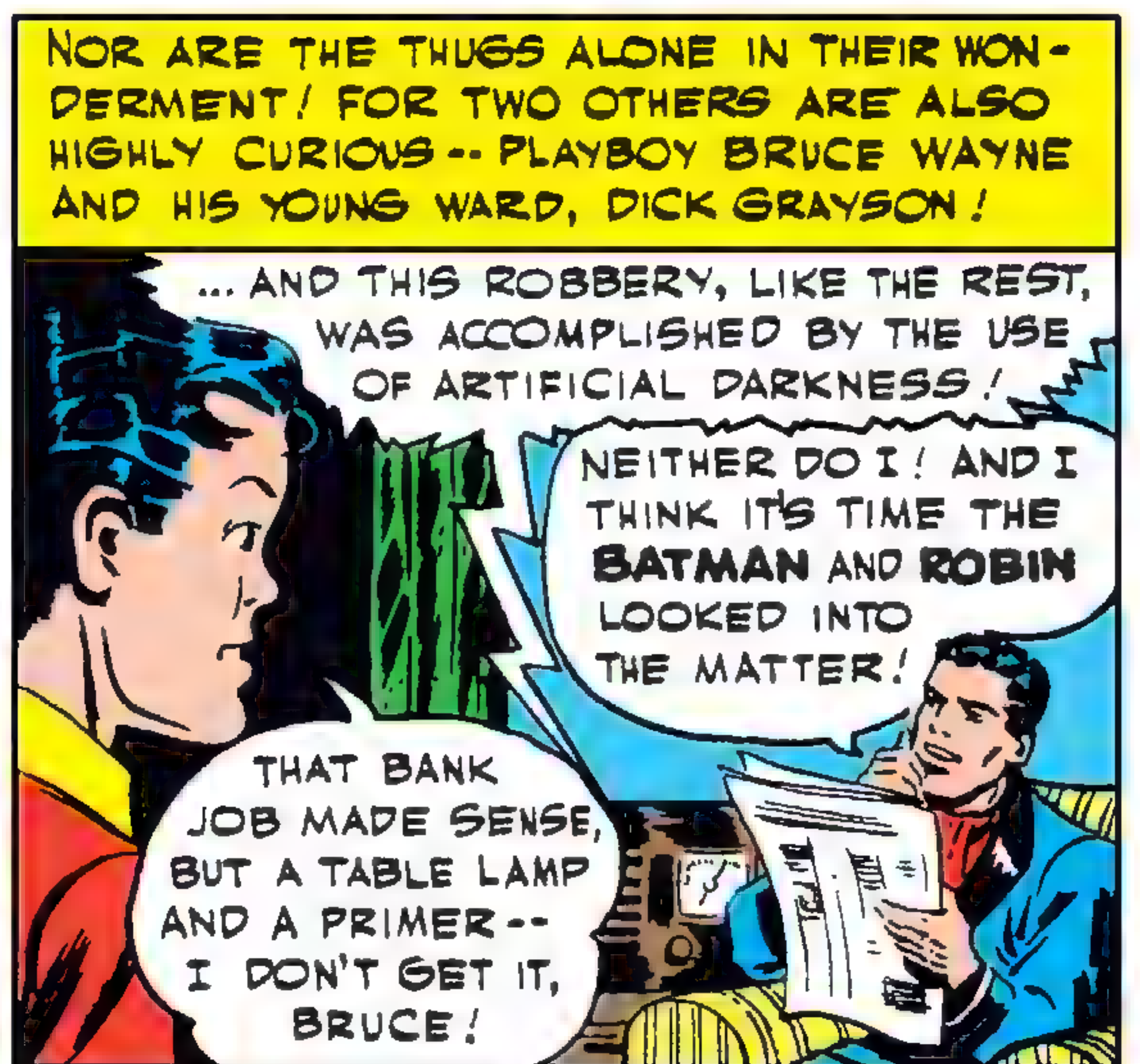
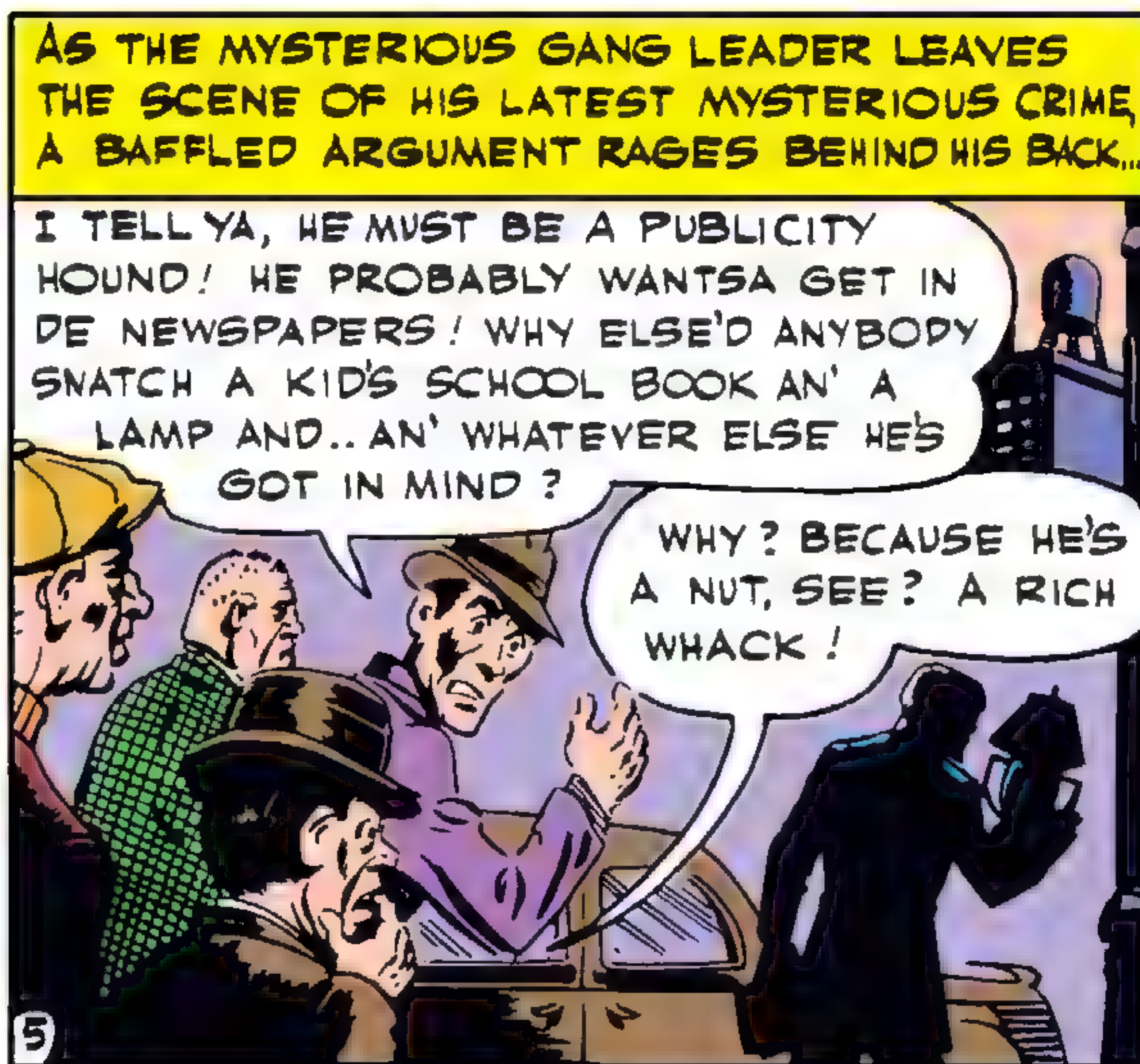
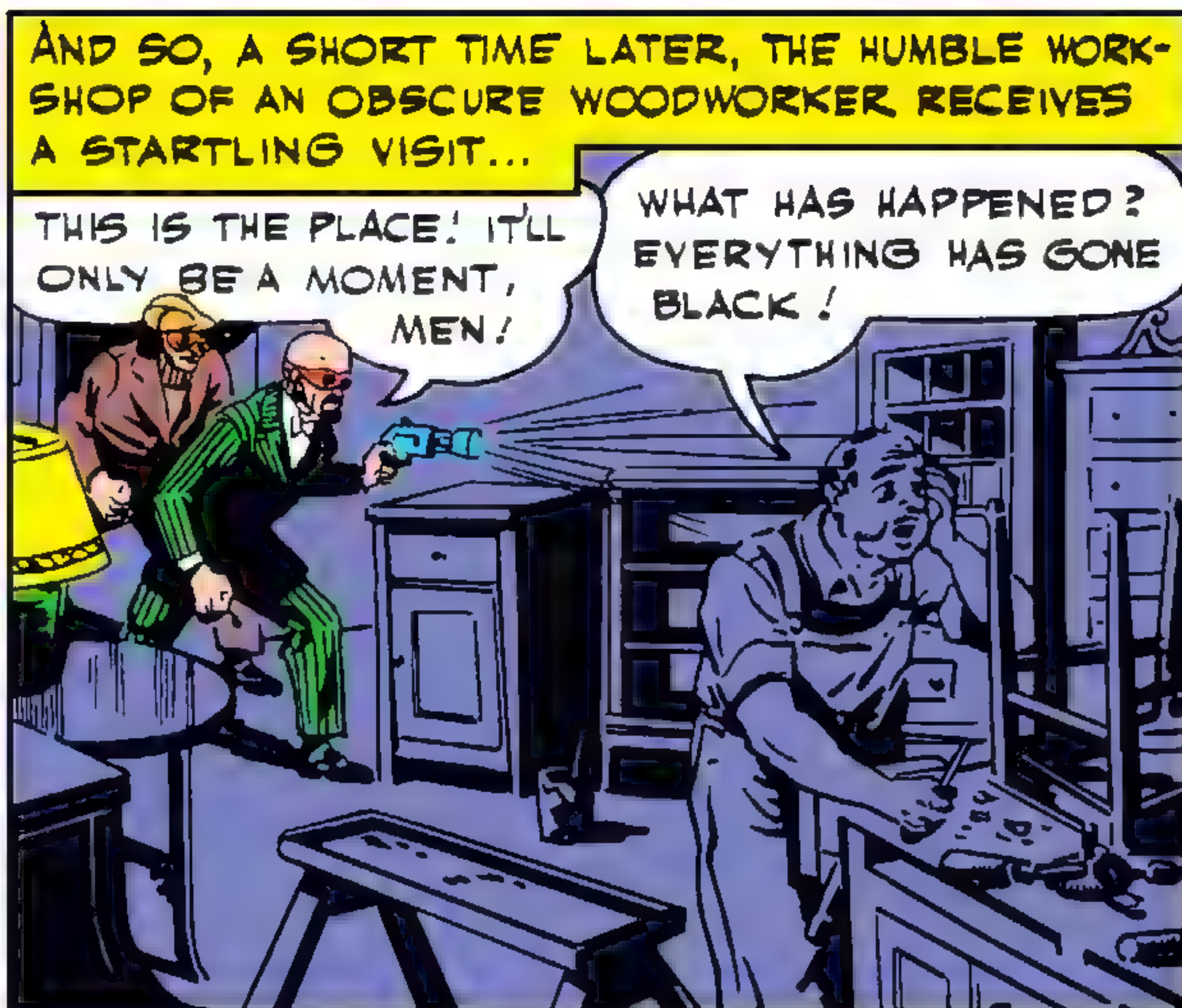
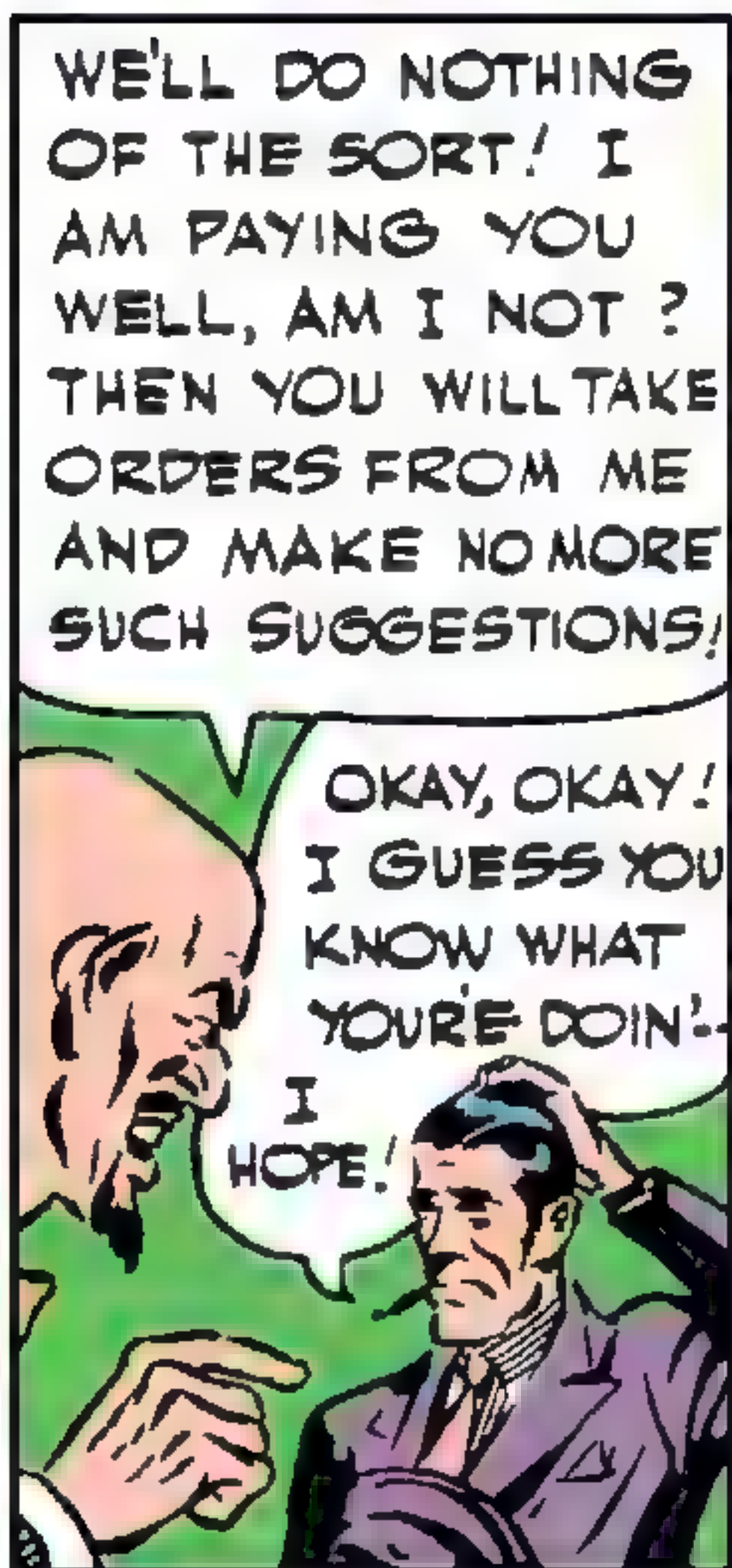
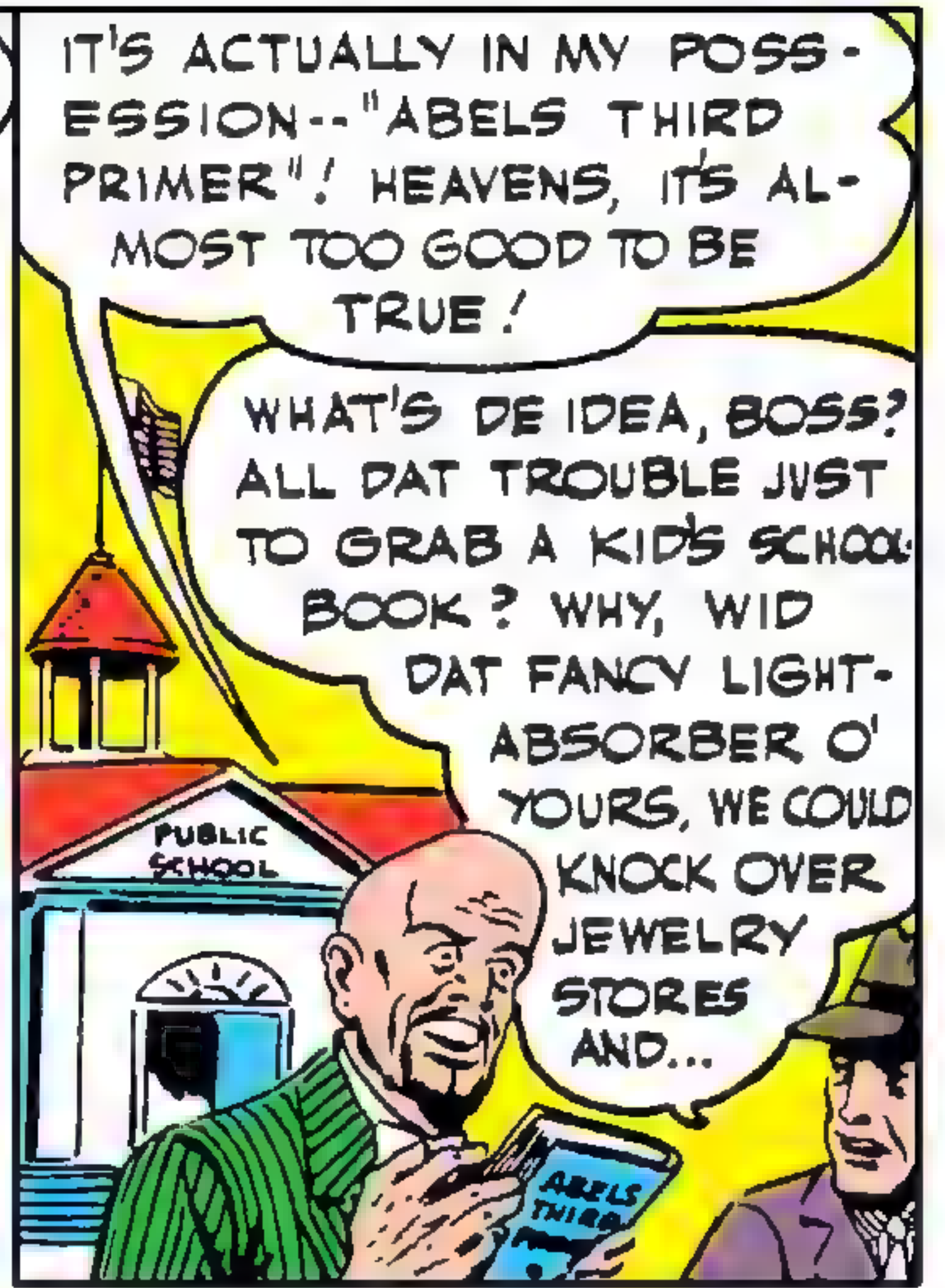
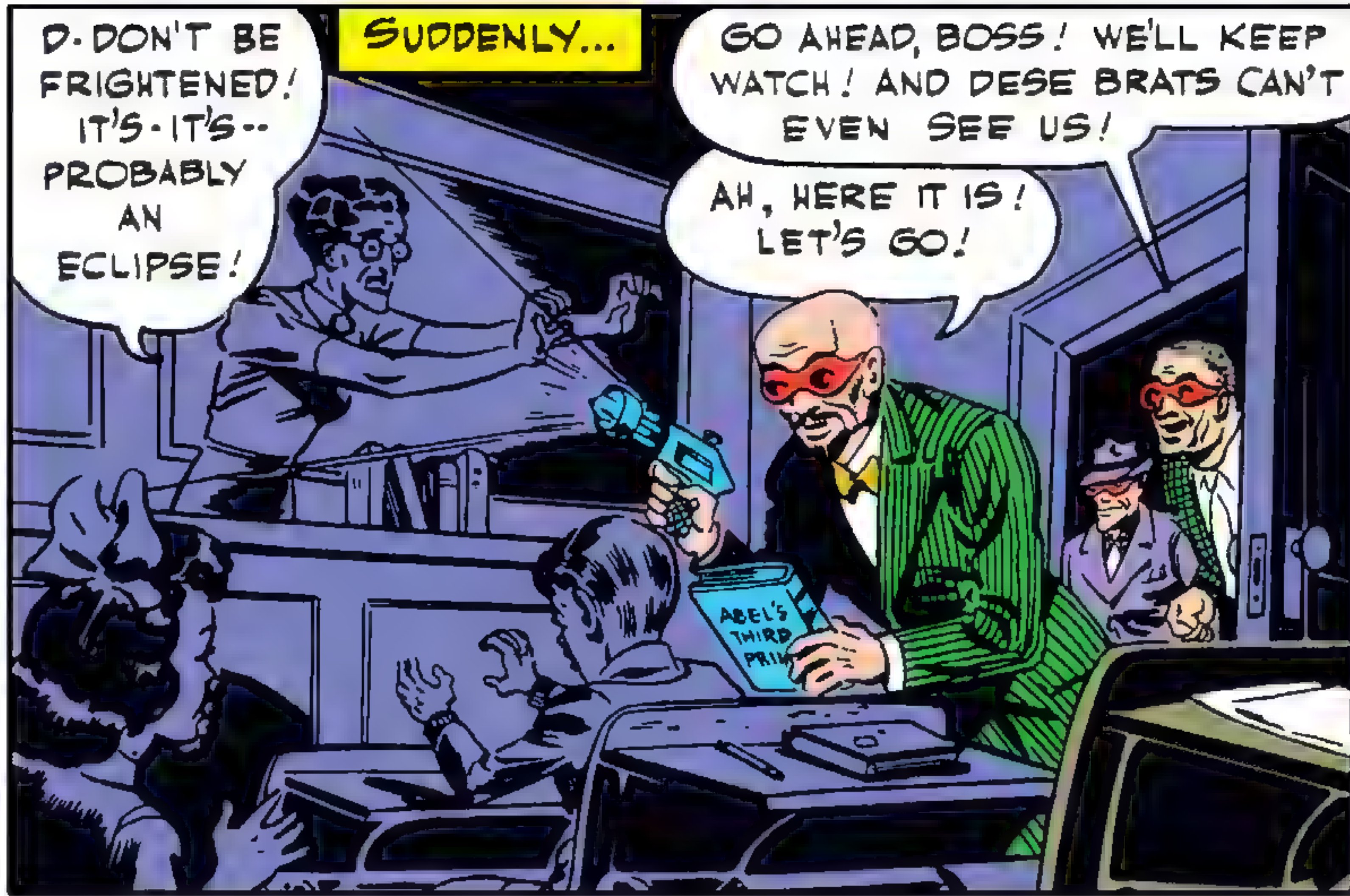
BEING A STRANGER IN
TOWN, I NEED YOU TO
GUIDE ME TO VARIOUS
PLACES! BUT ONE THING
I WANT UNDERSTOOD--
THERE IS TO BE NO
VIOLENCE!

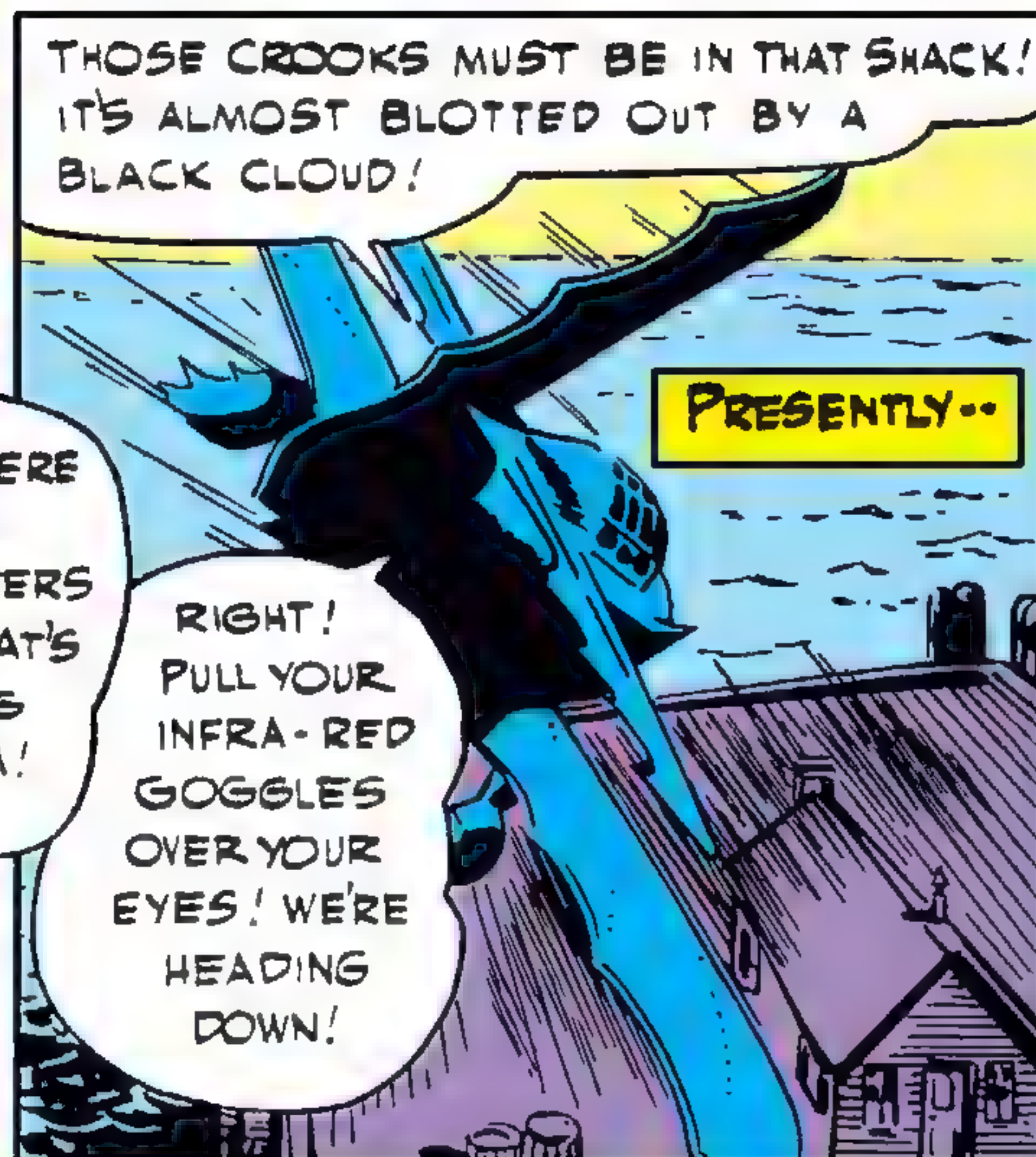
THUS, LATER...

TEACHER,
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENED TO
MY EYES!

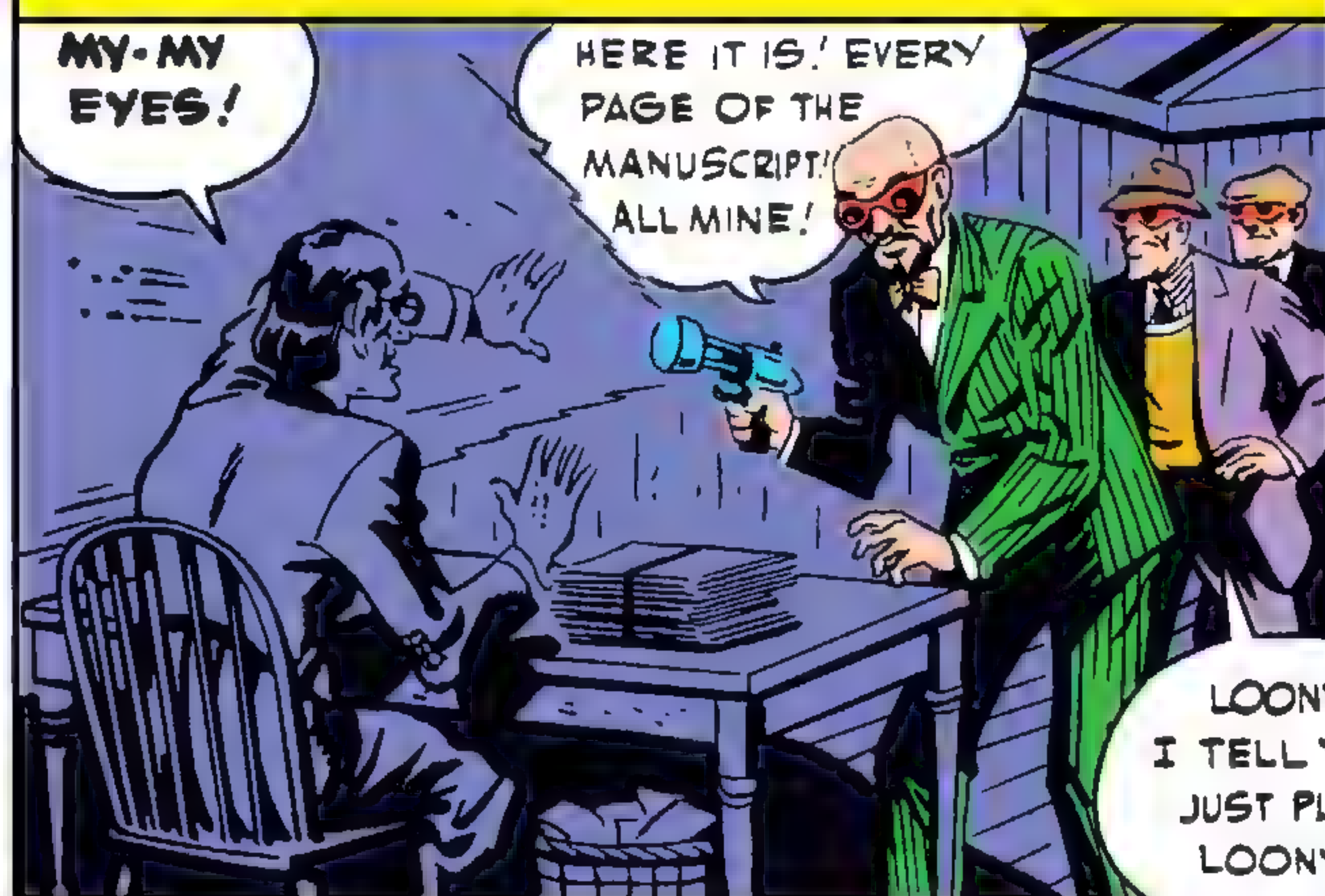
WHERE ARE YOU,
CHILDREN? I CAN'T
SEE YOU?

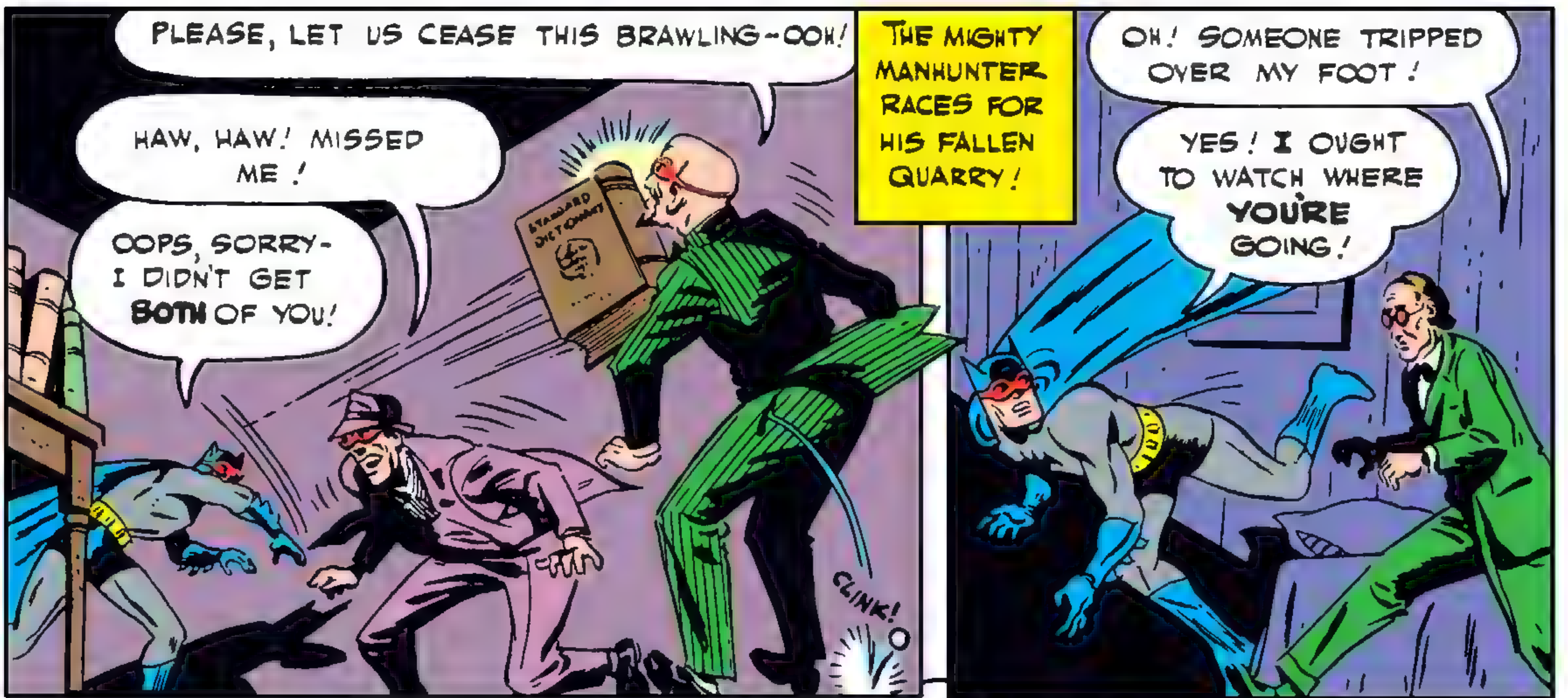






BELOW, THE TUMBEDOWN WATERFRONT SHACK OF AN UNKNOWN AUTHOR HAS UNEXPECTED-AND UNWELCOME-GUESTS!





PLEASE, LET US CEASE THIS BRAWLING--OOH!

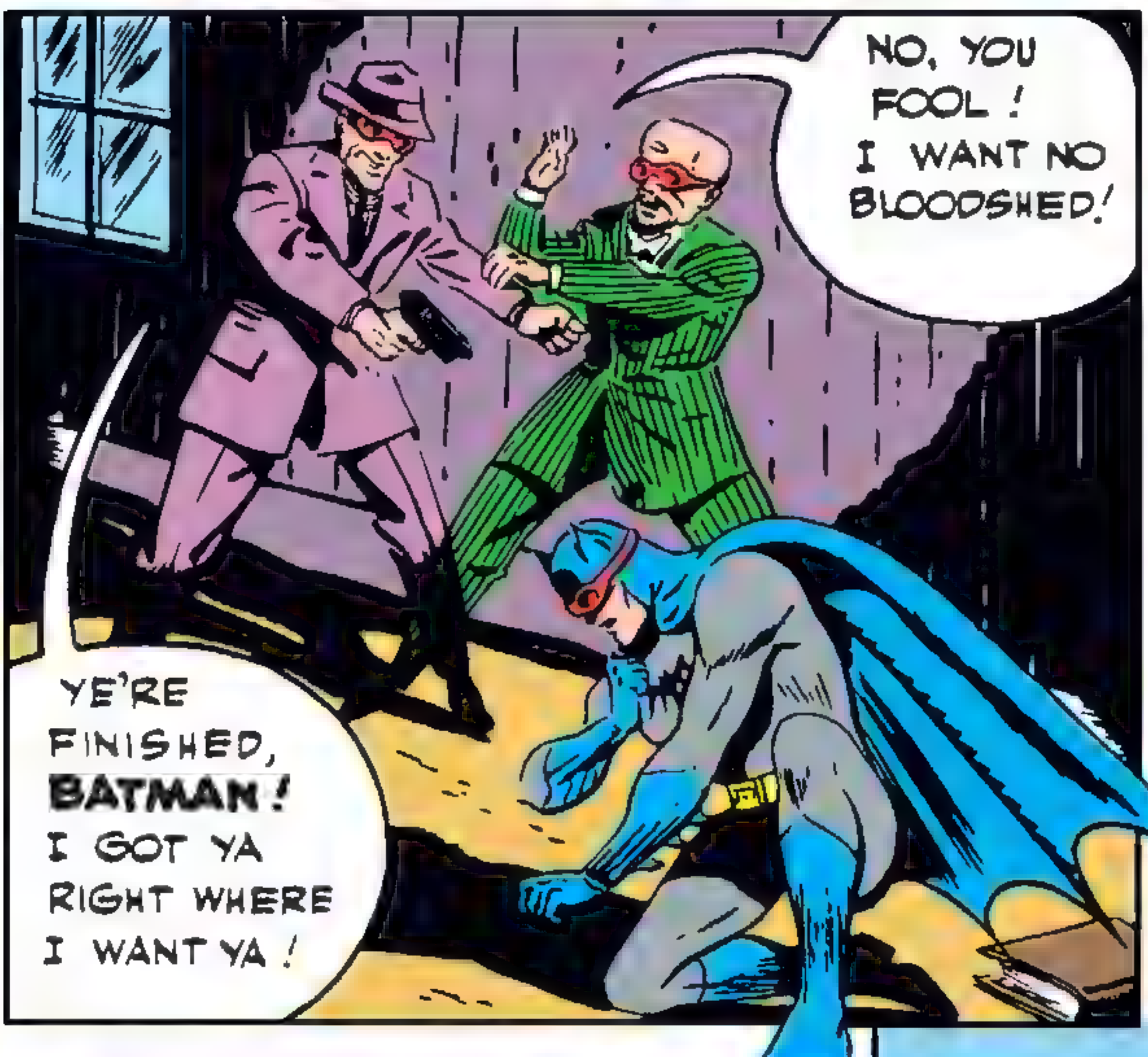
HAW, HAW! MISSED ME!

OOPS, SORRY-
I DIDN'T GET
BOTH OF YOU!

THE MIGHTY
MANHUNTER
RACES FOR
HIS FALLEN
QUARRY!

OH! SOMEONE TRIPPED
OVER MY FOOT!

YES! I OUGHT
TO WATCH WHERE
YOU'RE
GOING!



NO, YOU
FOOL!
I WANT NO
BLOODSHED!

YE'RE
FINISHED,
BATMAN!
I GOT YA
RIGHT WHERE
I WANT YA!



HUH? I GET IT-- YA
WANTA POLISH EM
OFF YERSELF!

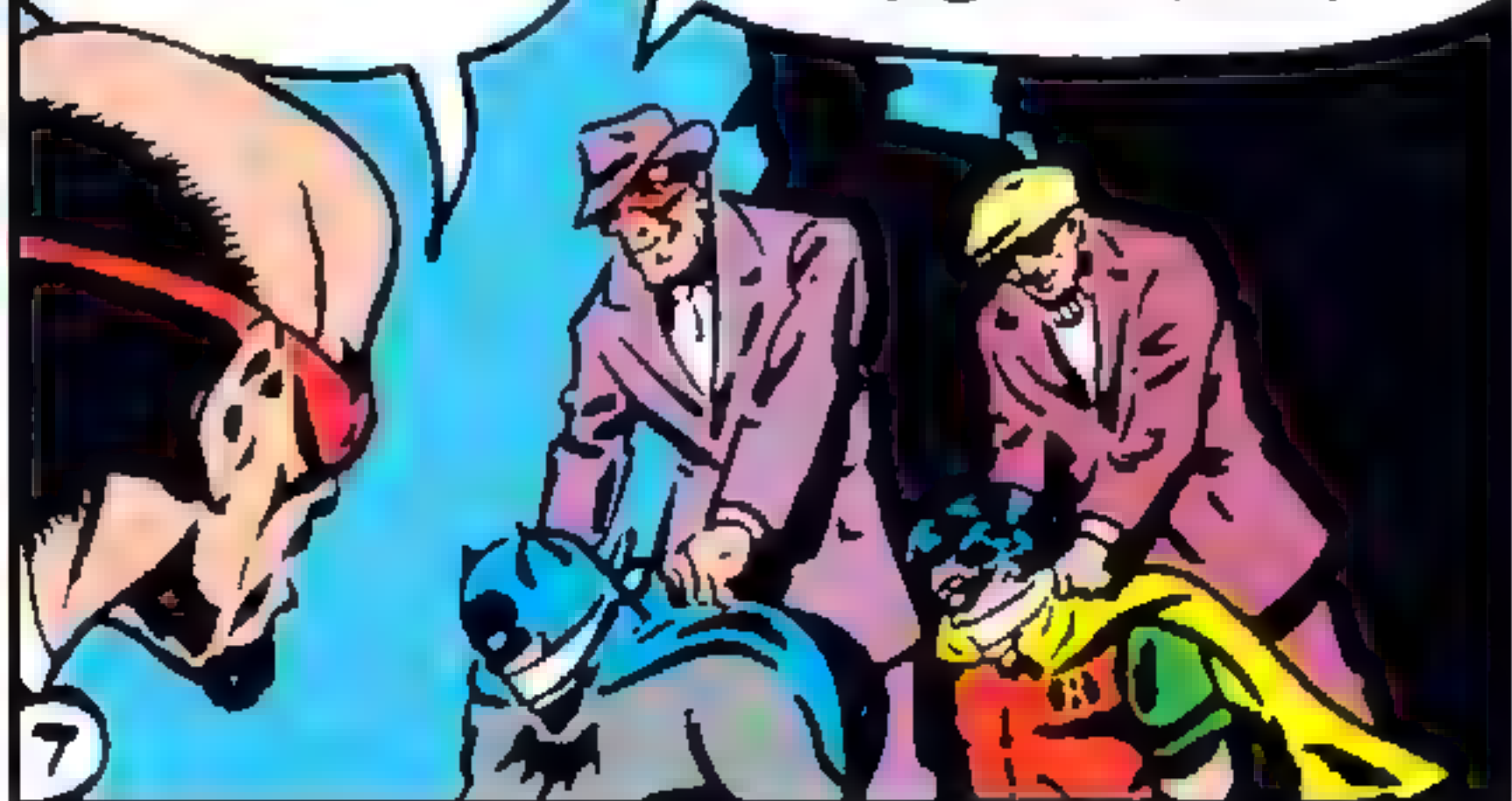
WHA-
WHAT'S HAP-
PENING TO ME?
I FEEL ALL
NUMB!

THIS
PARALYSIS RAY IS THE
ANSWER! IT TEMPOR-
ARILY SHORT-CIRCUITS
ALL YOUR NERVES!

ROBBED OF ALL FEELING AND
STRENGTH, THE PARTNERS IN
PERIL ARE SWIFTLY BOUND
AND GAGGED...

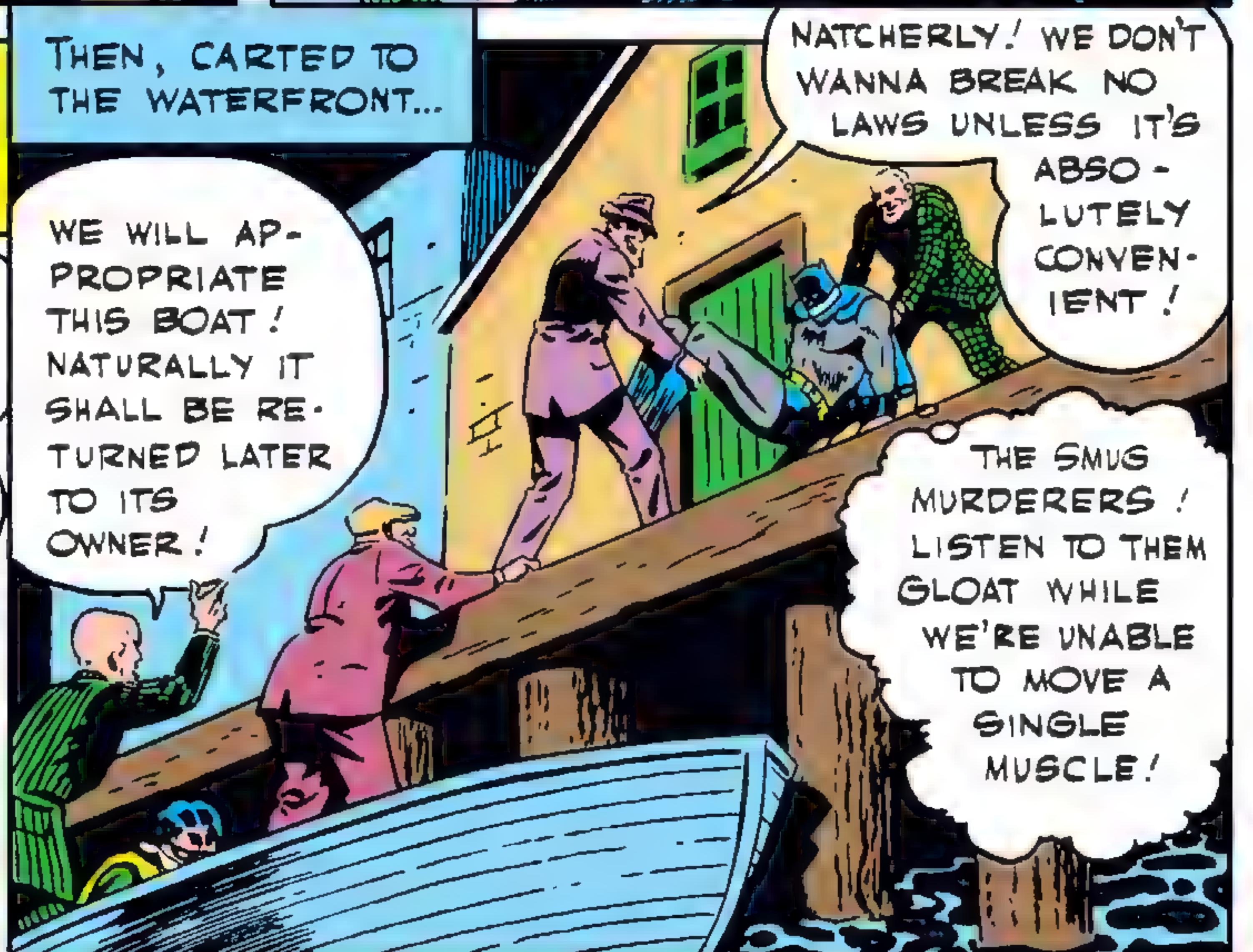
THERE, THAT WILL PREVENT YOU
FROM CAUSING TROUBLE WHEN THE
PARALYSIS WEARS OFF! PLEASE
ACCEPT MY APOLOGIES FOR ANY
INCONVEN-
IENCE THIS
CAUSES YOU!

DAT'S DE STUFF,
BOSS, RUB IT IN!
NOW WHAT?



THEN, CARTED TO
THE WATERFRONT...

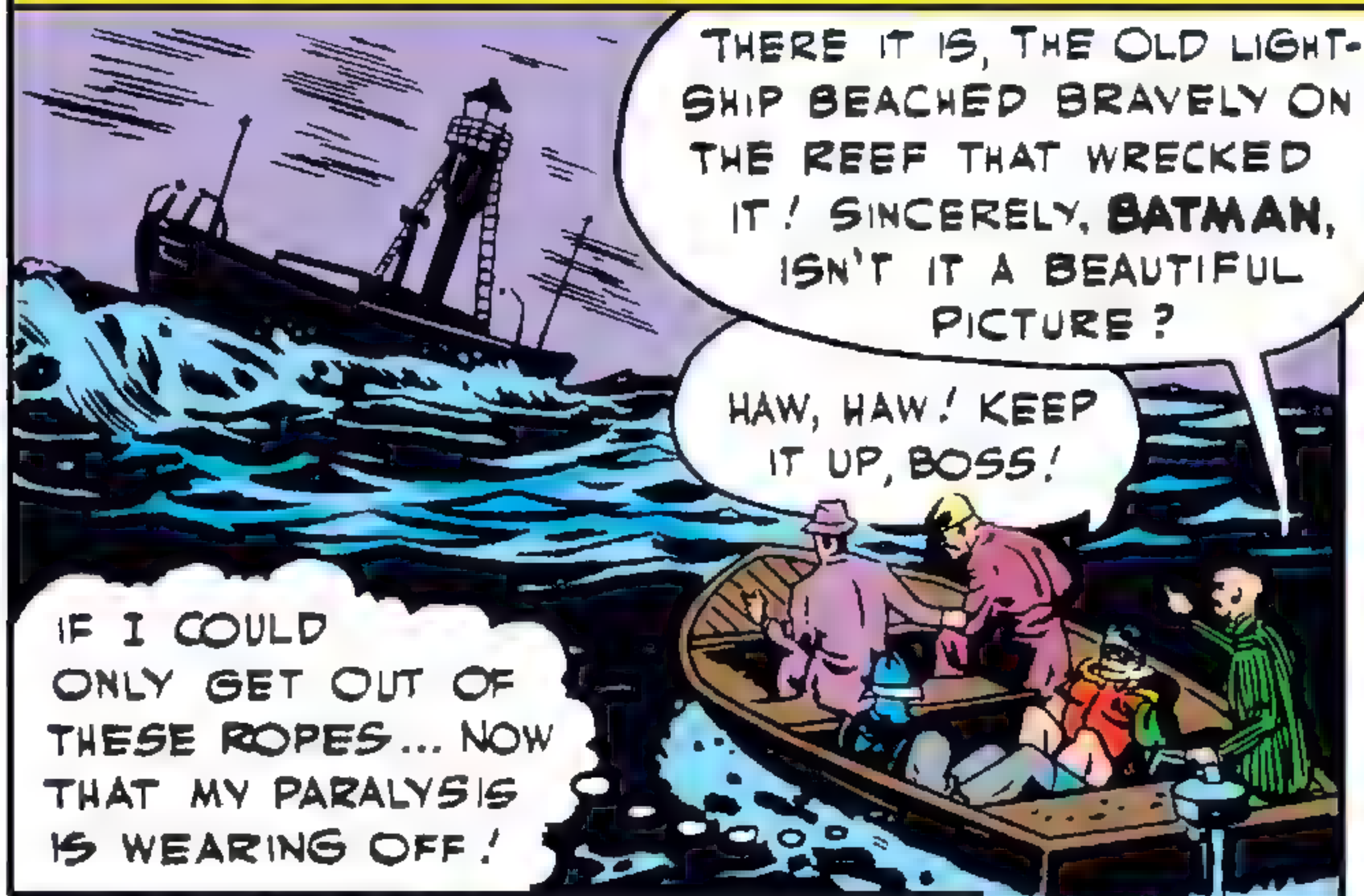
WE WILL AP-
PROPRIATE
THIS BOAT!
NATURALLY IT
SHALL BE RE-
TURNED LATER
TO ITS
OWNER!



NATCHERLY! WE DON'T
WANNA BREAK NO
LAWS UNLESS IT'S
ABSO-
LUTELY
CONVEN-
IENT!

THE SMUG
MURDERERS!
LISTEN TO THEM
GLOAT WHILE
WE'RE UNABLE
TO MOVE A
SINGLE
MUSCLE!

THROUGH THE CHOPPY WATER PLOWS THE LITTLE BOAT, BEARING ITS HELPLESS CARGO, UNTIL...



THERE IT IS, THE OLD LIGHT-SHIP BEACHED BRAVELY ON THE REEF THAT WRECKED IT! SINCERELY, BATMAN, ISN'T IT A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE?

HAW, HAW! KEEP IT UP, BOSS!

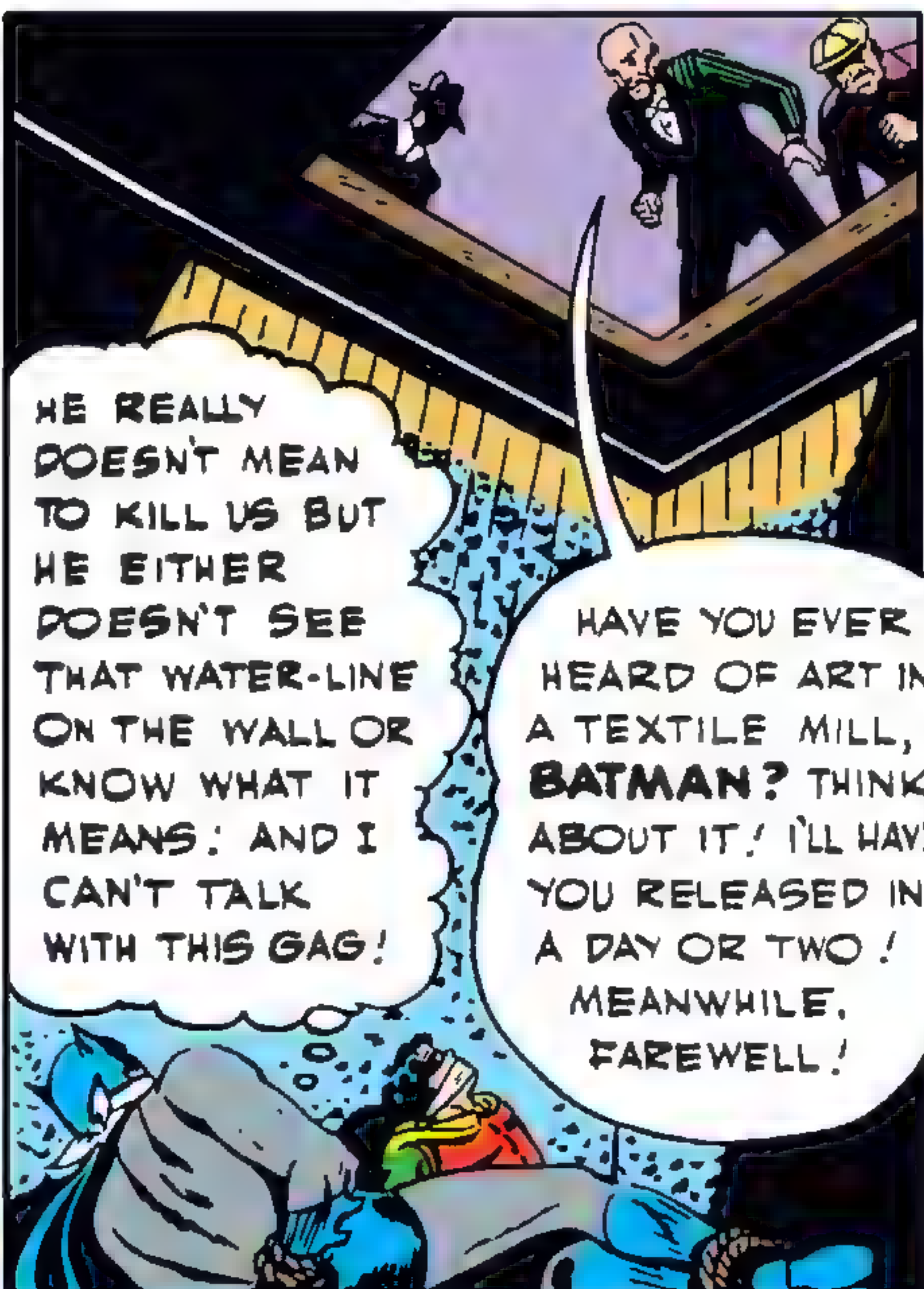
IF I COULD ONLY GET OUT OF THESE ROPES... NOW THAT MY PARALYSIS IS WEARING OFF!

NOW I CAN BUMP 'EM, BOSS? DEY WON'T BE FOUND FOR YEARS AN' YEARS!

LONG MINUTES LATER...



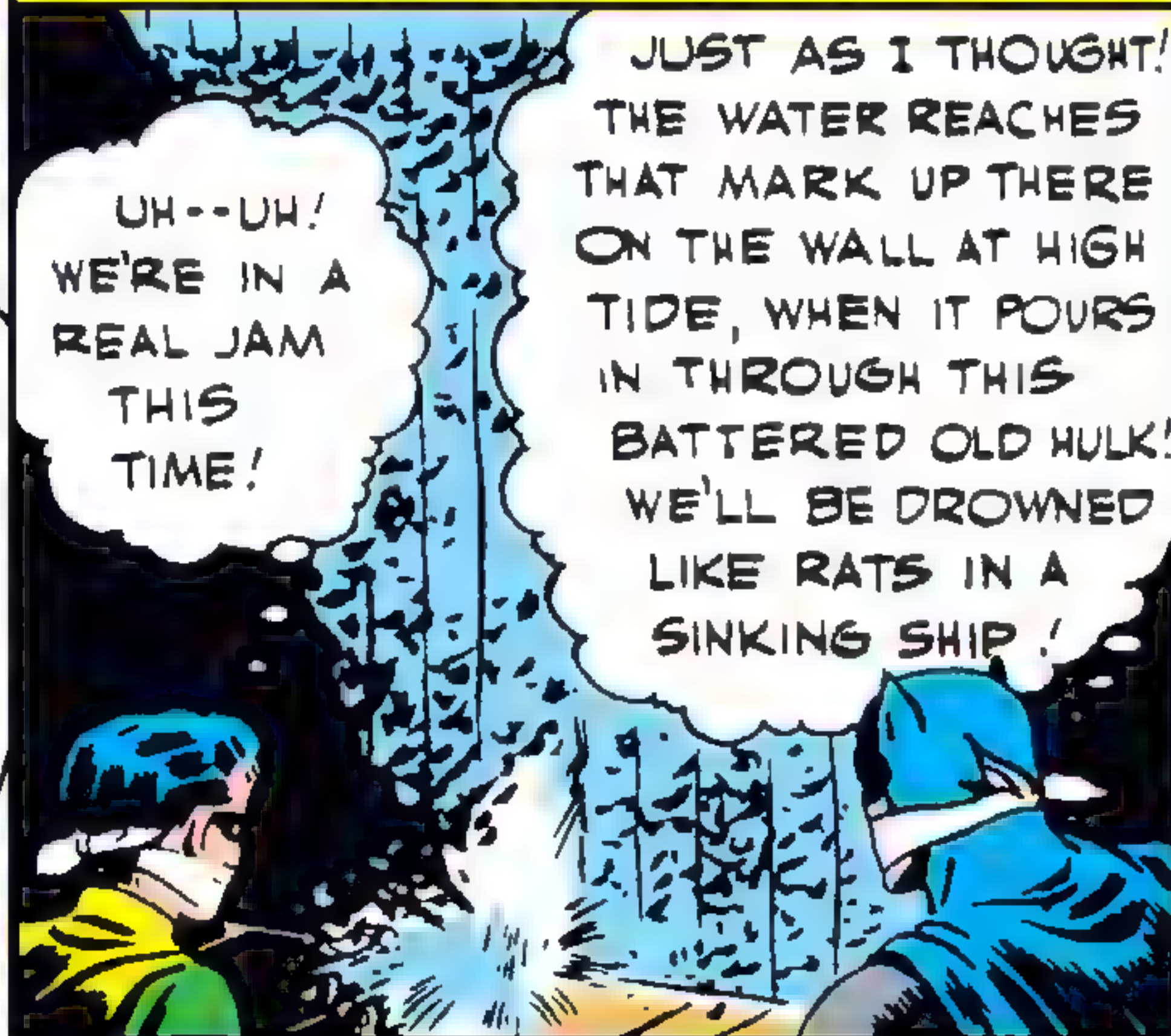
EMPHATICALLY NO! I DO NOT INTEND TO KILL THEM! I MERELY WANT THEM OUT OF MY WAY TILL MY PLAN IS ACCOMPLISHED!



HE REALLY DOESN'T MEAN TO KILL US BUT HE EITHER DOESN'T SEE THAT WATER-LINE ON THE WALL OR KNOW WHAT IT MEANS! AND I CAN'T TALK WITH THIS GAG!

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF ART IN A TEXTILE MILL, BATMAN? THINK ABOUT IT! I'LL HAVE YOU RELEASED IN A DAY OR TWO! MEANWHILE, FAREWELL!

HEAVY FOOTSTEPS ECHO ACROSS THE ROTTEN DECK... THE CHATTERING OUT-BOARD DIES INTO SILENCE! AND THEN-- THE DEADLY SPLASH OF WATER!

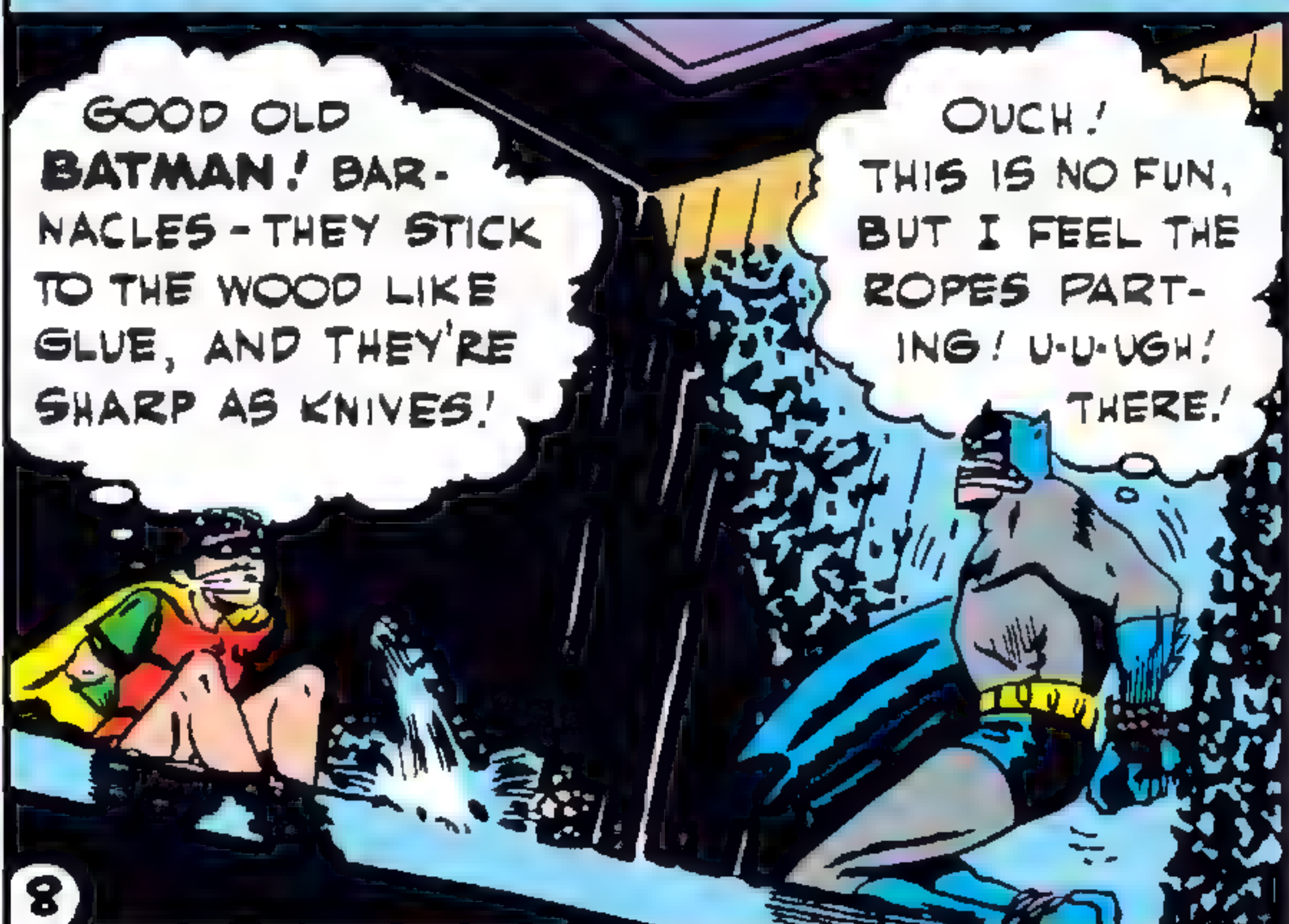


UH--UH! WE'RE IN A REAL JAM THIS TIME!

JUST AS I THOUGHT! THE WATER REACHES THAT MARK UP THERE ON THE WALL AT HIGH TIDE, WHEN IT POURS IN THROUGH THIS BATTERED OLD HULK! WE'LL BE DROWNED LIKE RATS IN A SINKING SHIP!

IRONY OF IRONIES! HERE IS A JEST FOR THE JEERING FATES! TO BE SLAIN BY A MAN WITH A DISTASTE FOR VIOLENCE... WHO HAS UN-WITTINGLY SENTENCED A PAIR THAT STAUNCHLY WITHSTOOD THE MOST LETHAL PLOTS OF THE UNDERWORLD'S DEADLIEST MURDERERS!

BUT...WAIT! WHAT PLAN STIRS IN BATMAN'S MIND AS HE STRUGGLES PAINFULLY TO THE NEAREST WALL?



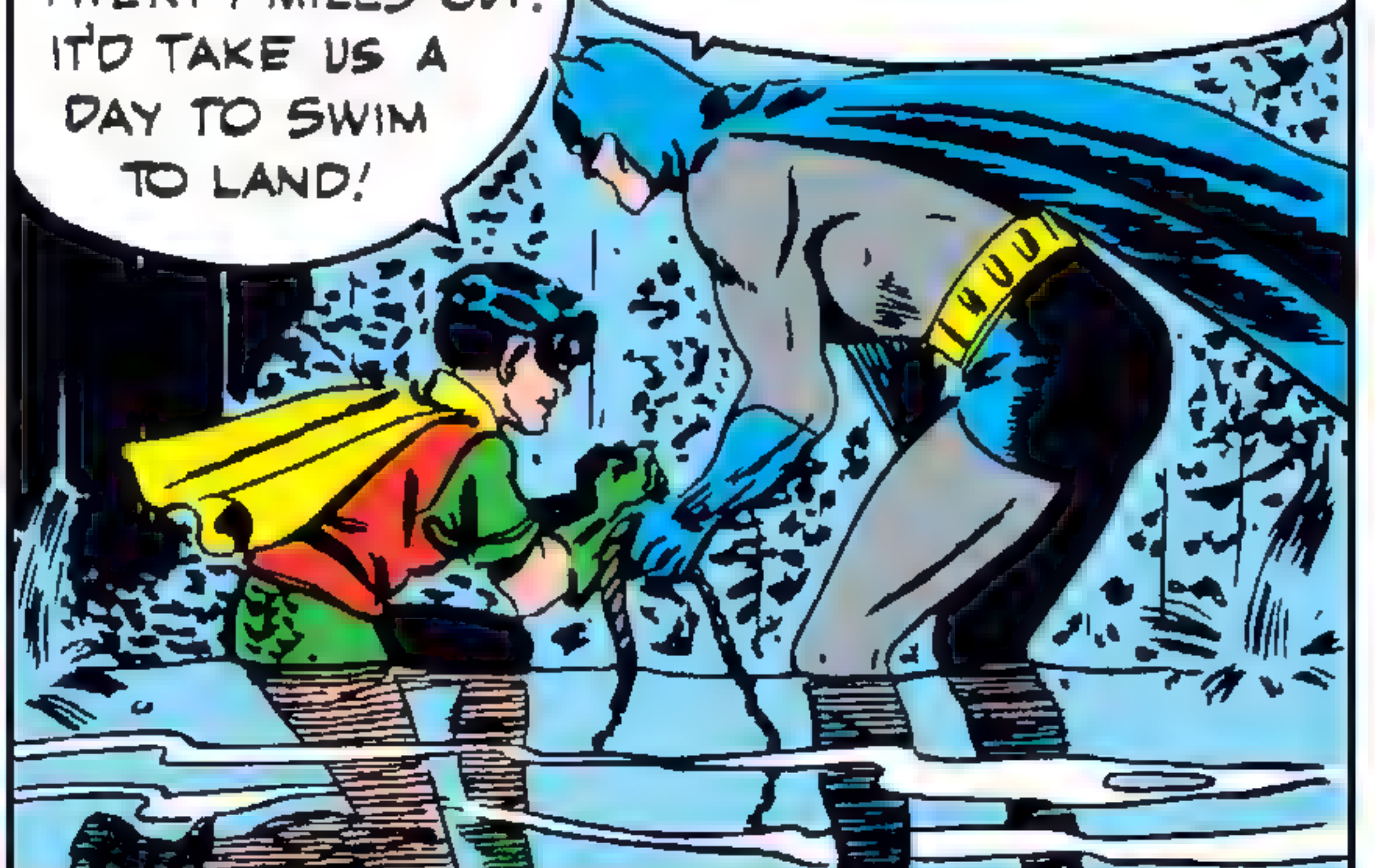
GOOD OLD BATMAN! BAR-NACLES--THEY STICK TO THE WOOD LIKE GLUE, AND THEY'RE SHARP AS KNIVES!

OUCH! THIS IS NO FUN, BUT I FEEL THE ROPES PARTING! U-U-UGH! THERE!

SECONDS LATER...

WE'RE FREE, BUT NOW WHAT? WE'RE ABOUT TWENTY MILES OUT! IT'D TAKE US A DAY TO SWIM TO LAND!

WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT WHEN WE'RE UP ON DECK AND OUT OF DANGER! GET ON MY SHOULDERS AND REACH FOR THAT HATCH!



SOON, OUT OF THE RAPIDLY FILLING DEATH-HOLD...

WITHIN THE
LIGHT TOWER...

IF WE COULD
ONLY SIGNAL TO
LAND -- BUT THAT
LIGHT HASN'T
BEEN USED FOR
YEARS!

HOLD ON,
M'LAD! THAT OLD
GASOLINE DRUM -
IT MUST HAVE BEEN
LEFT HERE BY ACCI-
DENT WHEN THE SHIP
WAS ABANDONED!

GOLLY,
BATMAN!
DO YOU THINK
THIS'LL DO
THE TRICK?

IT OUGHT TO!
THESE OLD LIGHT-
HOUSES BURNED
ACETYLENE CARBIDE
WHICH PRODUCES A
BRILLIANT FLAME!
BUT GASOLINE'LL
DO! WE'RE NOT TRY-
ING TO REACH SHIPS
FIFTY MILES OUT AT
SEA... JUST TWENTY
MILES TO LAND!

BUT--IT DOES WORK! A BLINDING BEAM
STREAKS ACROSS THE SKY, TO BE SEEN
BY STARTLED HARBOR POLICE!

NOW I'LL PASTE THIS BAT
STICKER ON THE MAGNIFYING
GLASS WINDOW AND START
THE FIRE WITH
SOME MATCHES
FROM THE WATER-
PROOF COM-
PARTMENT OF
MY UTILITY
BELT!

OBOY! IF
THIS DOESN'T
WORK, WE'RE IN
FOR A LOT OF EXERCISE,
SWIMMING TO SHORE!

WHAT--? THAT'S
THE SEARCHLIGHT
FROM THAT DESER-
TED LIGHTSHIP OUT
ON THE
REEF!
HOW--?

IT'S THE
BATMAN'S SIGNAL!
LET'S GO!

LATER...

THANKS,
BOYS! YOU
SAVED US
A LONG
SWIM
HOME!

SWIFT AS A TORPEDO, THE
PATROL BOAT LANDS ITS
GRATEFUL PASSENGERS... AND...

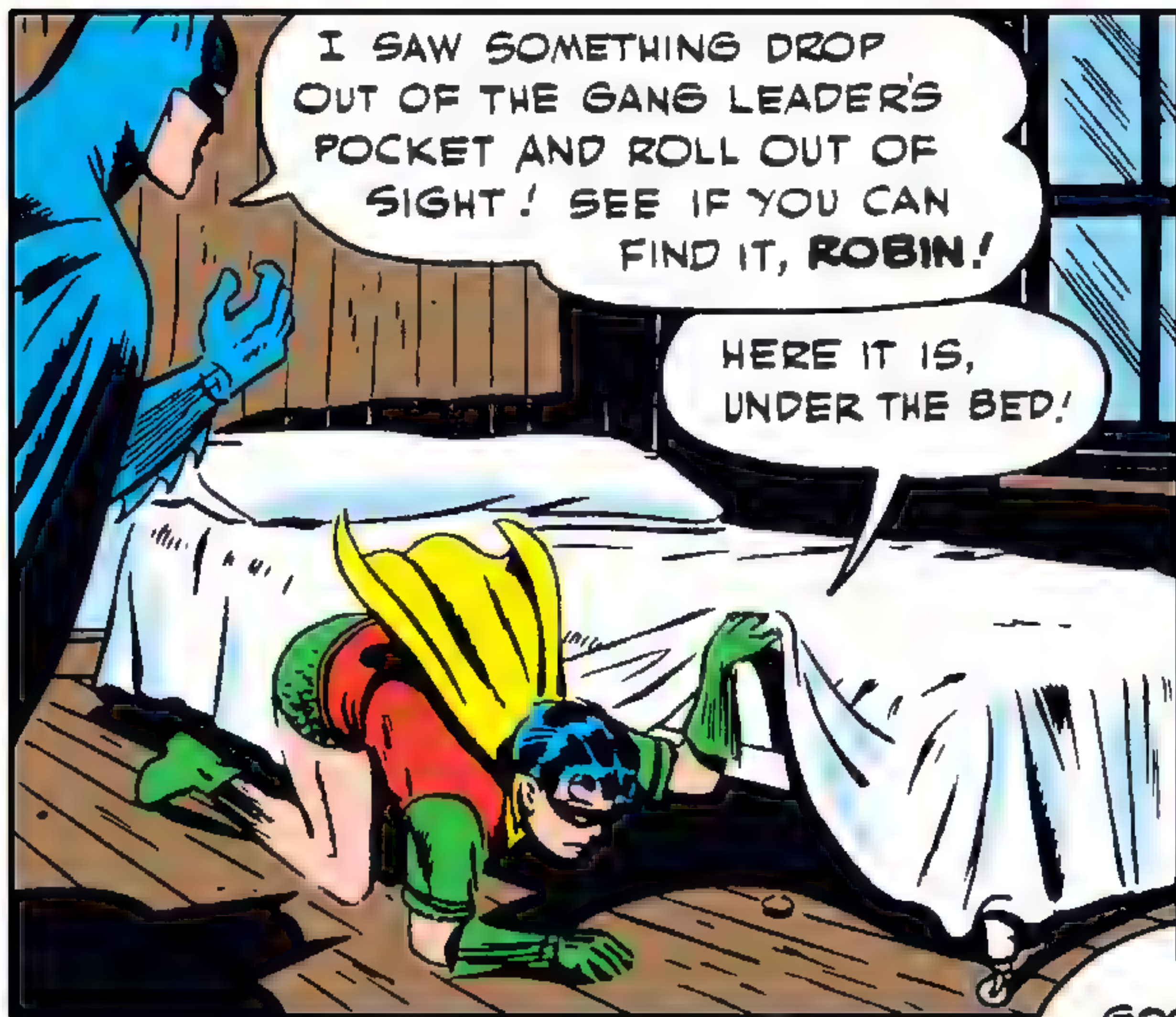
HURRY! THEY'RE
GOING TO HIT
THE TEXTILE
MILL NEXT

ALWAYS
GLAD TO HELP
YOU AND **ROBIN,**
BATMAN! GOSH,
WAIT TILL MY
KIDS HEAR
ABOUT
THIS!

THE POLICE BOAT
WAS FAST AND THE
BATPLANE'S PAR-
KED NEARBY! THE
CROOKS WON'T REACH
THE MILL MUCH BE-
FORE WE DO!
WE'RE STOPPING
OFF AT THAT WRITER'S
SHACK TO DO A LITTLE IN-
VESTIGATING FIRST!

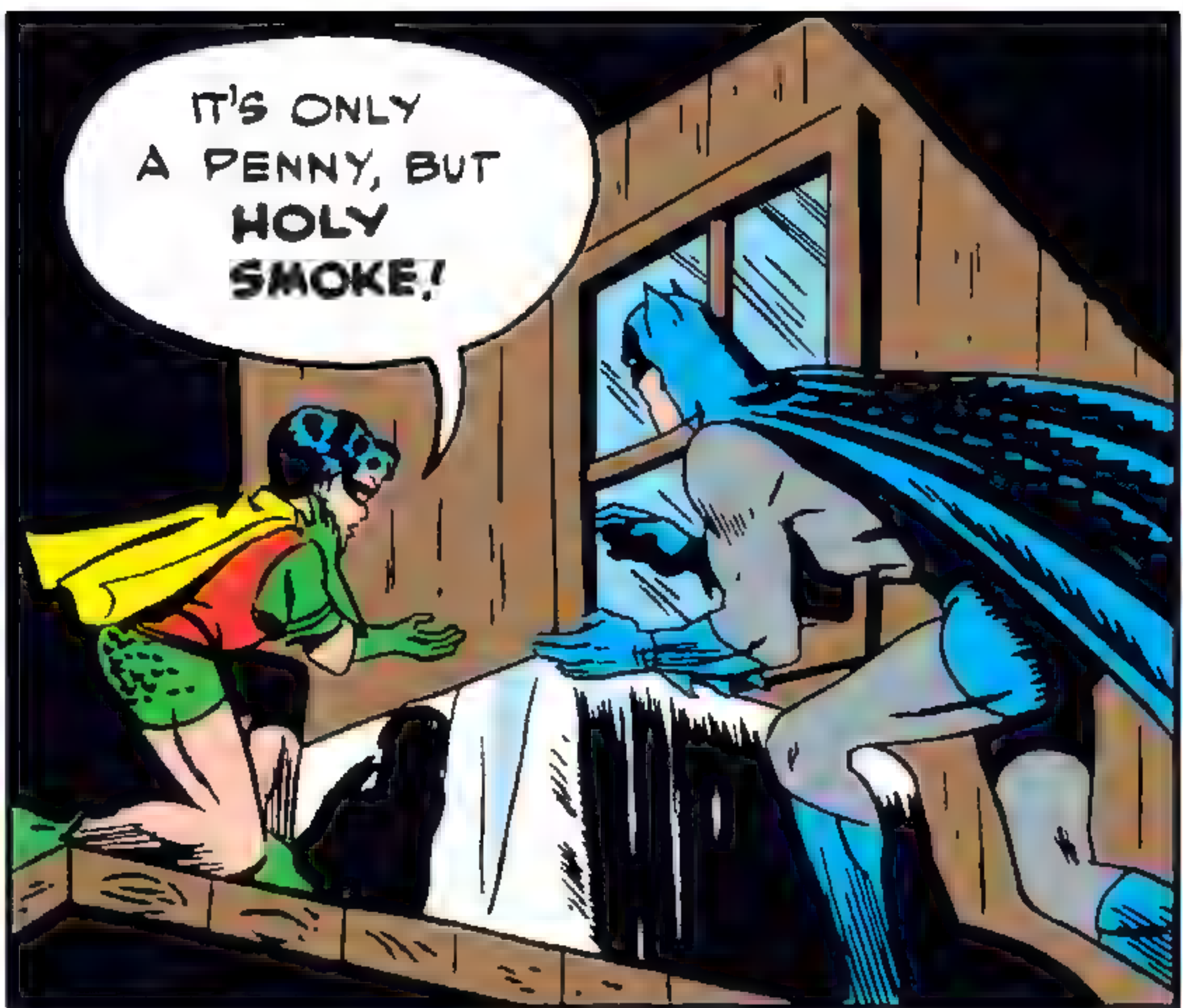
YOU ASK IF THE
STOLEN MANUSCRIPT
WAS VALUABLE? WHY,
NO! AS A MATTER
OF FACT, I WAS
VERY DISSATISFIED
WITH IT AND WAS
ABOUT TO TEAR IT
UP WHEN THOSE
THIEVES BURST
IN!

HMM

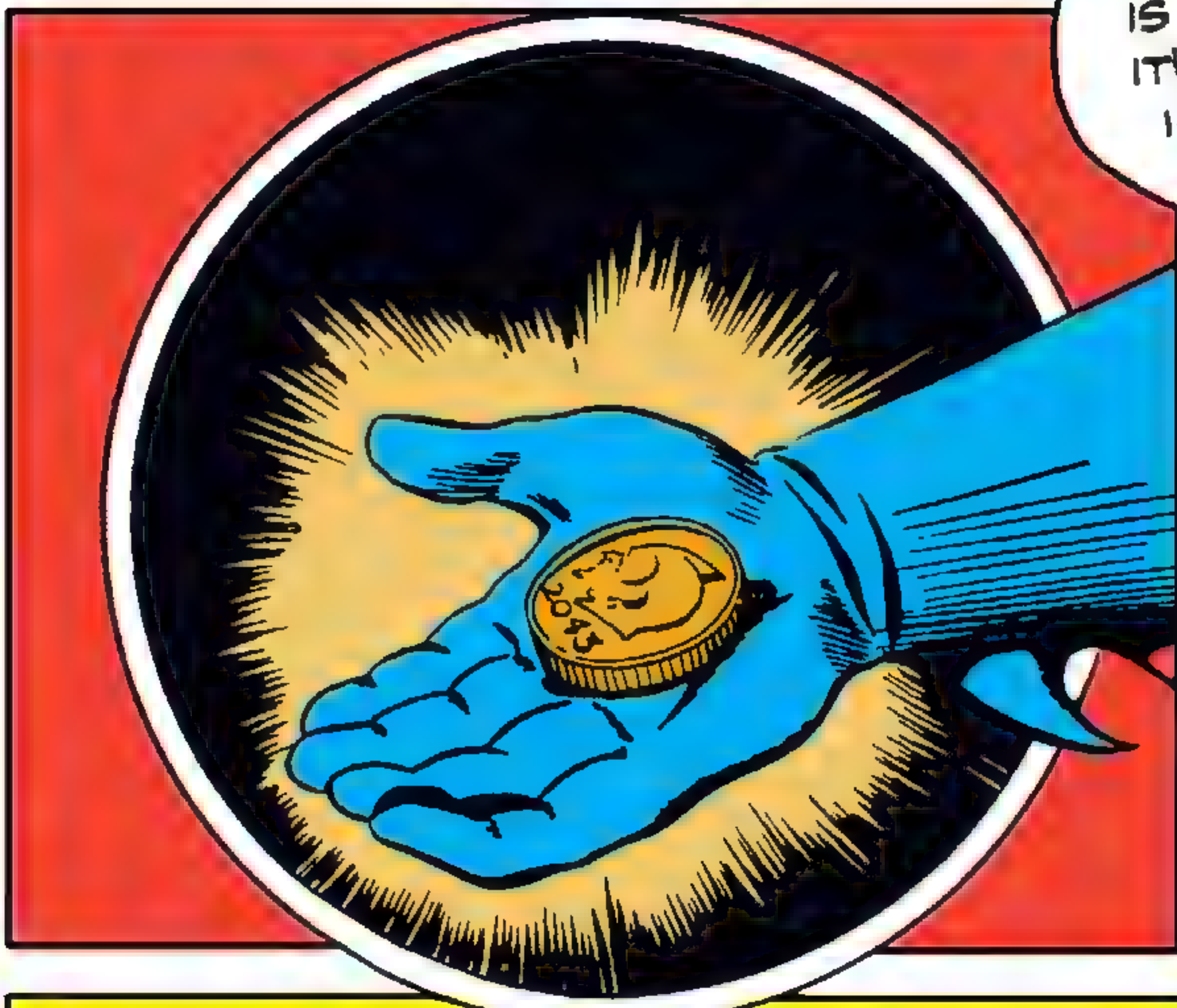


I SAW SOMETHING DROP OUT OF THE GANG LEADER'S POCKET AND ROLL OUT OF SIGHT! SEE IF YOU CAN FIND IT, **ROBIN!**

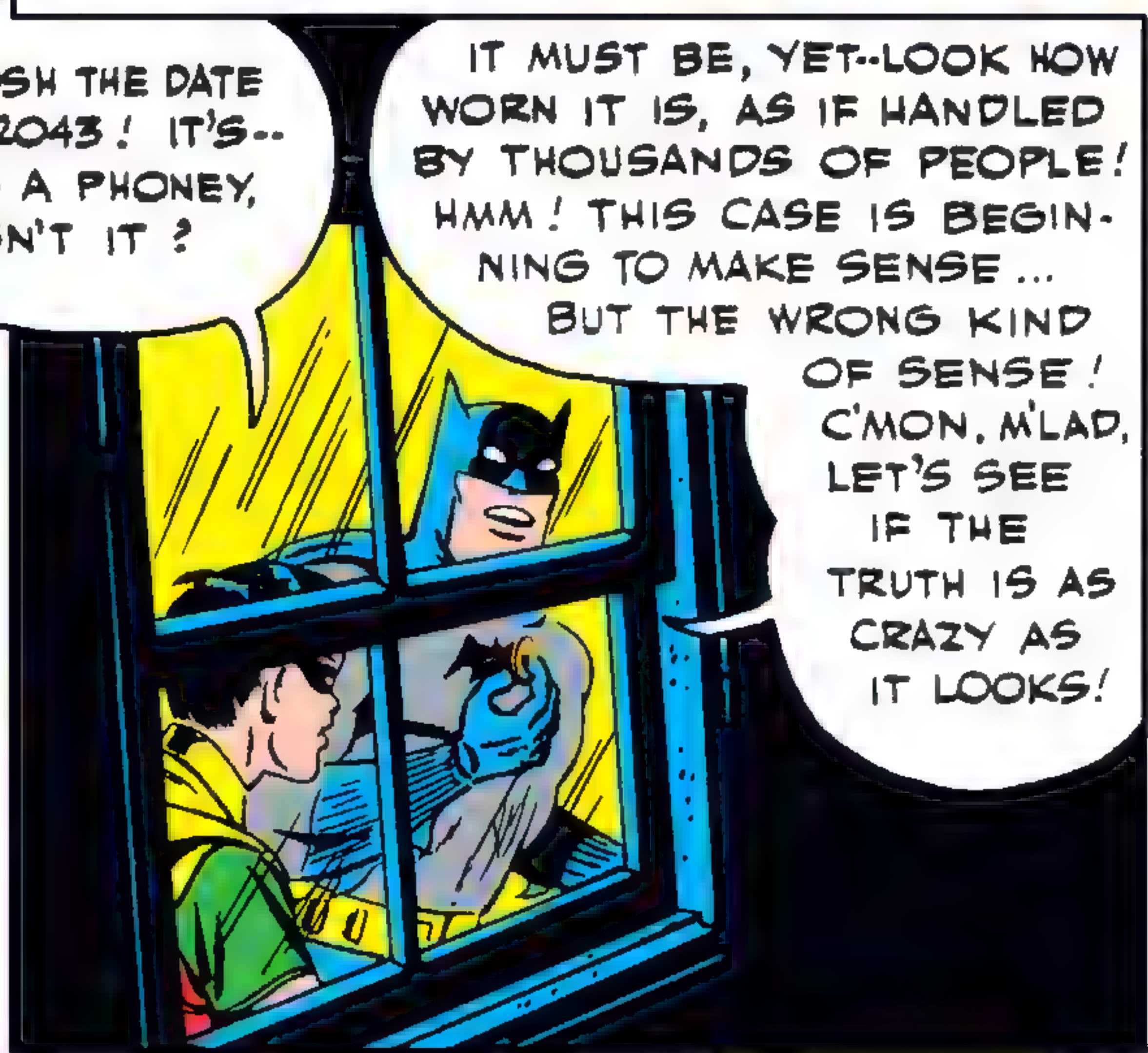
HERE IT IS, UNDER THE BED!



IT'S ONLY A PENNY, BUT **HOLY SMOKE!**



GOSH THE DATE IS 2043! IT'S-- IT'S A PHONEY, ISN'T IT?

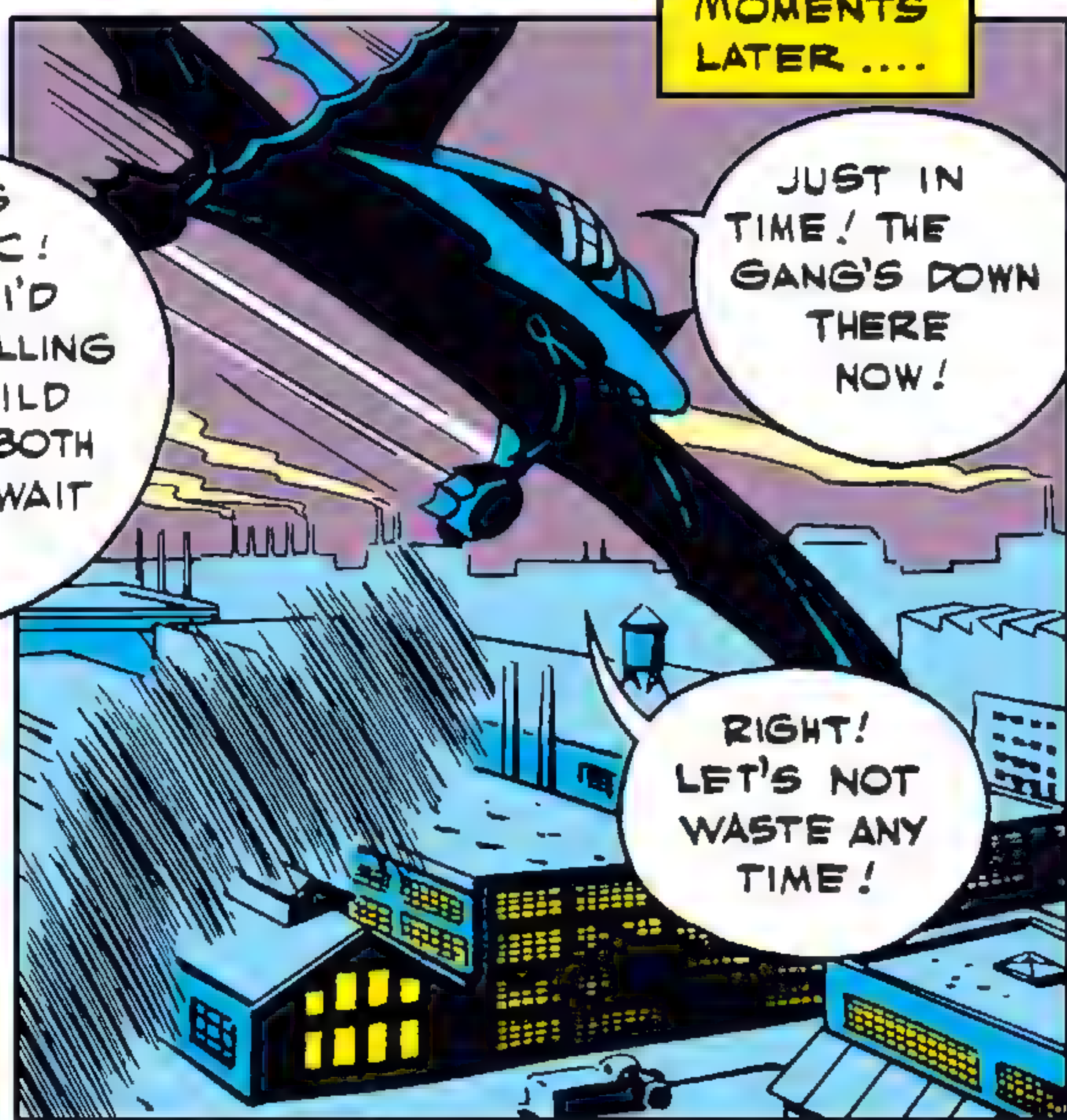
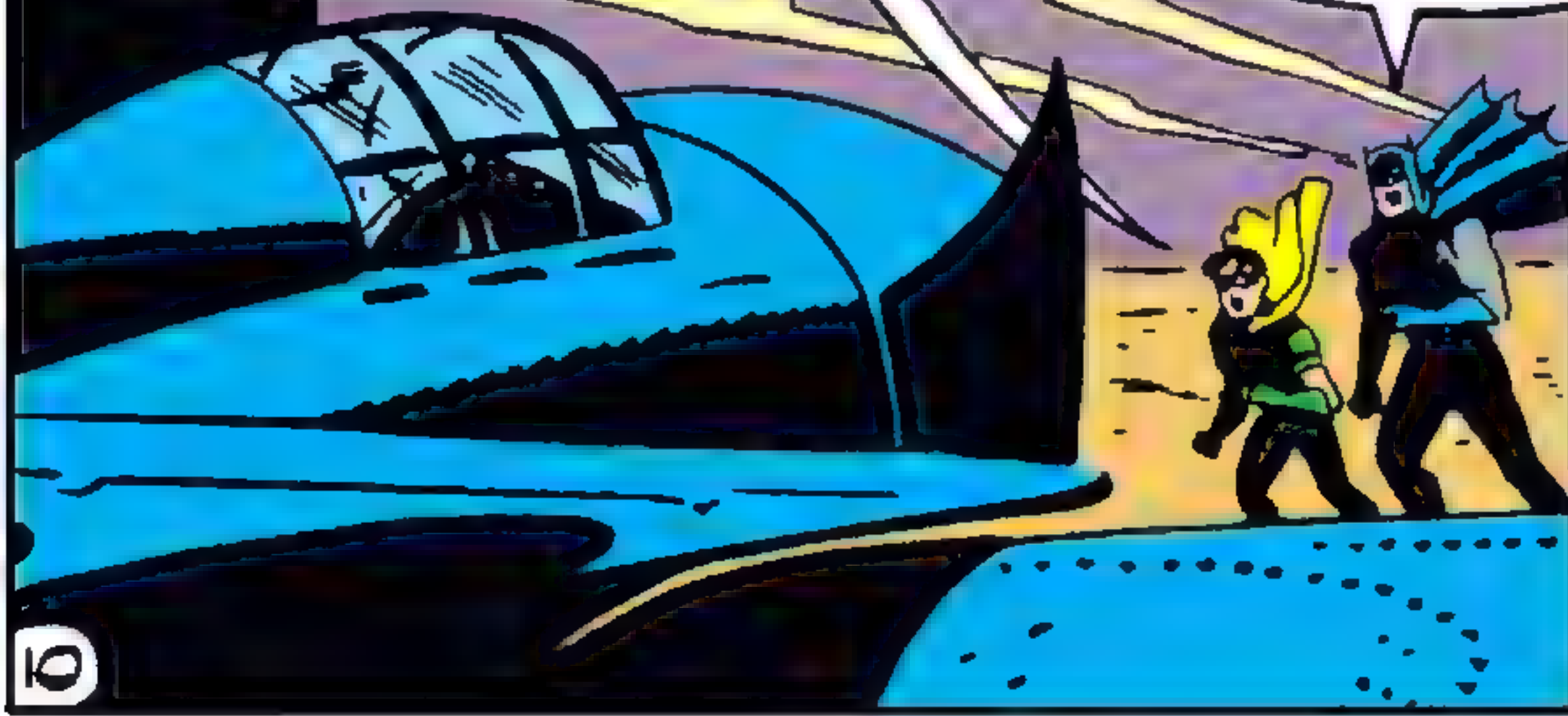


IT MUST BE, YET--LOOK HOW WORN IT IS, AS IF HANDLED BY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE! HMM! THIS CASE IS BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE... BUT THE WRONG KIND OF SENSE! C'MON, M'LAD, LET'S SEE IF THE TRUTH IS AS CRAZY AS IT LOOKS!

A QUICK RUSH TO THE **BATPLANE** HIDDEN NEARBY...

A KID'S SCHOOL BOOK, A TABLE LAMP, A MANUSCRIPT THAT THE AUTHOR WAS GOING TO DESTROY-- I'M DIZZY TRYING TO FIGURE IT OUT! IF YOU KNOW THE ANSWER WHY DON'T YOU LET ME IN ON IT?

BECAUSE IT'S TOO FANTASTIC! IF I'M WRONG, I'D FEEL SILLY TELLING YOU SUCH A WILD STORY! WE'LL BOTH JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE!

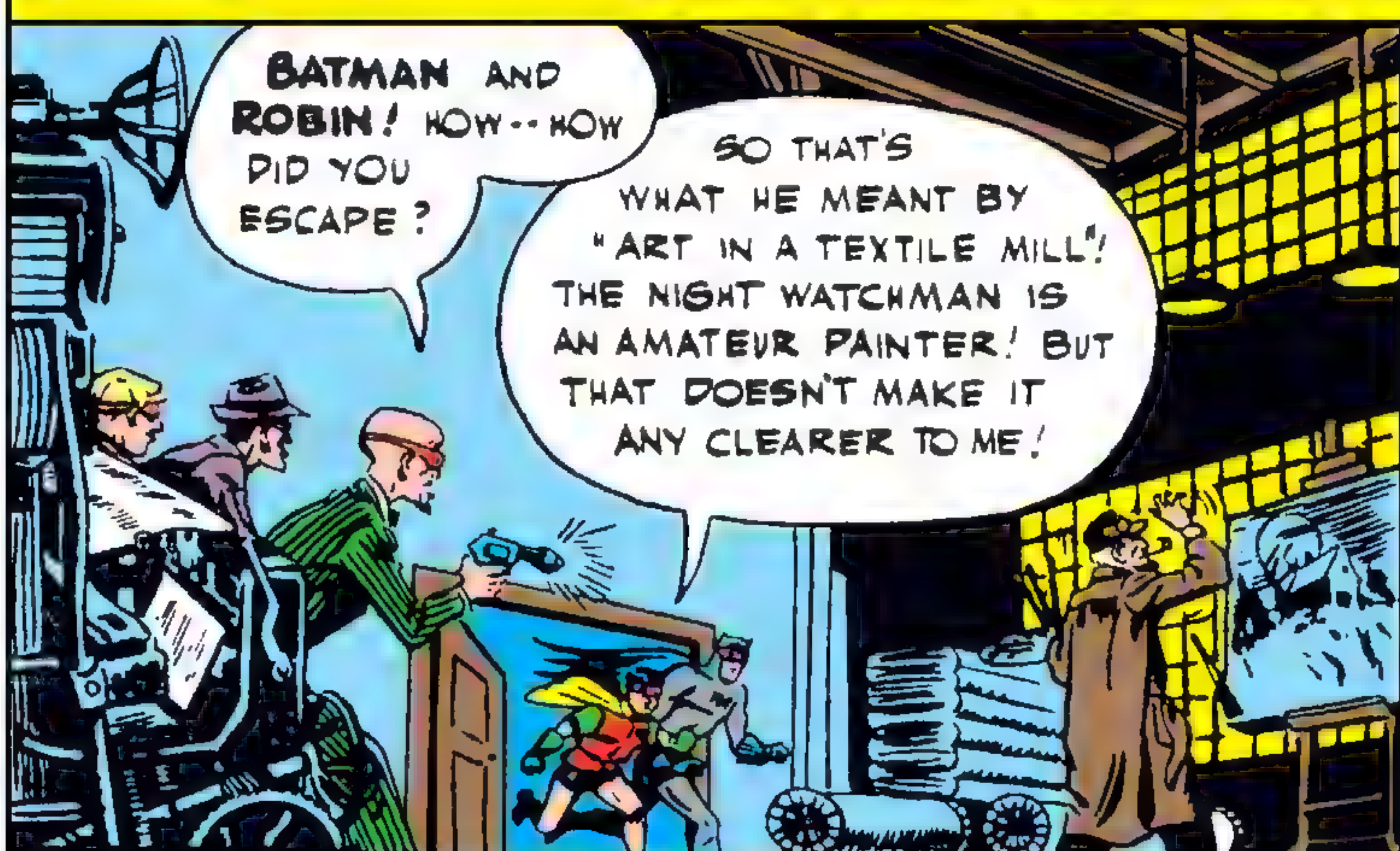


MOMENTS LATER....

JUST IN TIME! THE GANG'S DOWN THERE NOW!

RIGHT! LET'S NOT WASTE ANY TIME!

LANDING, THE DYNAMIC DUO CHARGES RECKLESSLY INTO THE MILL !



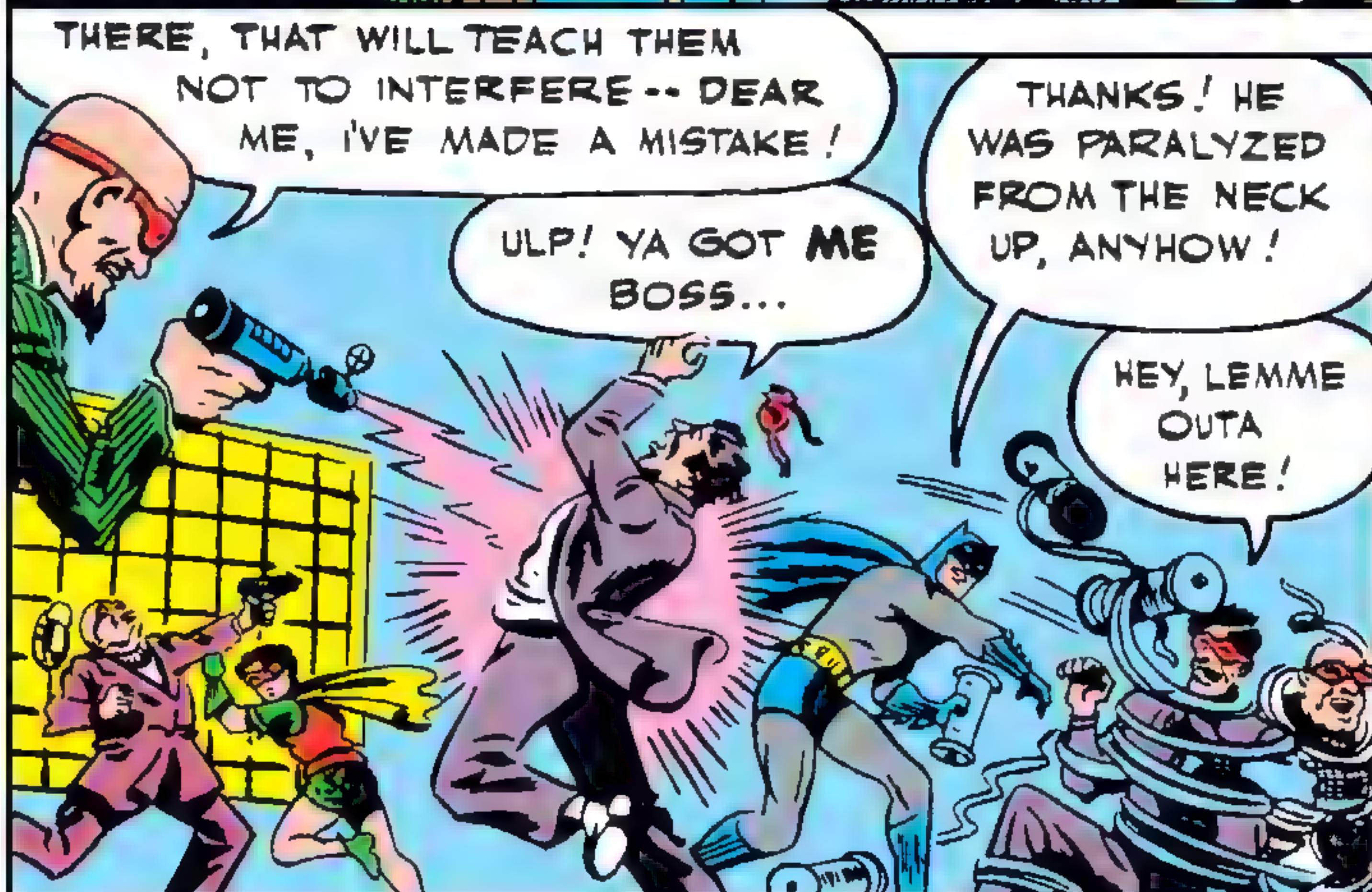
BATMAN AND ROBIN! HOW--HOW DID YOU ESCAPE?

SO THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT BY "ART IN A TEXTILE MILL"! THE NIGHT WATCHMAN IS AN AMATEUR PAINTER! BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT ANY CLEARER TO ME!



AT 'EM, GANG! UGHM!

COME AHEAD - IF YOU LIKE THIS KIND OF A RIDE!



THERE, THAT WILL TEACH THEM NOT TO INTERFERE -- DEAR ME, I'VE MADE A MISTAKE!

ULP! YA GOT ME BOSS...

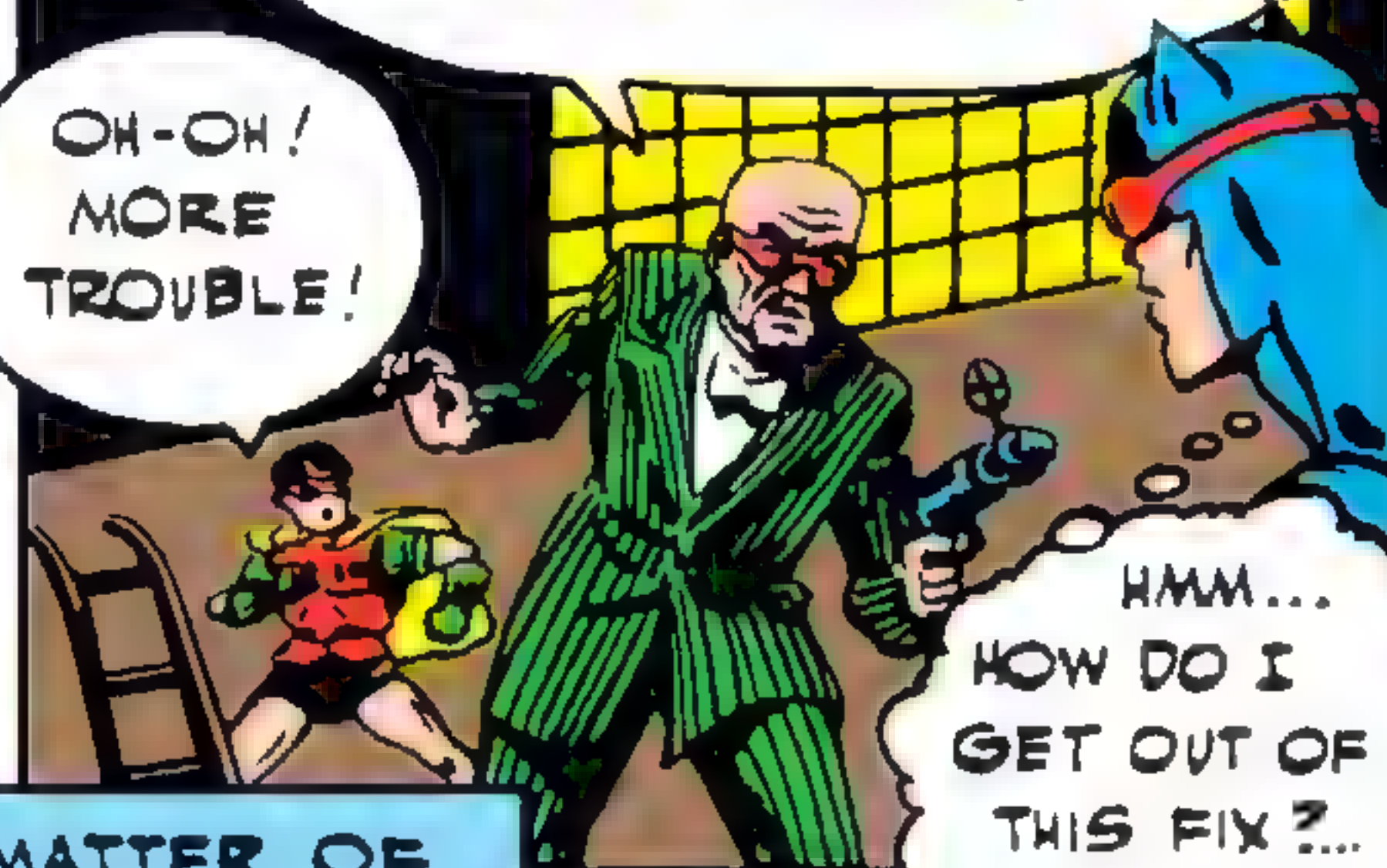
THANKS! HE WAS PARALYZED FROM THE NECK UP, ANYHOW!

HEY, LEMME OUTA HERE!

BUT THE NEXT SECOND...

MY PATIENCE IS WORN THIN, BATMAN! I SHALL GIVE YOU A SEVERE CASE OF PARALYSIS TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MEDDLE FURTHER WITH MY AFFAIRS!

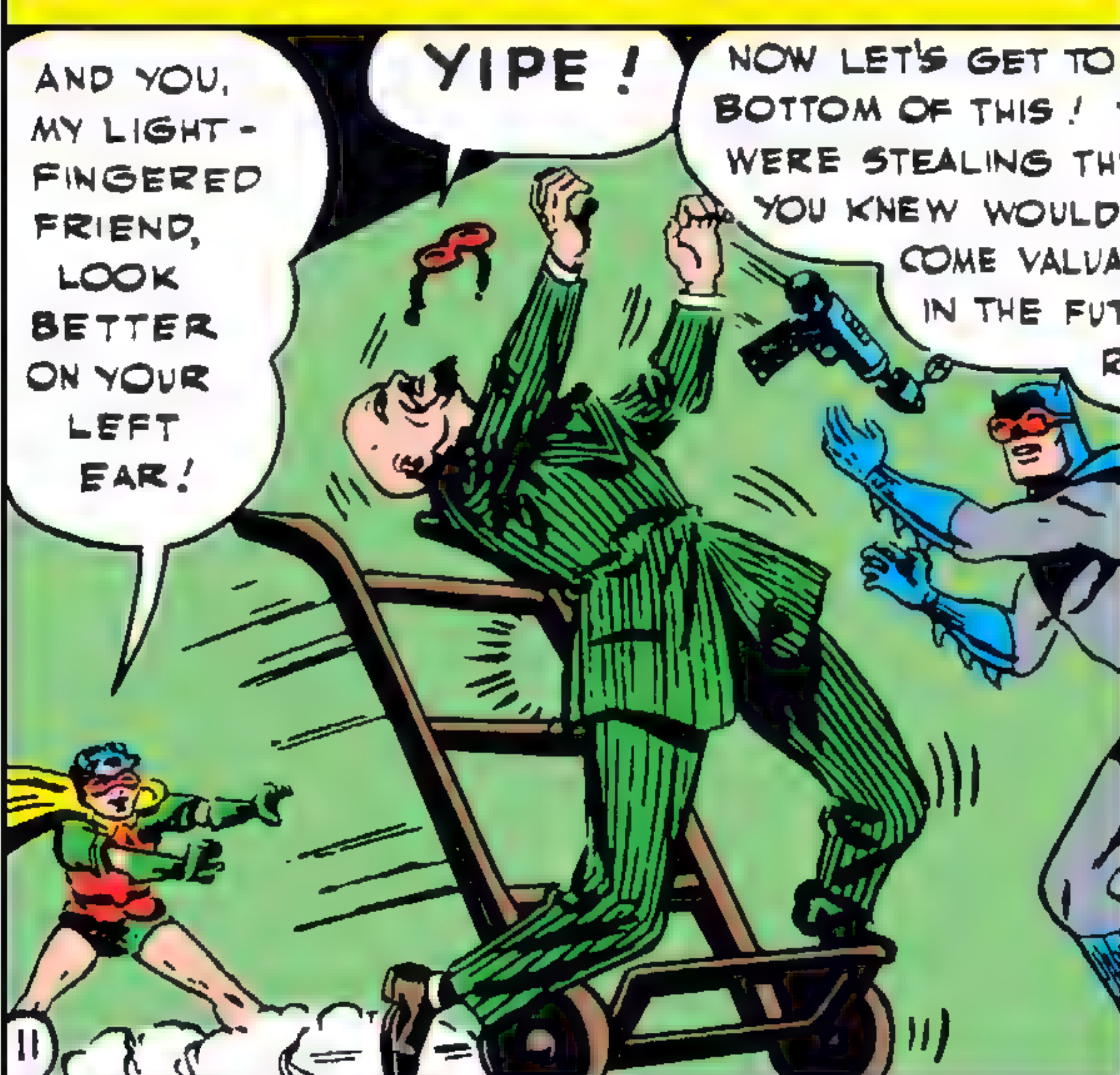
OH-OH! MORE TROUBLE!



HMM... HOW DO I GET OUT OF THIS FIX?...

LEAVE IT TO ROBIN, BATMAN! FOR THE BOY WONDER INTERVENES WITH THE SPEED OF A SWOOPING SPARROWHAWK! AND...

WITHIN A MATTER OF INSTANTS... THE SITUATION IS REVERSED!



AND YOU, MY LIGHT-FINGERED FRIEND, LOOK BETTER ON YOUR LEFT EAR!

YIPE!

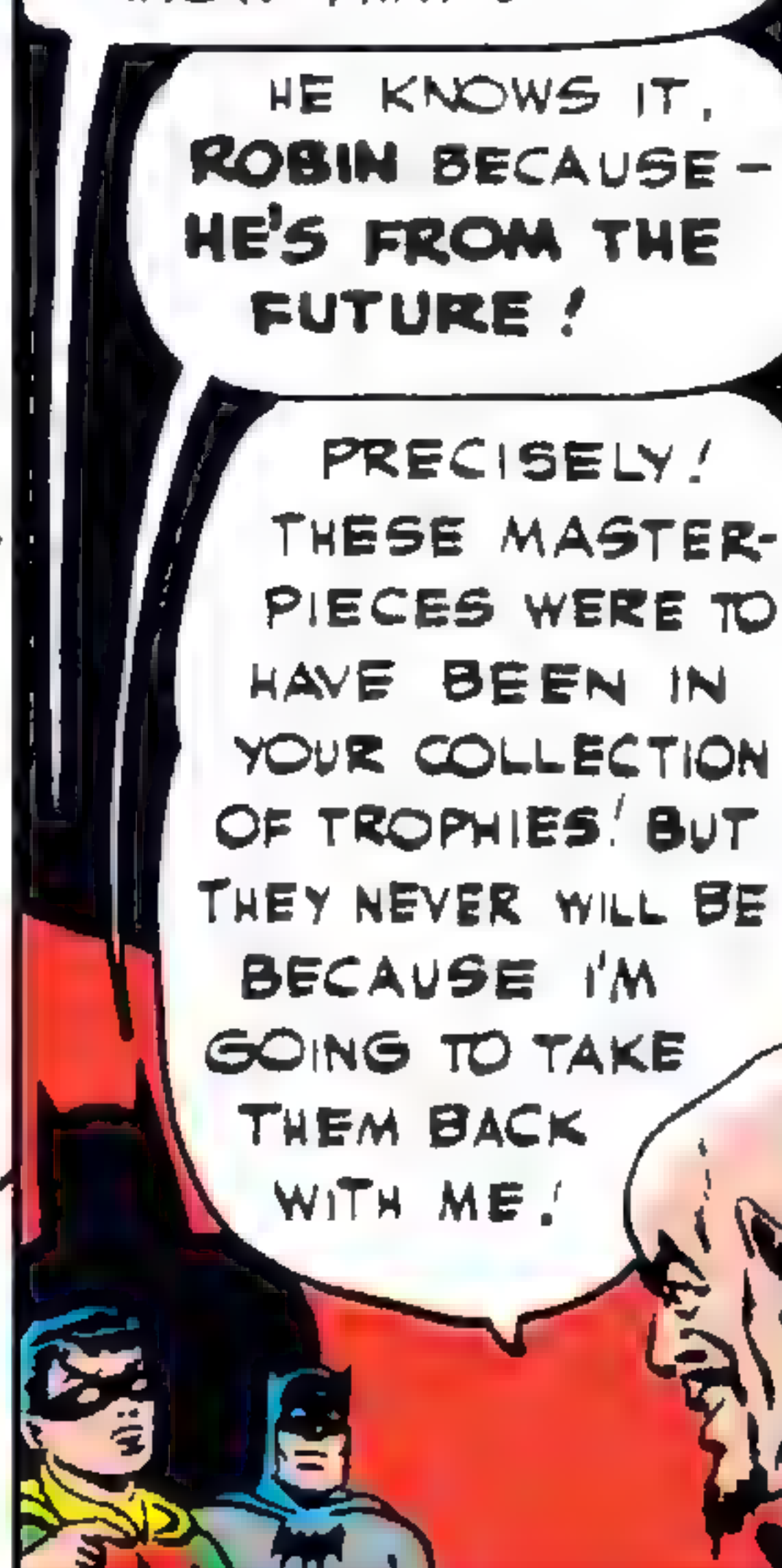
NOW LET'S GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS! YOU WERE STEALING THINGS YOU KNEW WOULD BECOME VALUABLE IN THE FUTURE, RIGHT?

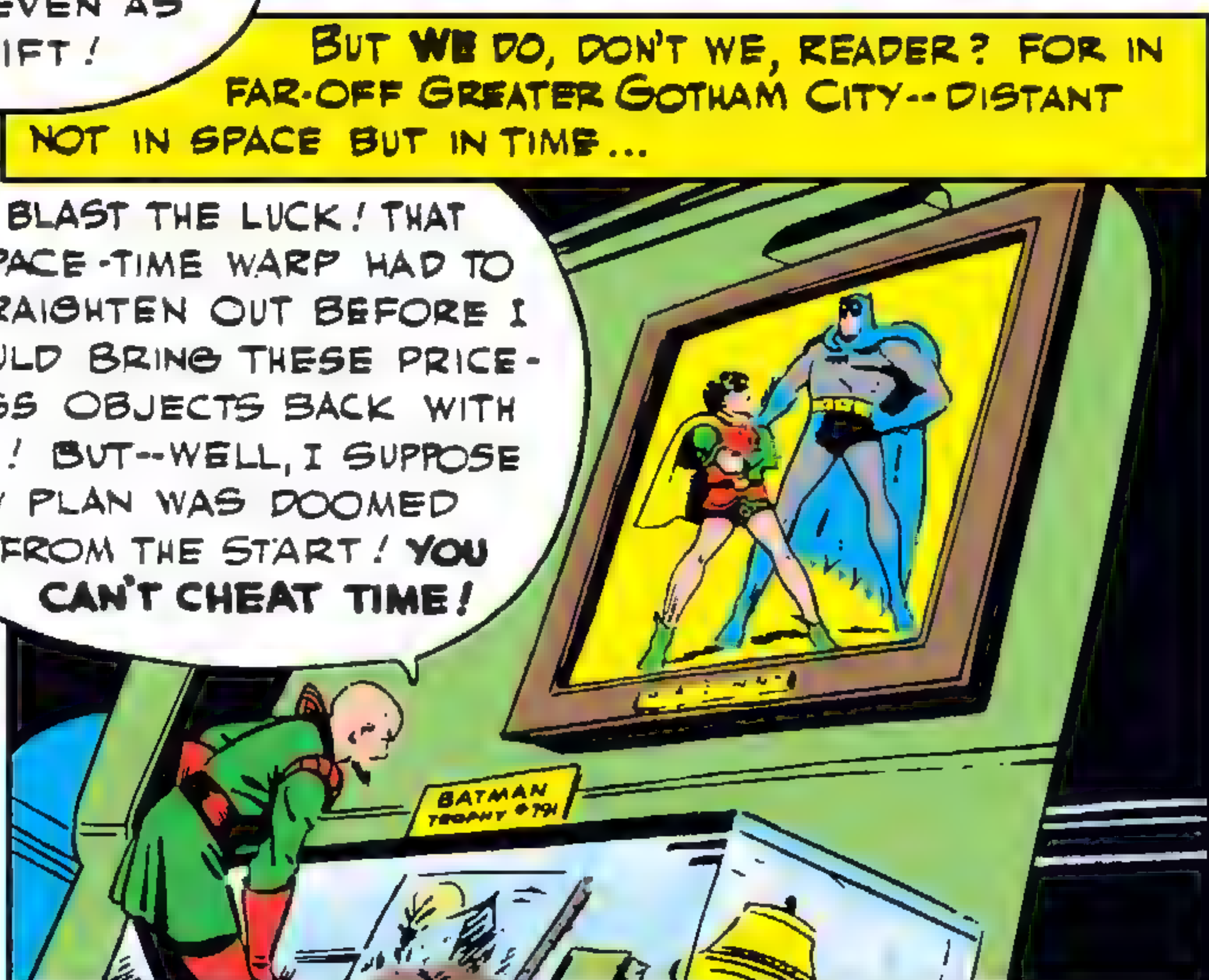
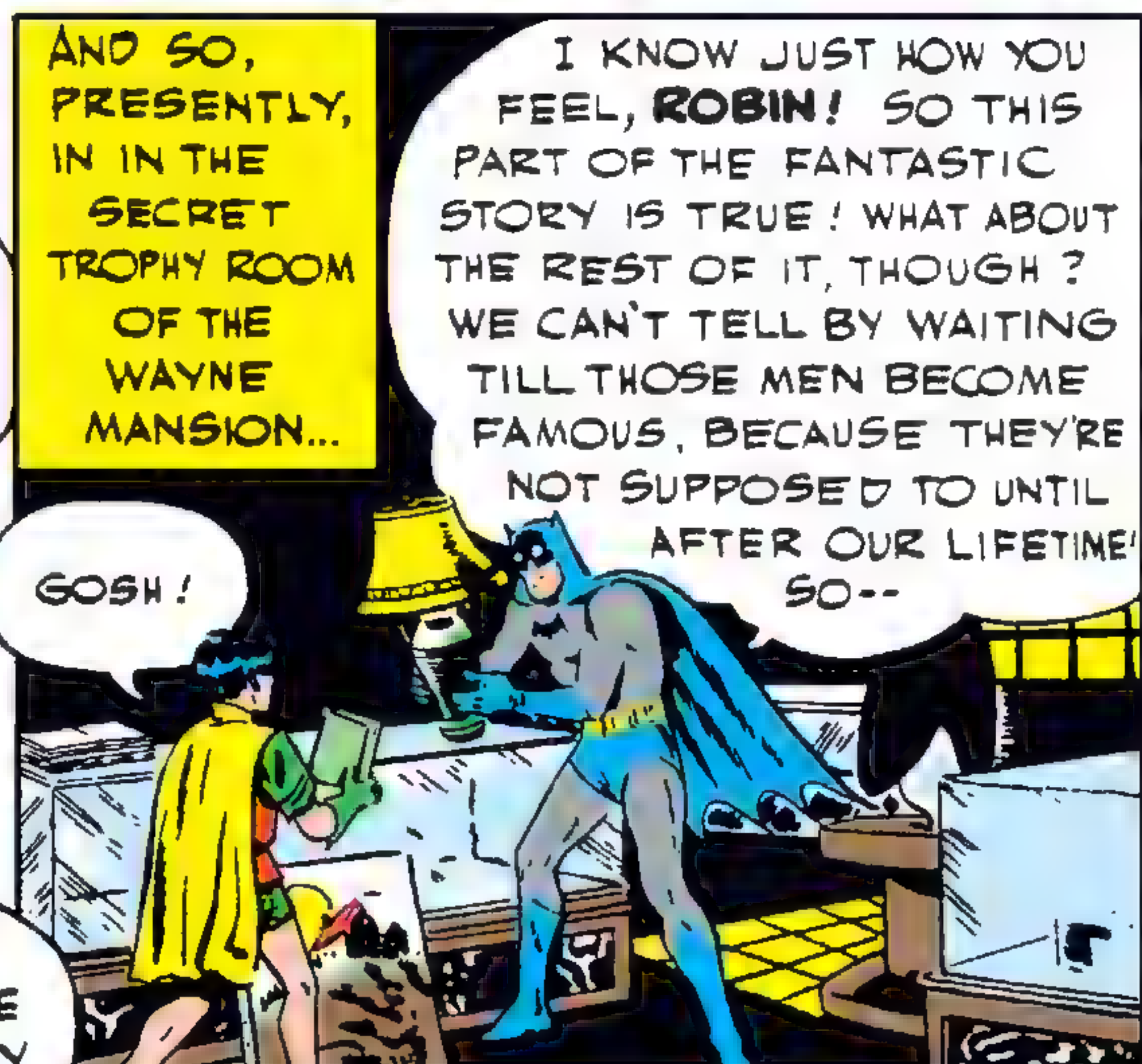
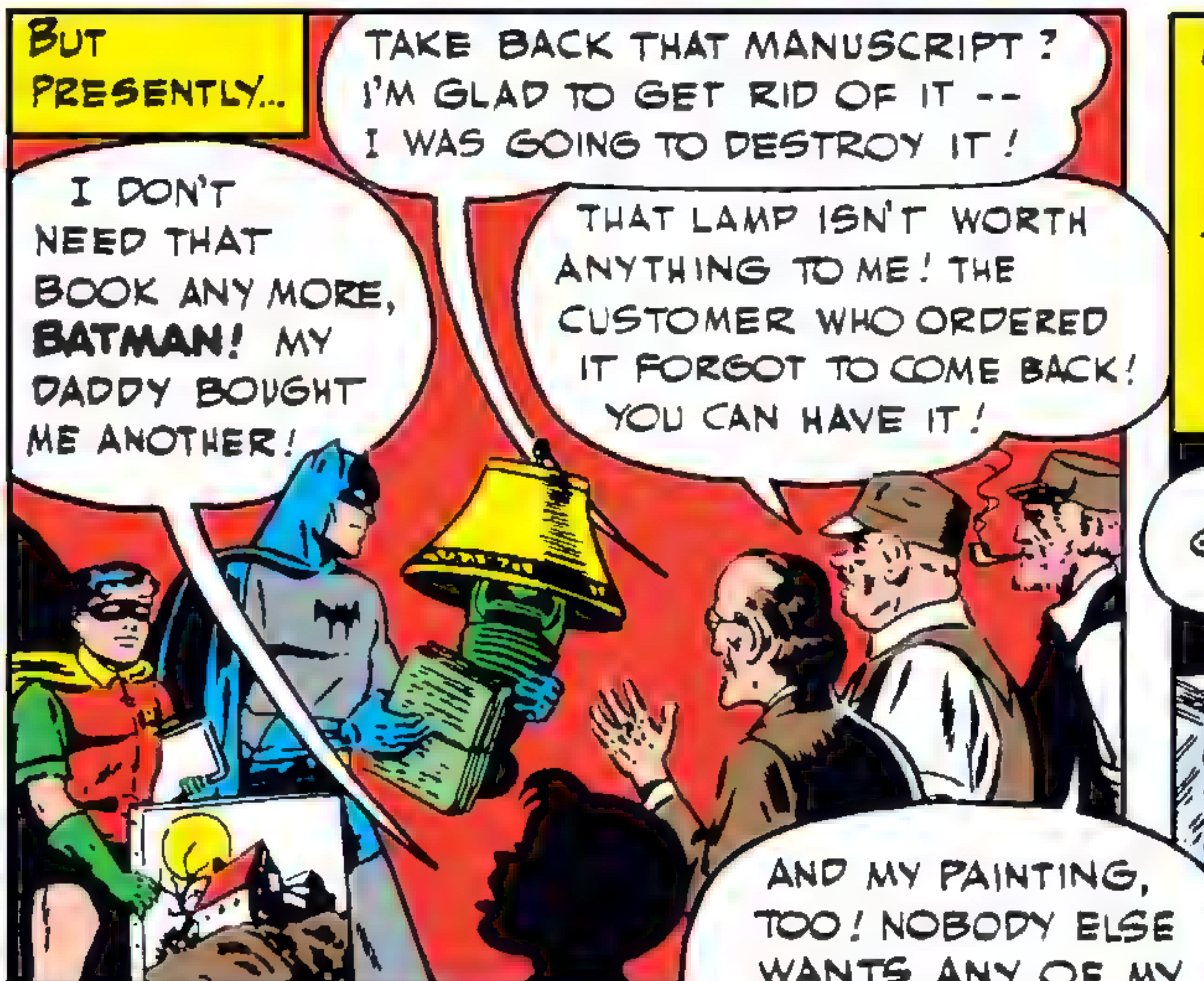
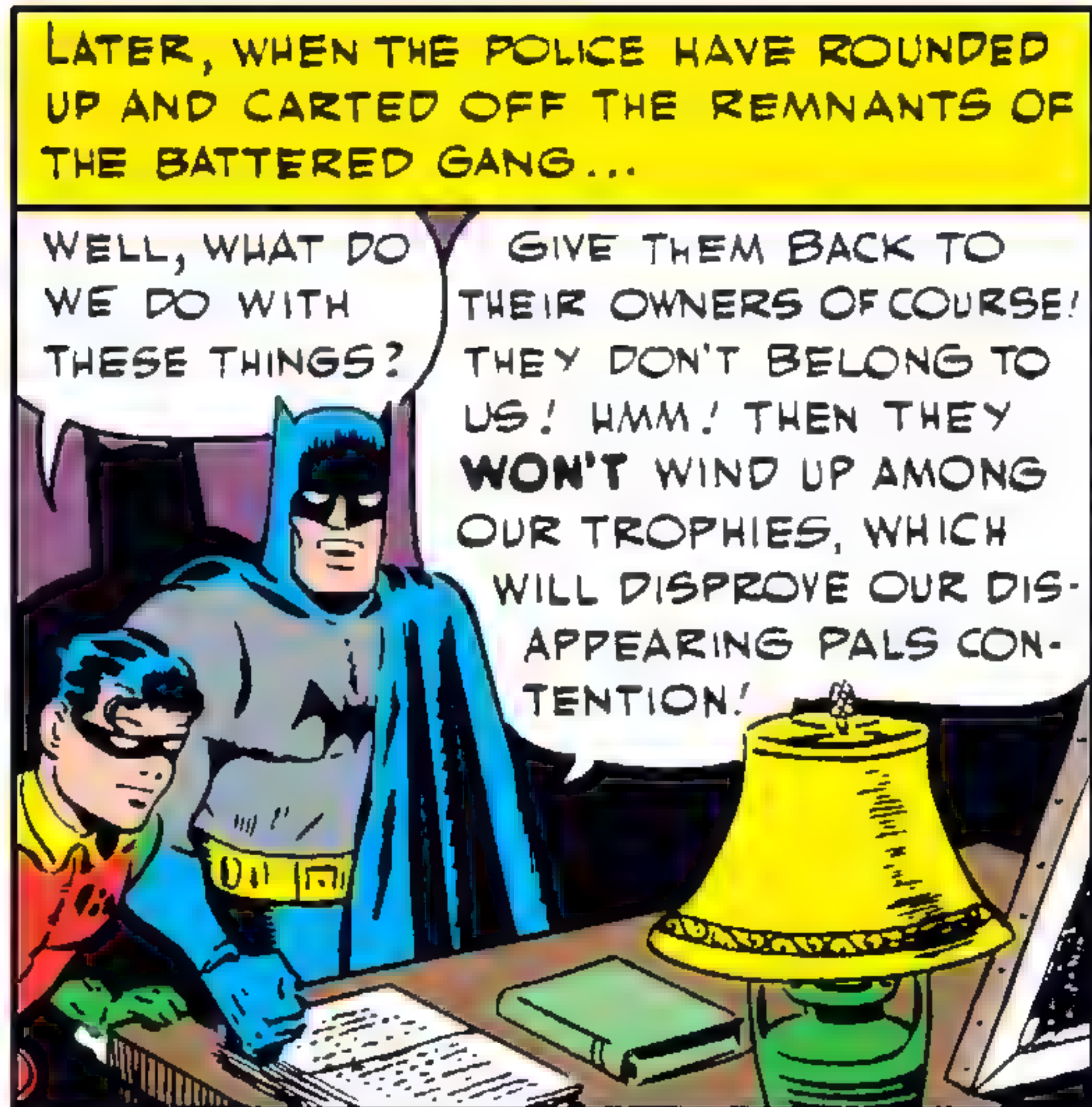
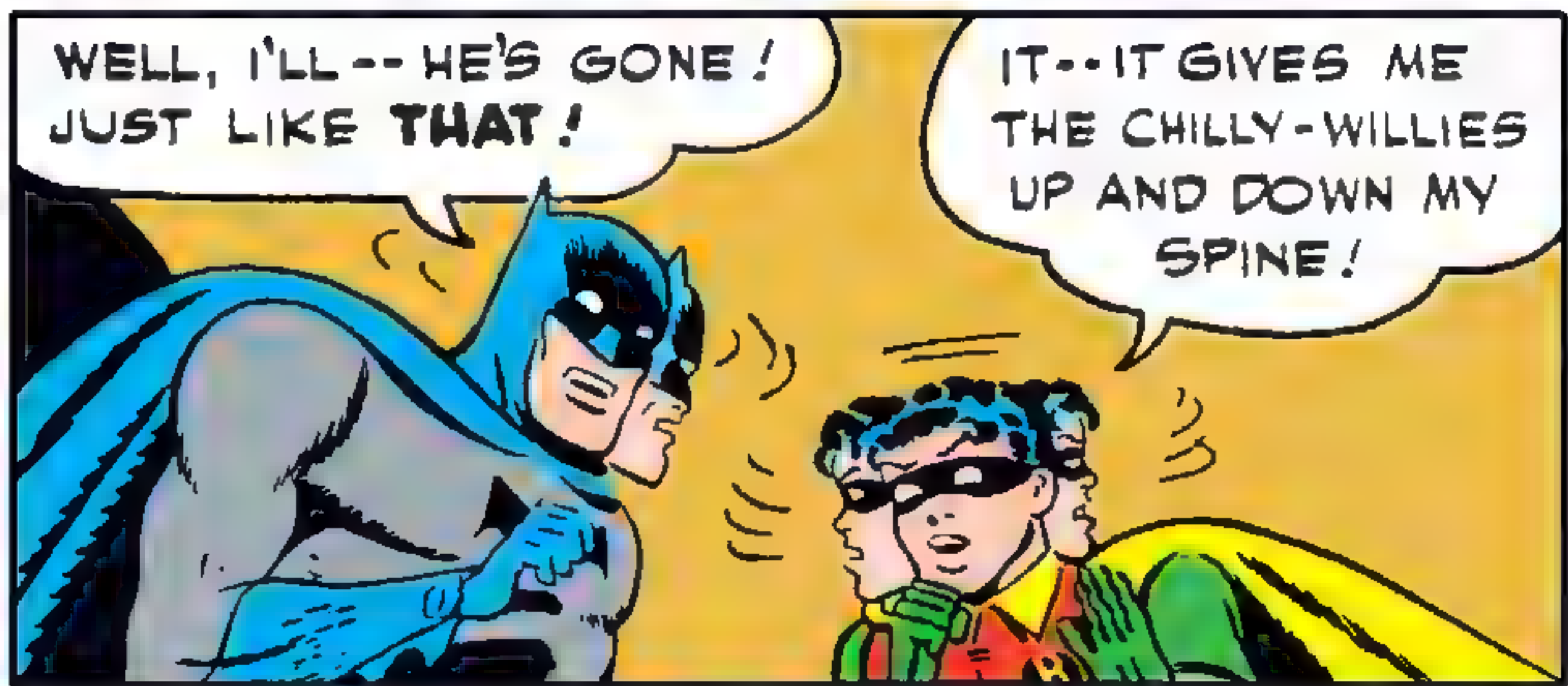
EXACTLY. EXCEPT THAT I WASN'T STEALING! THAT CHILD WOULDN'T MISS HIS PRIMER, WHICH WILL BECOME AS RARE AS MC GUFFEY'S FIRST READER! THE WOODWORKER, AUTHOR AND ARTIST SELL SCARCELY ANYTHING IN THEIR LIVES, AND BECOME FAMOUS ONLY AFTER THEY ARE GONE!

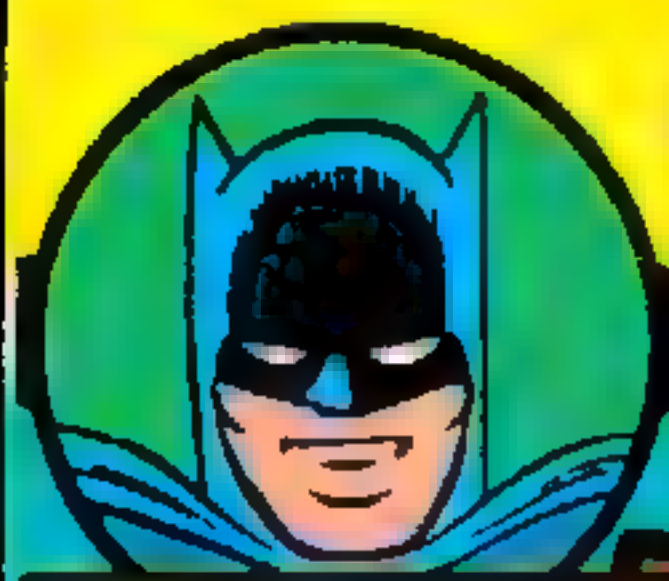
HUH? HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

HE KNOWS IT, ROBIN BECAUSE - HE'S FROM THE FUTURE!

PRECISELY! THESE MASTERPIECES WERE TO HAVE BEEN IN YOUR COLLECTION OF TROPHIES! BUT THEY NEVER WILL BE BECAUSE I'M GOING TO TAKE THEM BACK WITH ME!







No. 80

EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION!

BOY COMMANDOS

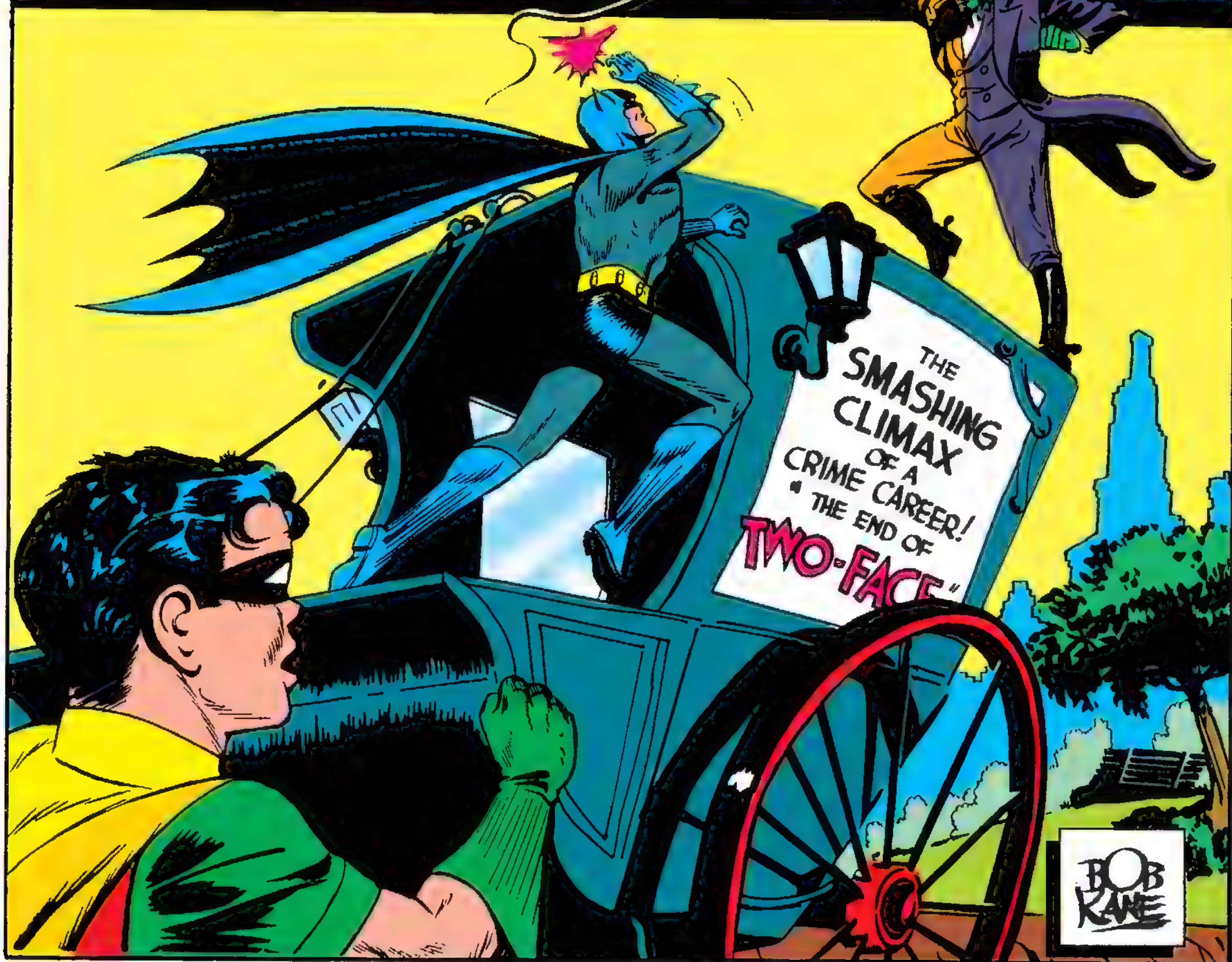


The BATMAN

Detective COMICS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

OCT.



BATMAN

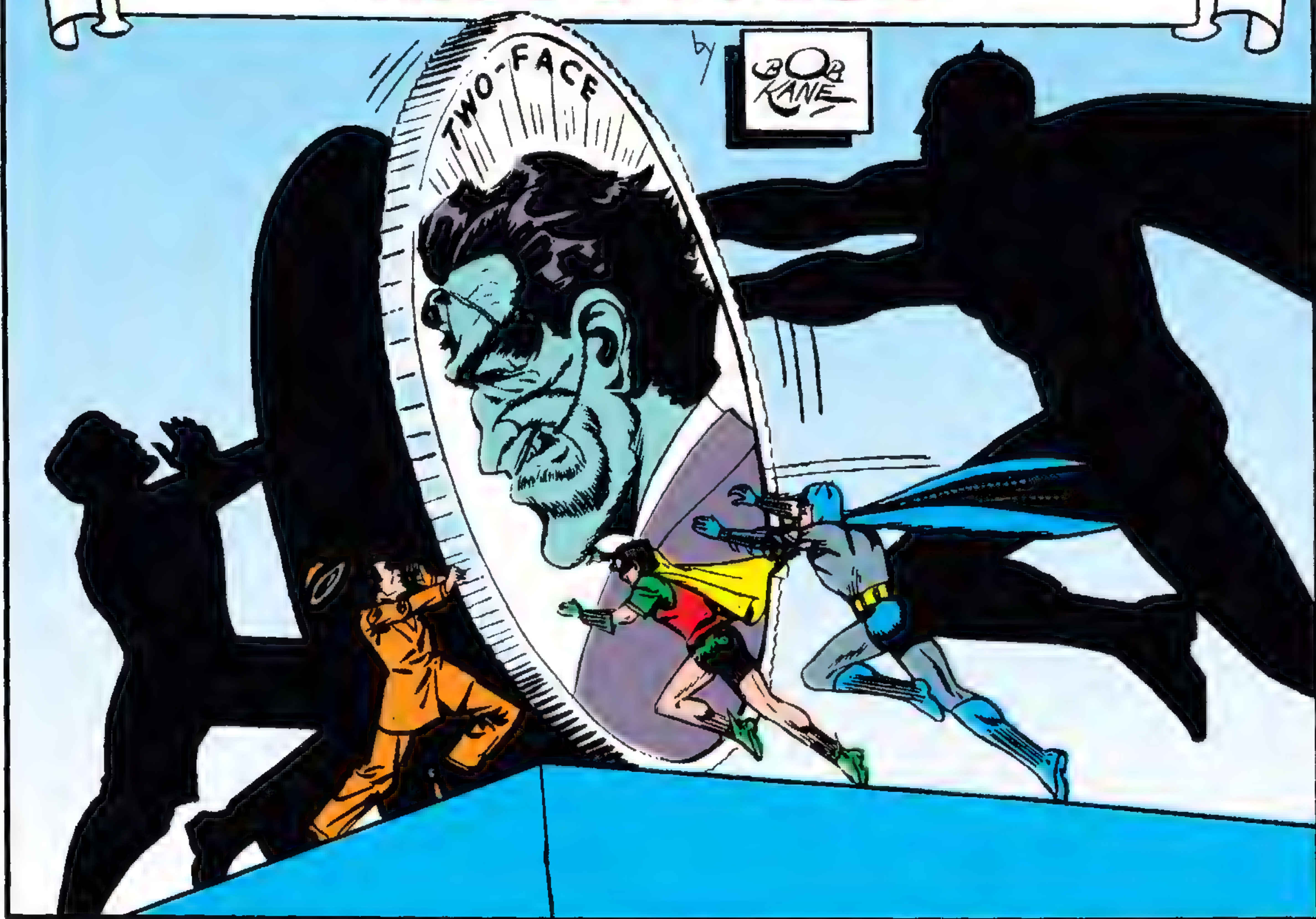
WITH
ROBIN

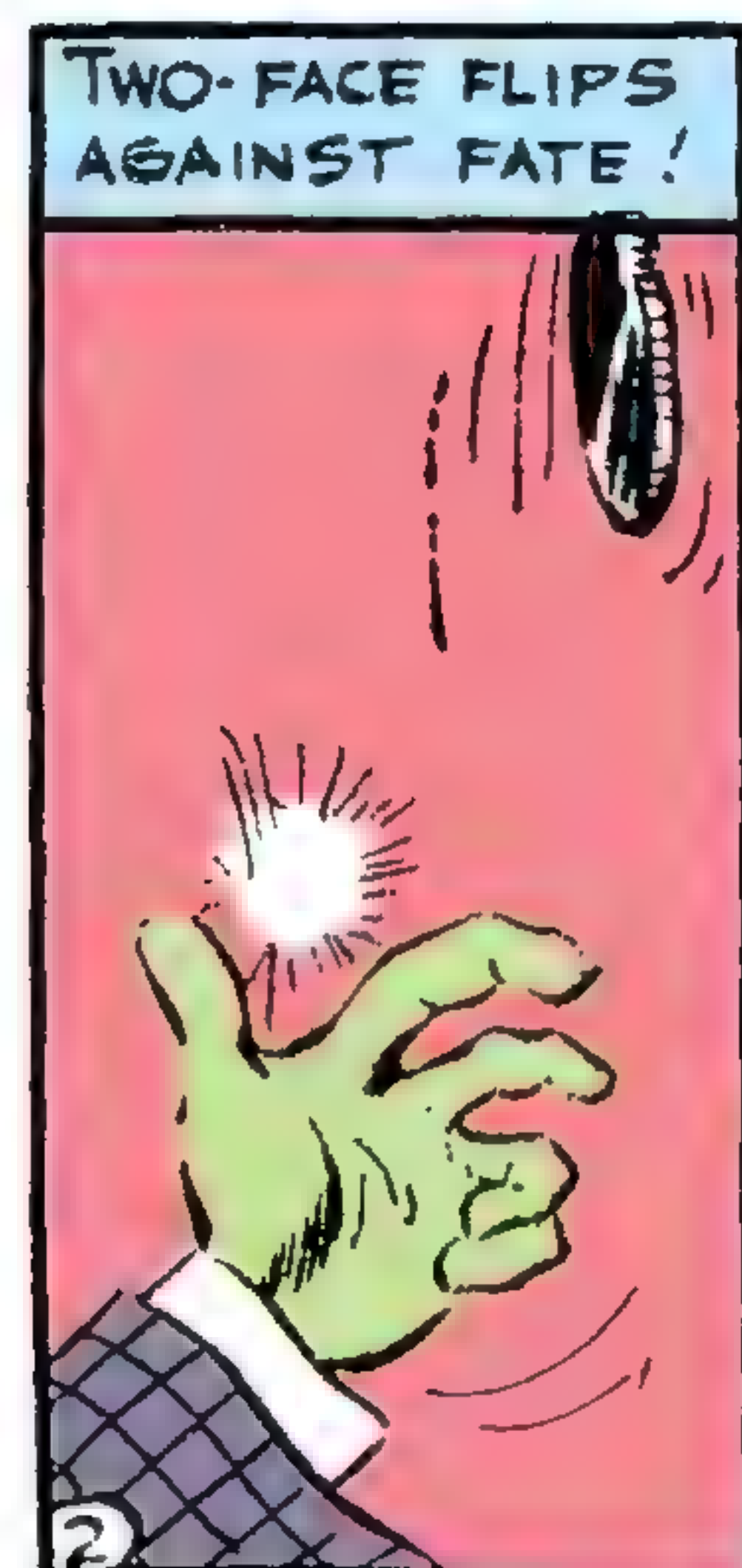
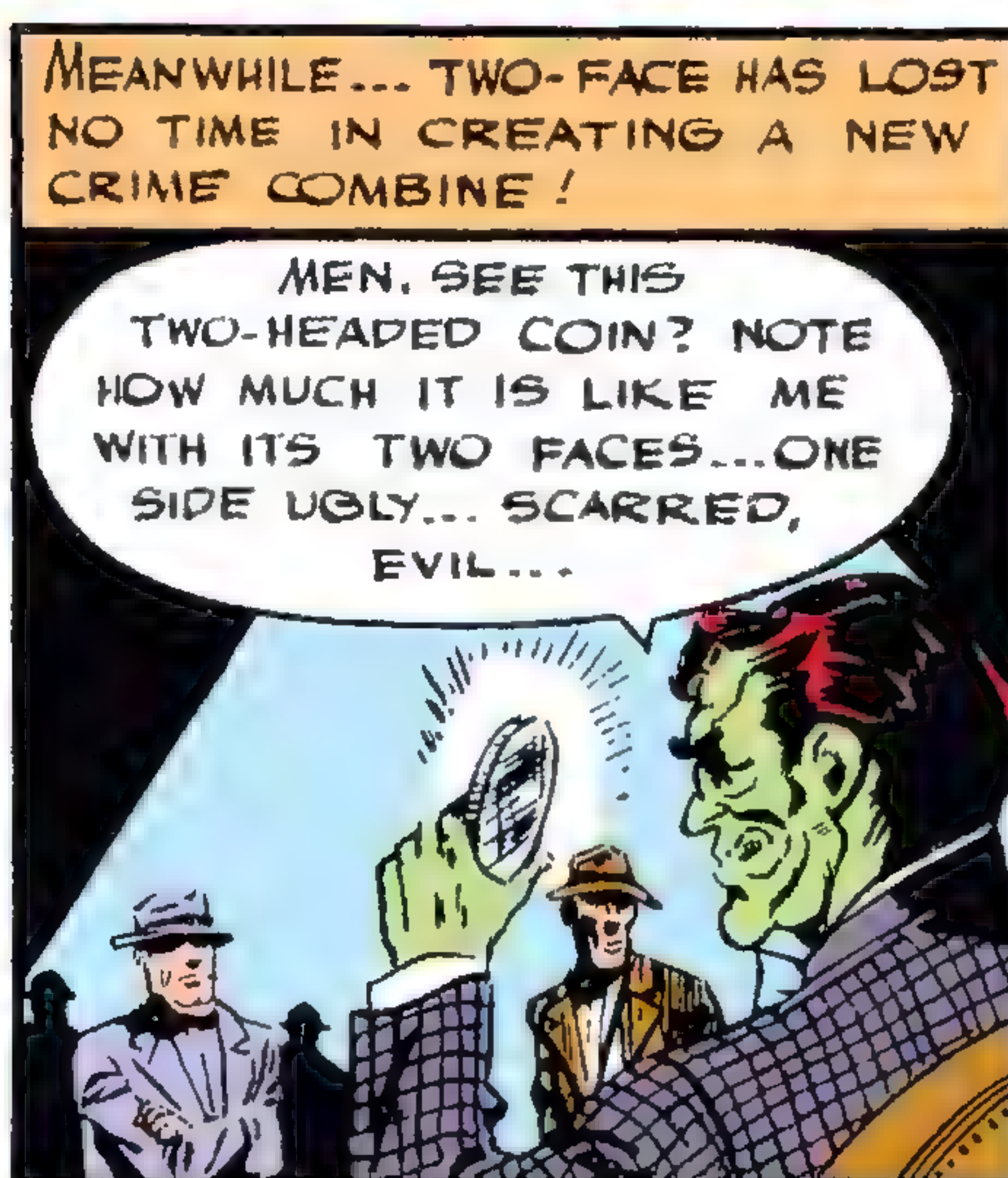
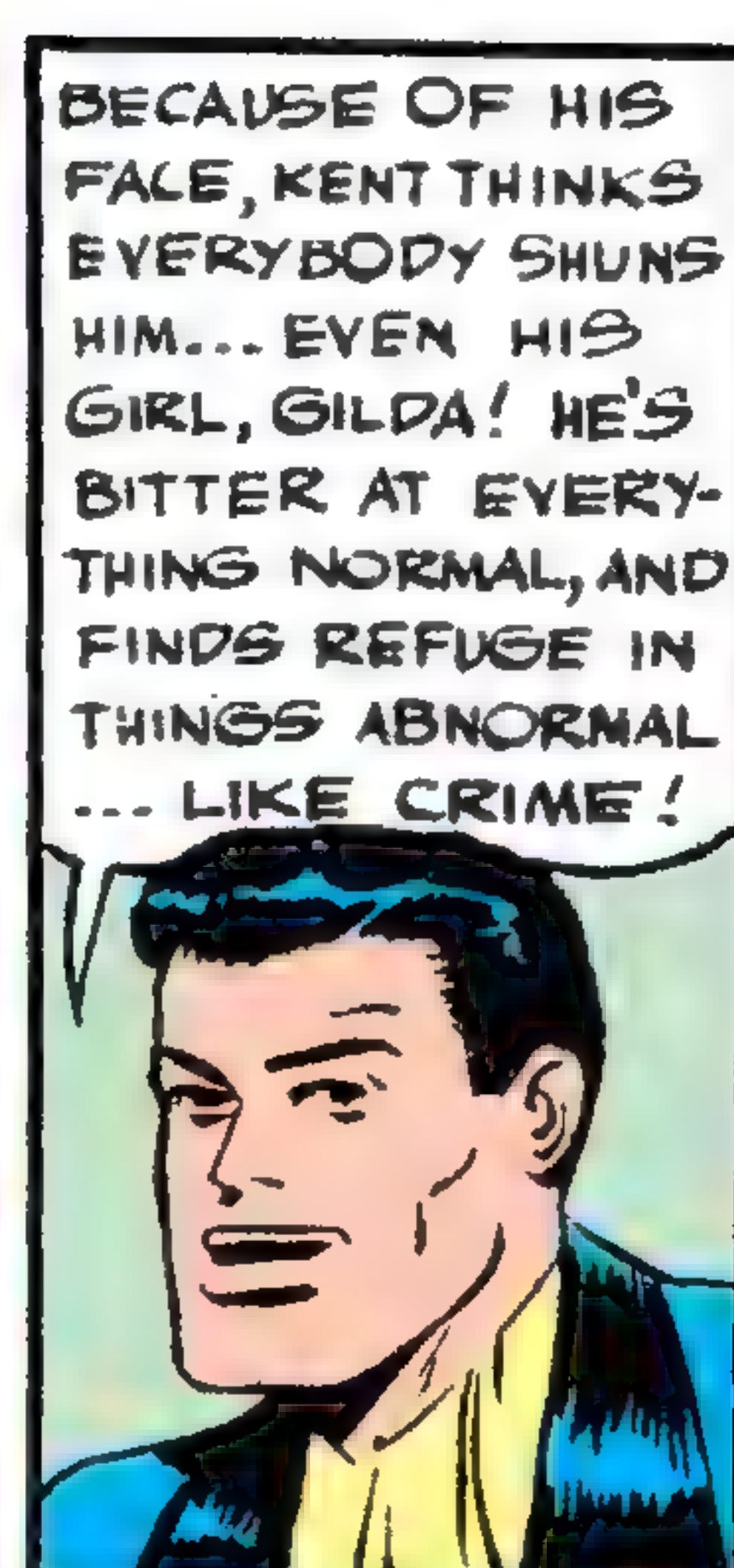
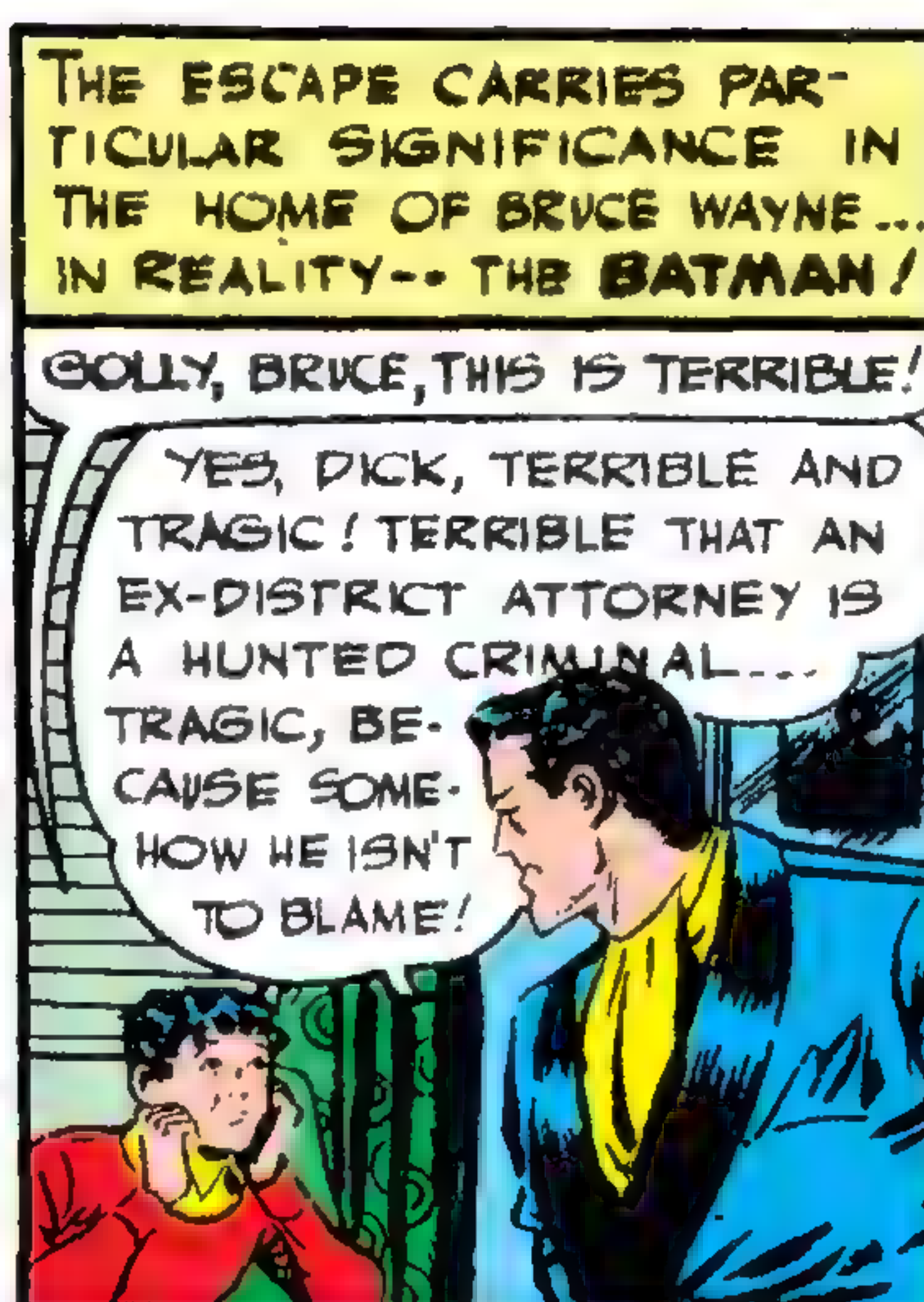
HARVEY **K**ENT WAS ONCE A HANDSOME DISTRICT ATTORNEY... UNTIL A VENGEFUL RACKETEER SCARRED ONE SIDE OF HIS FACE WITH ACID / SHUNNED, BITTER, KENT BECAME A LIVING JECKYLL - HYDE ... ONE SIDE HANDSOME, GOOD THE OTHER SIDE, UGLY, CRIMINAL !

HE BECAME -- TWO-FACE !

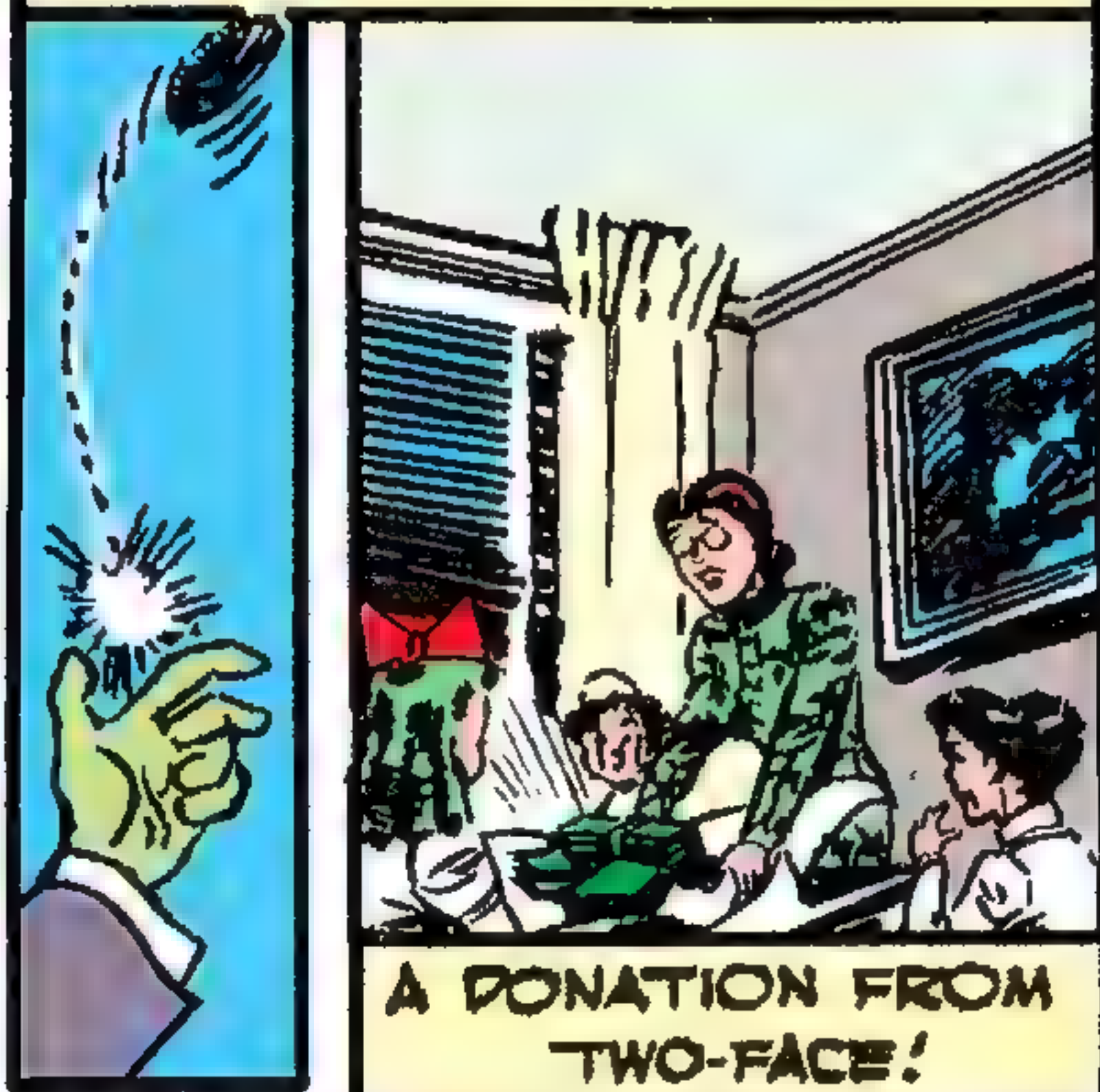
THEN FOLLOWED THE NOW-FAMED CLASHES WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN, AND FINALLY, HIS IMPRISONMENT ! AND NOW WE BRING THE STORY OF TWO-FACE TO ITS INEVITABLE CLIMAX ... FOR THE FATE THAT CREATED HIM NOW UNDOES THE DAMAGE... TO BRING ABOUT...

"THE END OF TWO-FACE !"



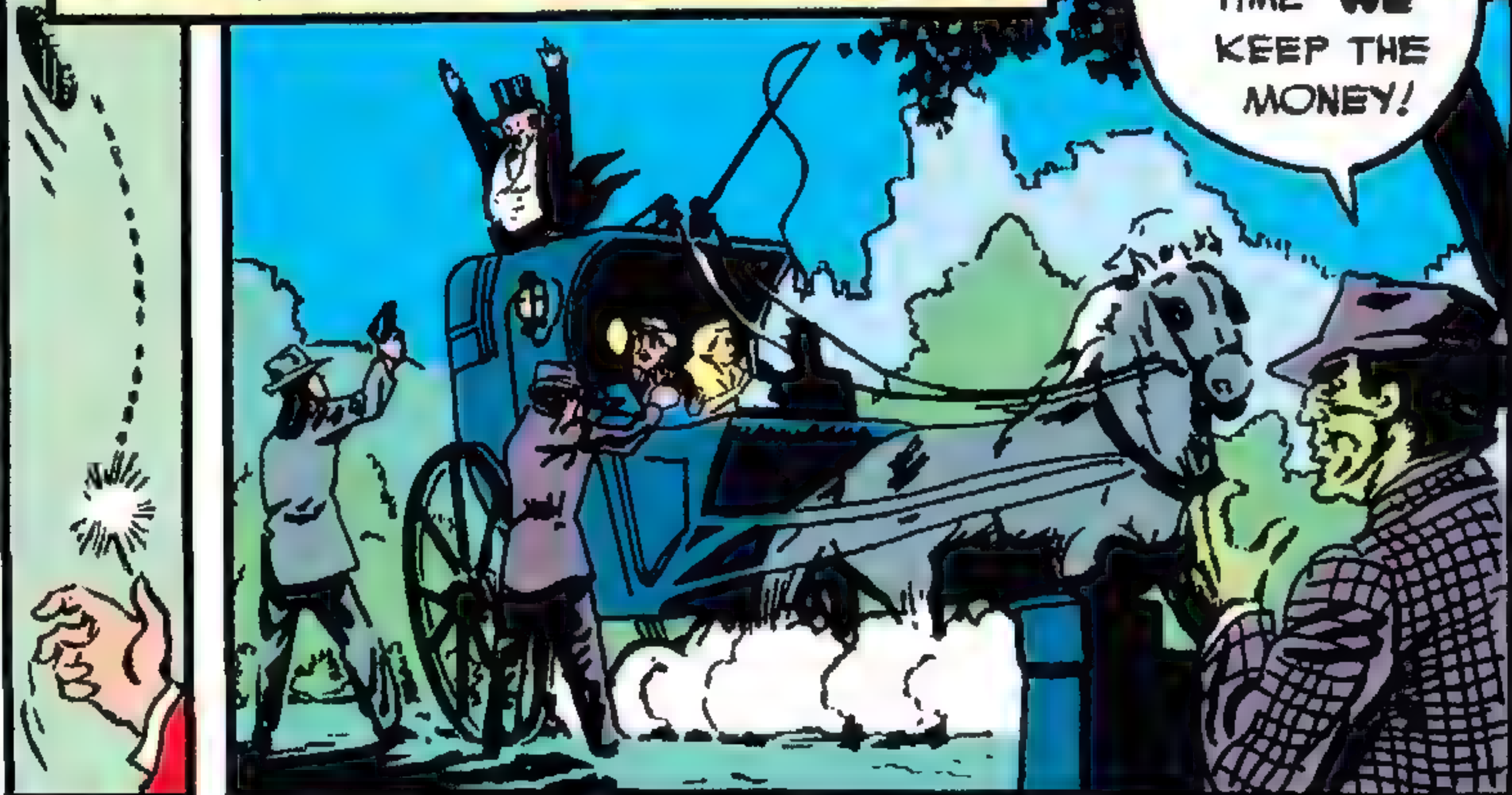


AND SO, TWO-FACE LEADS HIS JACKAL PACK ON A DAYTIME RAID... AND LATER THAT SAME DAY, A CHARITY HOME RECEIVES A SURPRISING DONATION!



A DONATION FROM TWO-FACE!

ONCE AGAIN THE COIN SPINS HIGH! OCCUPANTS OF TWO-WHEELER HANSON CABS ARE ROBBED... AT NIGHT... FOR EVIL HAS WON!



OKAY. BOYS! THIS TIME WE KEEP THE MONEY!

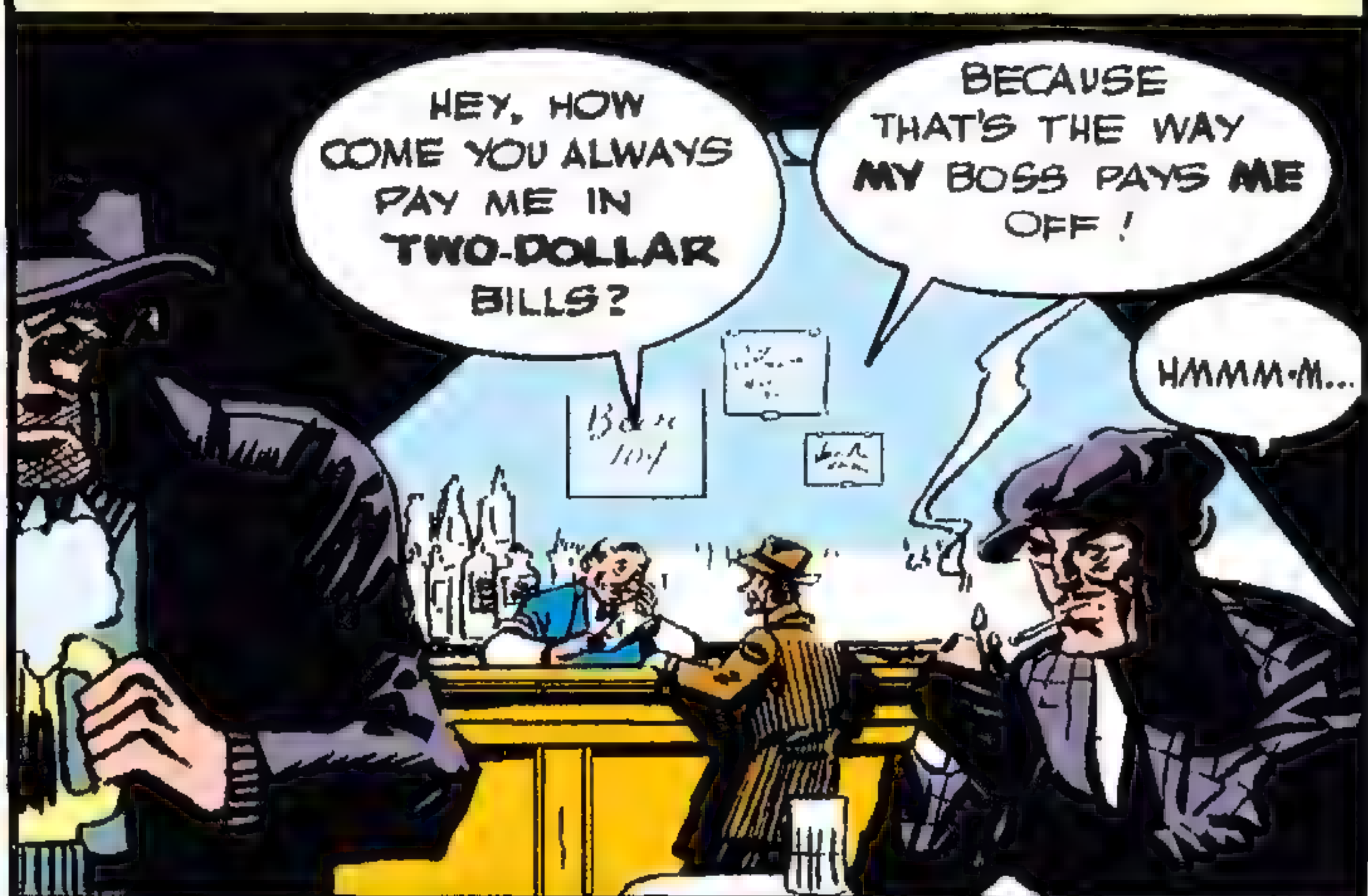
AND WHILE TWO-FACE'S CRIME COUPS MOCK THE LAW, ELSEWHERE...



WHY, THE DIS-GUISE, BRUCE?

TWO-FACE HAS A HIDEOUT SOME-PLACE... AND I INTEND TO FIND IT!

THE DISGUISED BATMAN TOURS CRIMINAL HAUNTS, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS... UNTIL HE OVERHEARS...



HEY, HOW COME YOU ALWAYS PAY ME IN TWO-DOLLAR BILLS?

BECAUSE THAT'S THE WAY MY BOSS PAYS ME OFF!

HMMM-M...

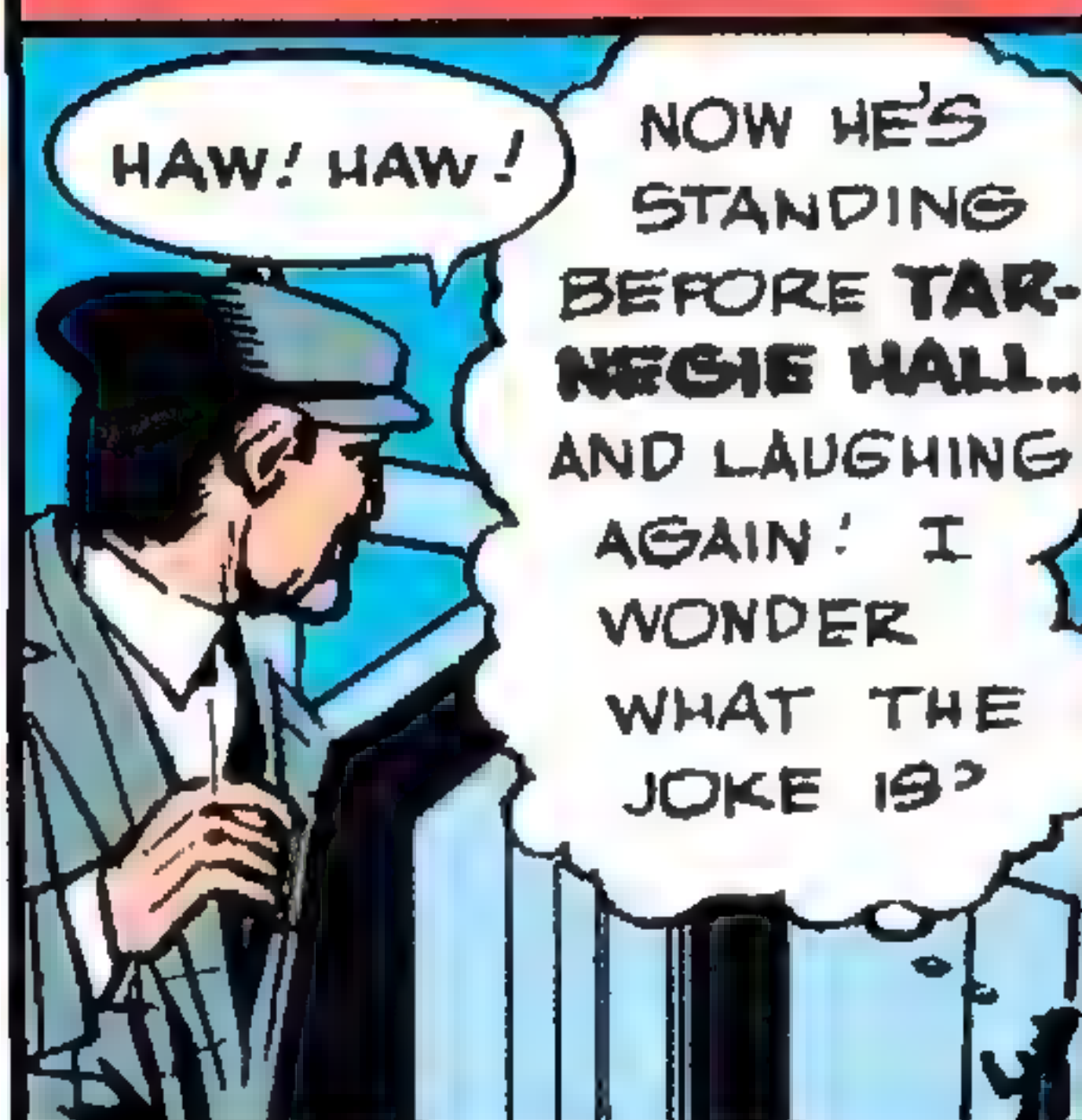


WHY TWO-DOLLAR BILLS?

LOOK, BUD, MY BOSS MAKES DOUBLE- TROUBLE FOR GUYS THAT ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS! SEE, **DOUBLE-TROUBLE!!** HAW! HAW! THAT'S A GOOD PUN! TOO BAD YOU DON'T GET IT!

I THINK I GOT IT!

SOMETIME LATER... THE SMIRKING THUG STANDS BEFORE AN IMPOSING BUILDING AND LAUGHS TO HIMSELF... WELL, NOT QUITE TO HIMSELF!



HAW! HAW!

NOW HE'S STANDING BEFORE TARNEGIE HALL.. AND LAUGHING AGAIN! I WONDER WHAT THE JOKE IS?

WHEN HE AMBLES AWAY...

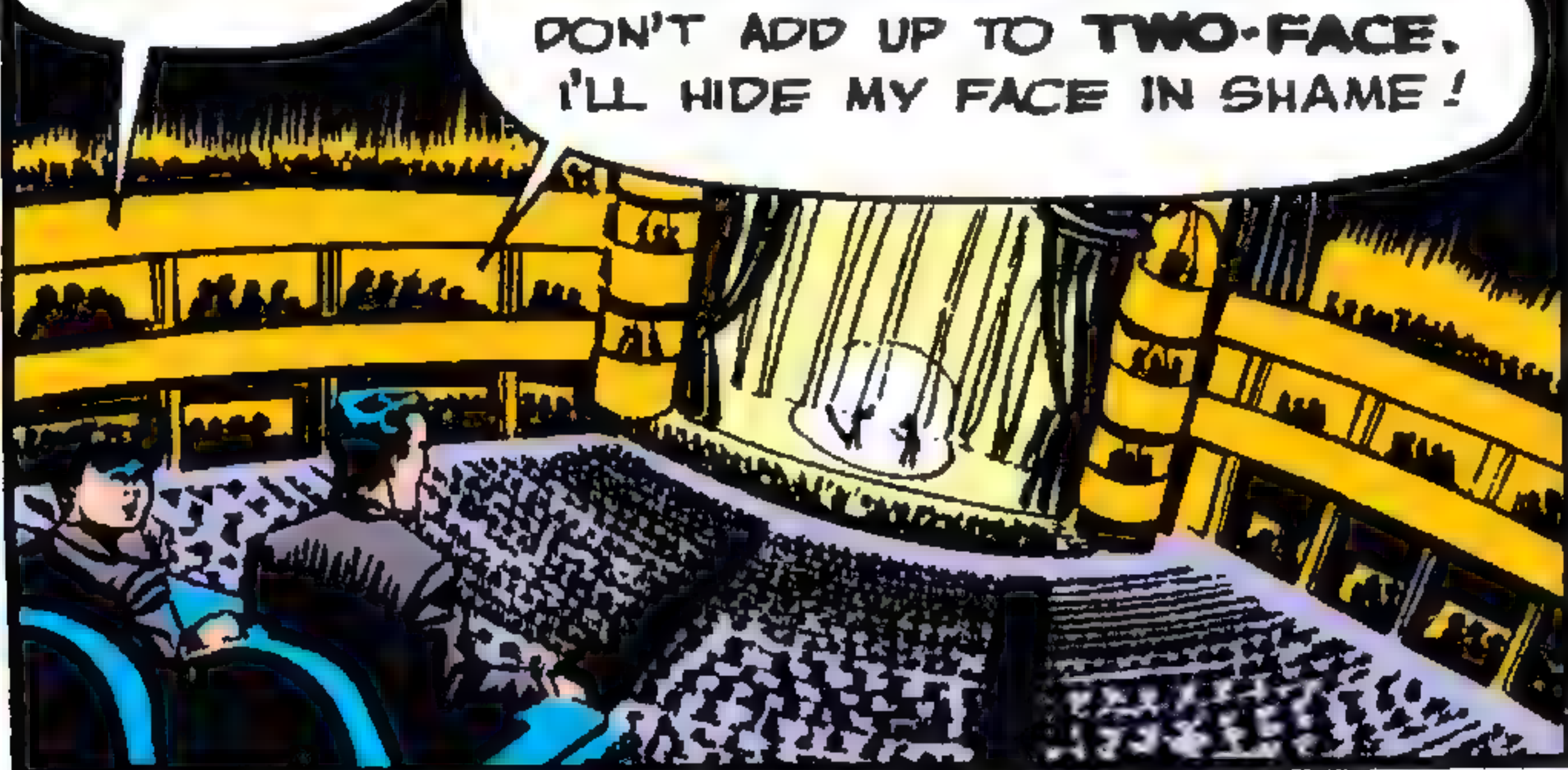
HMM-M! GETS PAID WITH TWO-DOLLAR BILLS... AND MAKES A PUN ABOUT **DOUBLE-TROUBLE**... AND LAUGHS AT AN AD OF A **DOUBLE CONCERTO**!

TONIGHT
BRANN'S DOUBLE CONCERTO
for the violin and cello
played by
JASNA REGNIE
NISHA ENAK

THAT NIGHT... IN THE GREAT MUSIC CENTER, THERE ARE TWO PERSONS WHOSE THOUGHTS ARE DEFINITELY **NOT** ON MUSIC...

YOU REALLY THINK TWO-FACE WILL SHOW UP?

THIS IS A **DOUBLE CONCERTO!** DOWN BELOW IS AN AUDIENCE SPILLING OVER WITH FURS AND JEWELS! IF THOSE TWO FACTS DON'T ADD UP TO **TWO-FACE**, I'LL HIDE MY FACE IN SHAME!



ABRUPTLY, COMES SWIFT CONFIRMATION OF BRUCE'S ADDITION-- **TWO-FACE!**

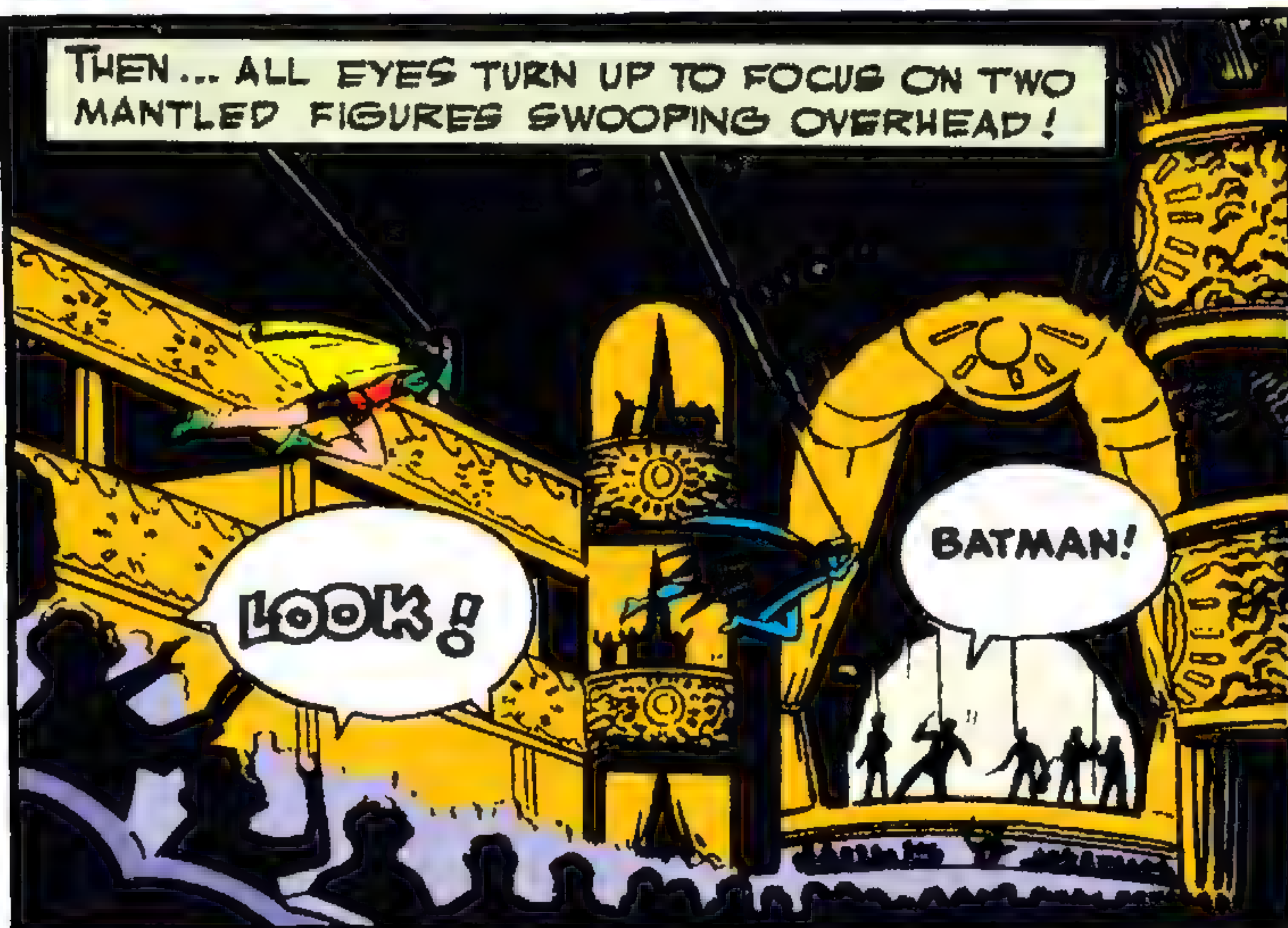
HOLD IT! UNLESS YOU ALL COOPERATE QUICKLY AND QUIETLY YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR A CONCERTO OF TOMMY-GUNS!



THEN... ALL EYES TURN UP TO FOCUS ON TWO MANTLED FIGURES SWOOPING OVERHEAD!

LOOK!

BATMAN!

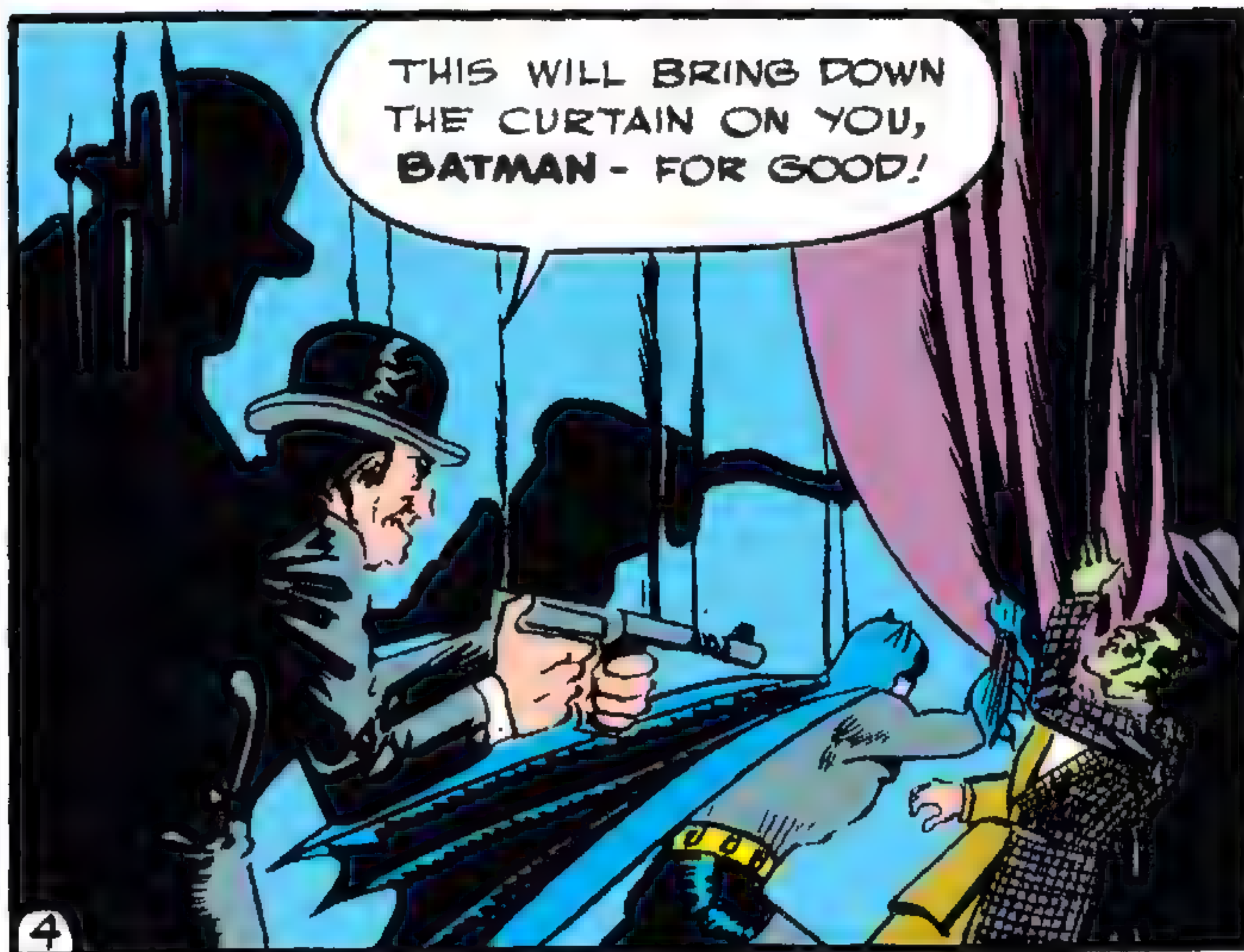


YOU DEVIL! HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY KNOW I'D BE HERE?

IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF SIMPLE ARITHMETIC!



THIS WILL BRING DOWN THE CURTAIN ON YOU, **BATMAN** - FOR GOOD!



ENTER... THE BOY WONDER...

MIND IF I BUTT IN?

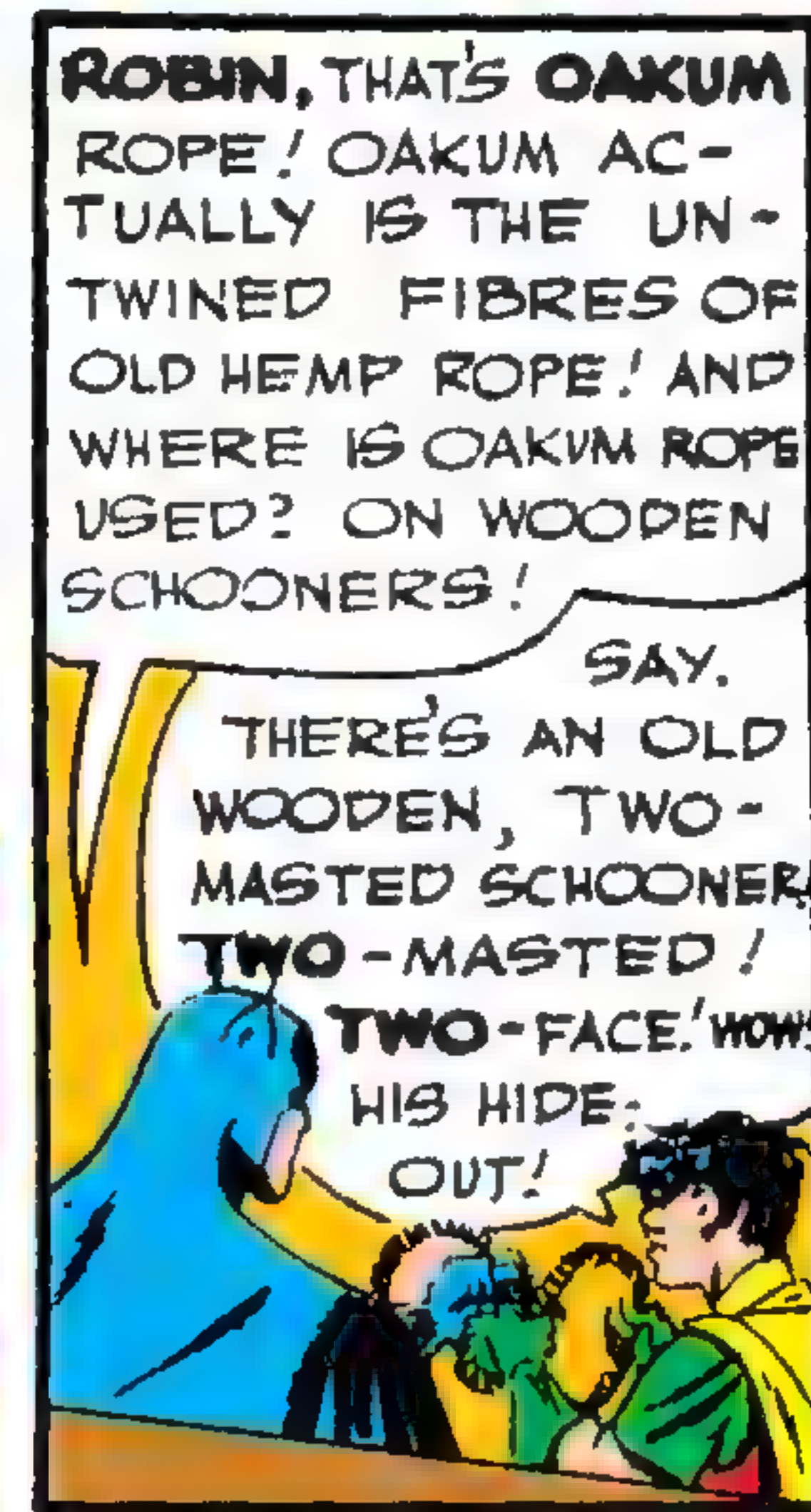
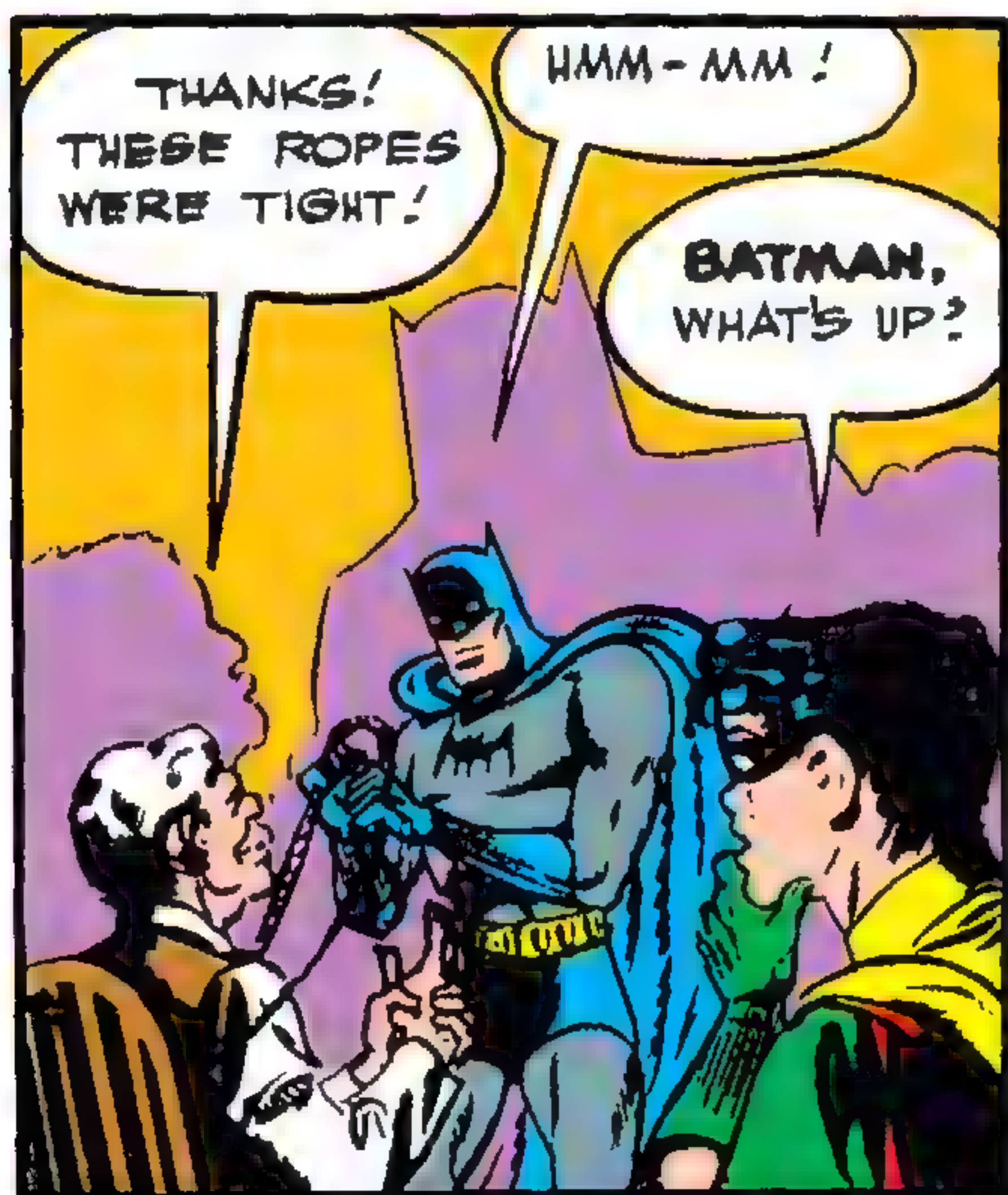
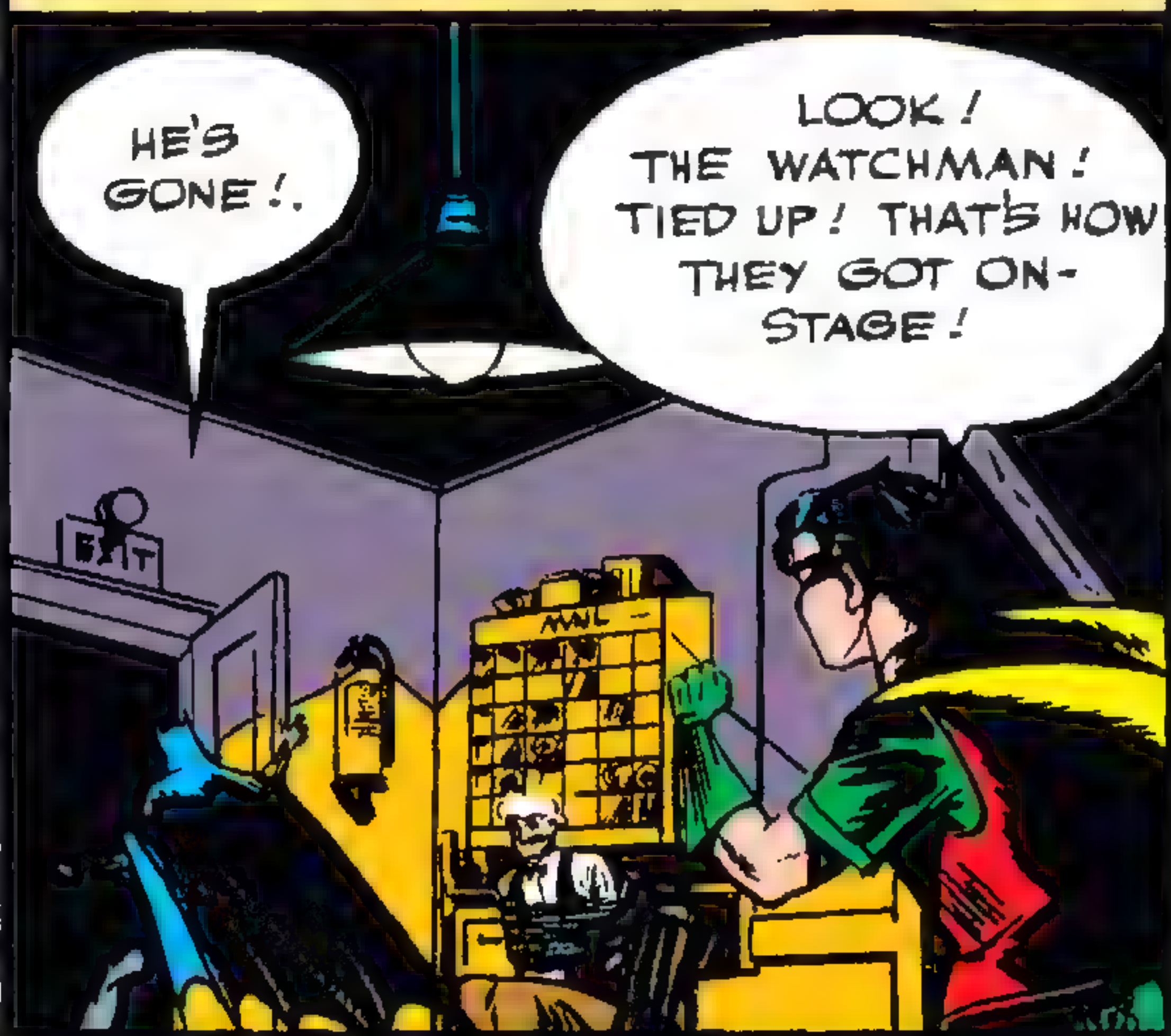
OOOF!



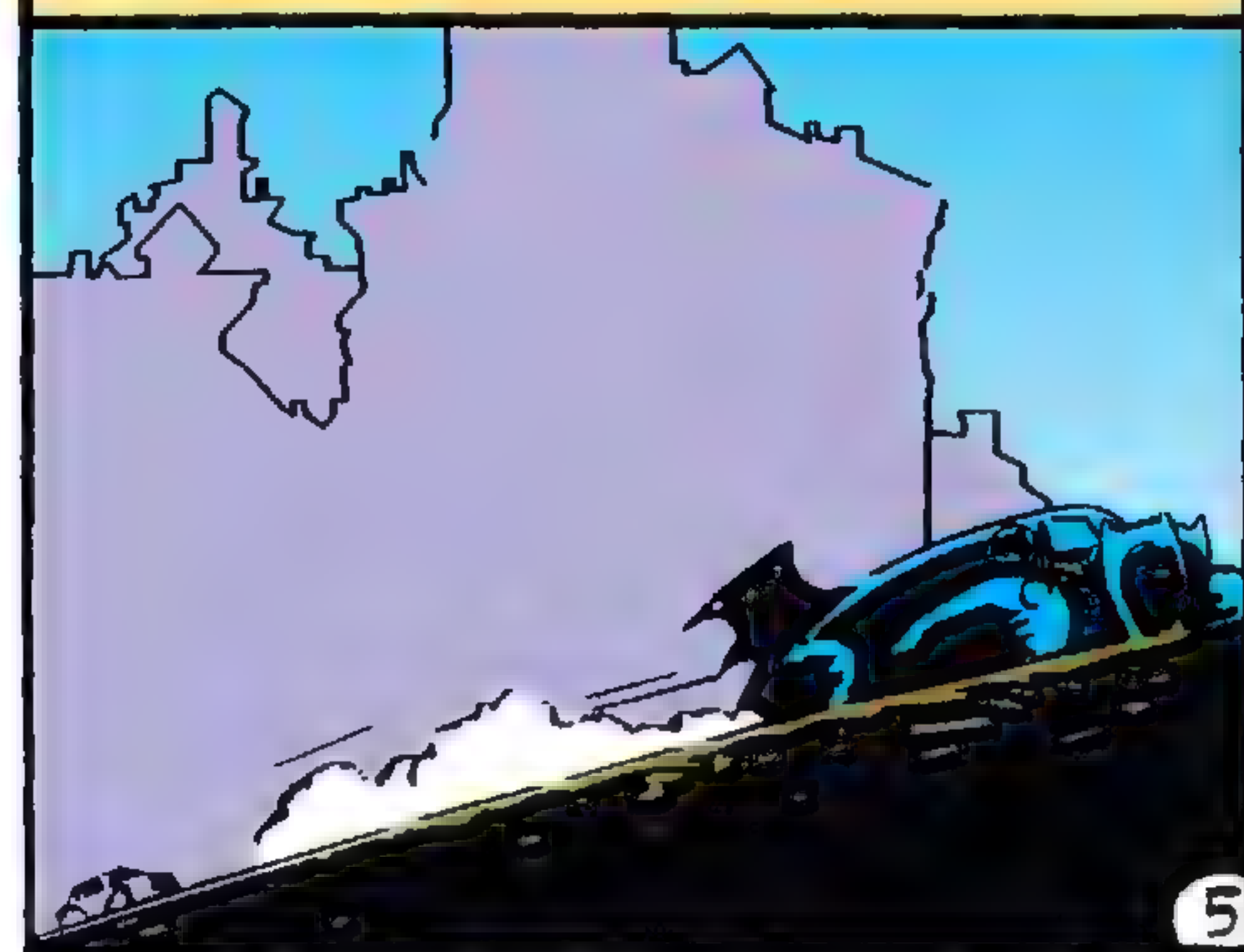
CORNERED, TWO-FACE HURLS A CAPSULE TO THE STAGE AND...



WHEN THE SMOKE FINALLY DISSIPATES...

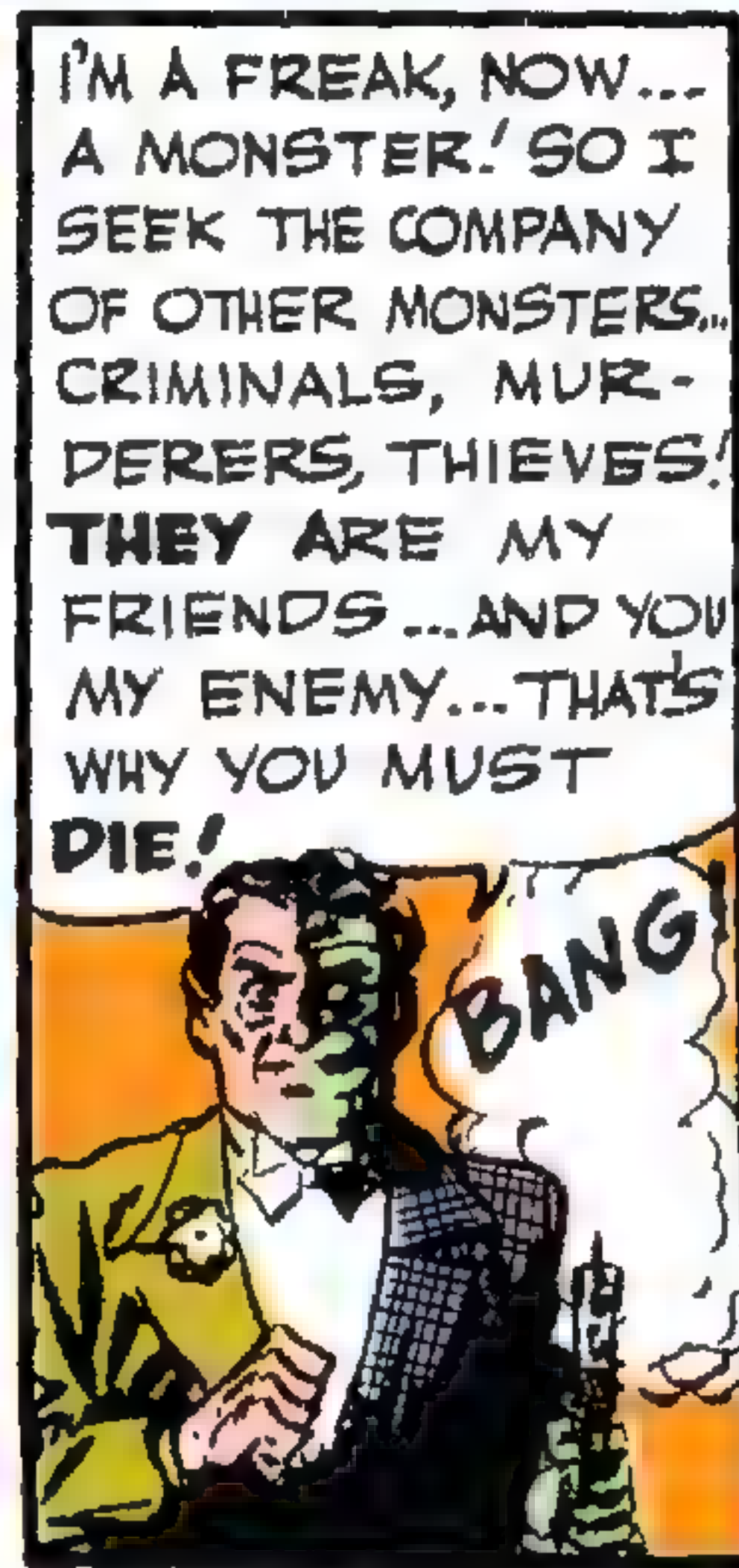
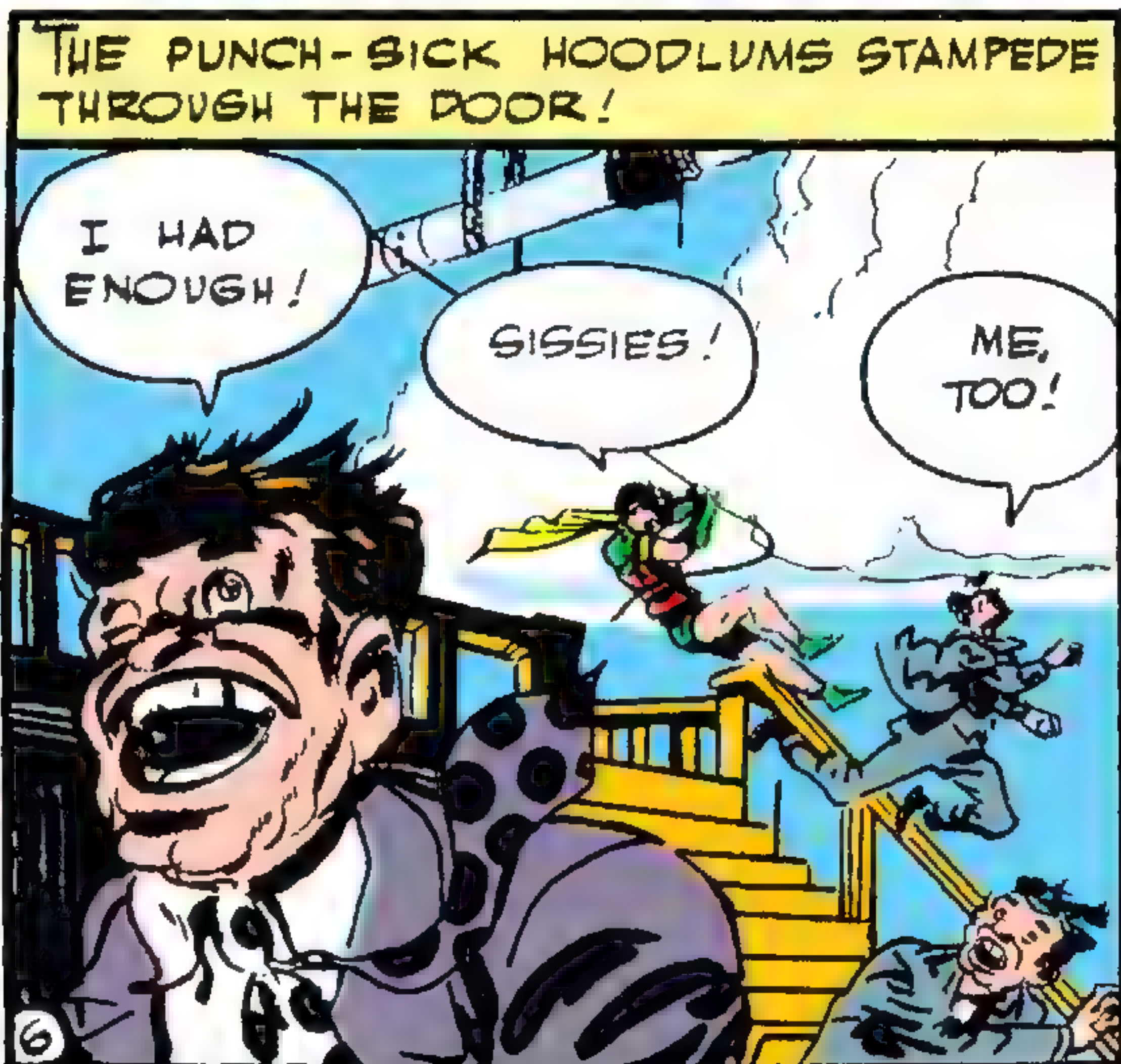
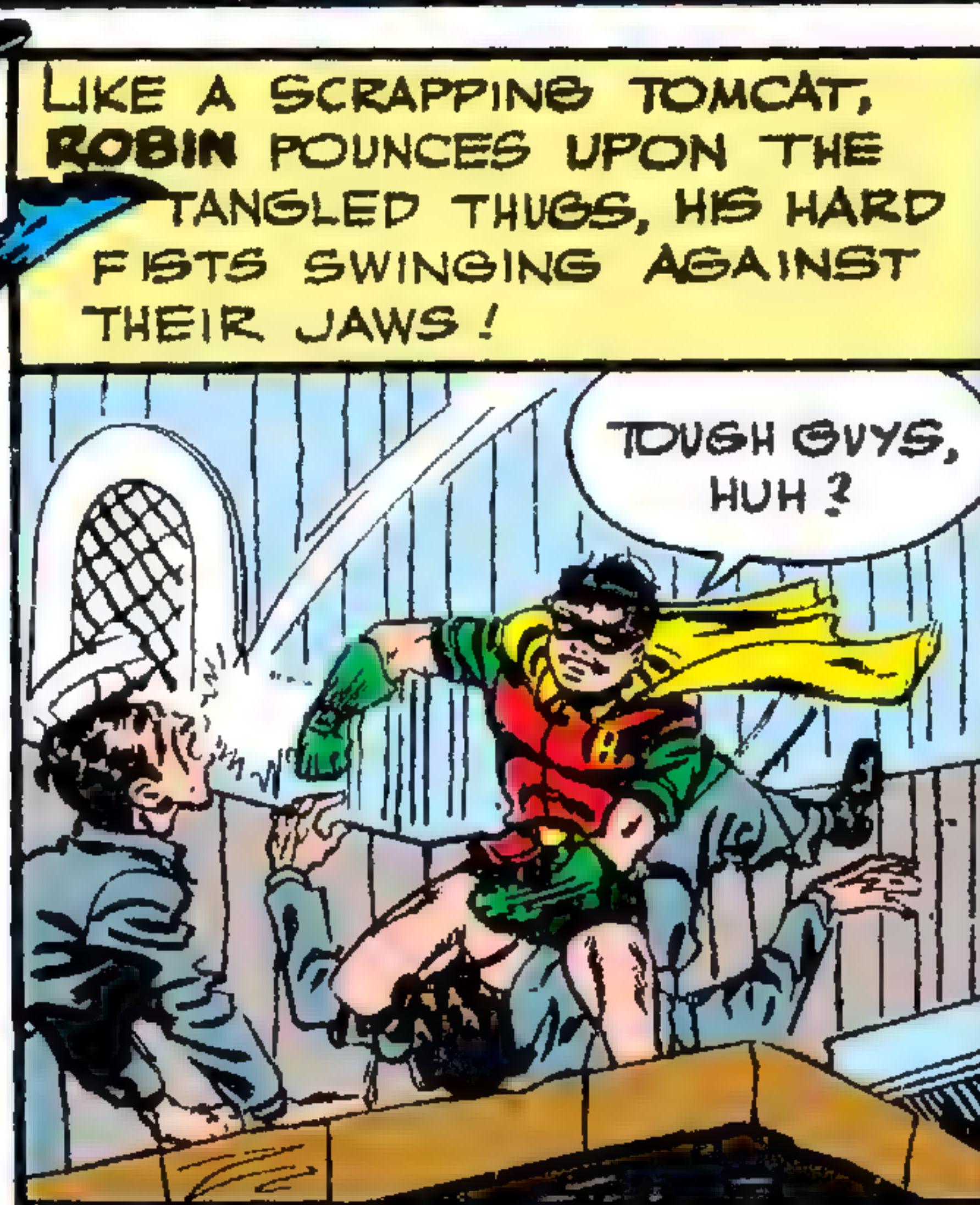
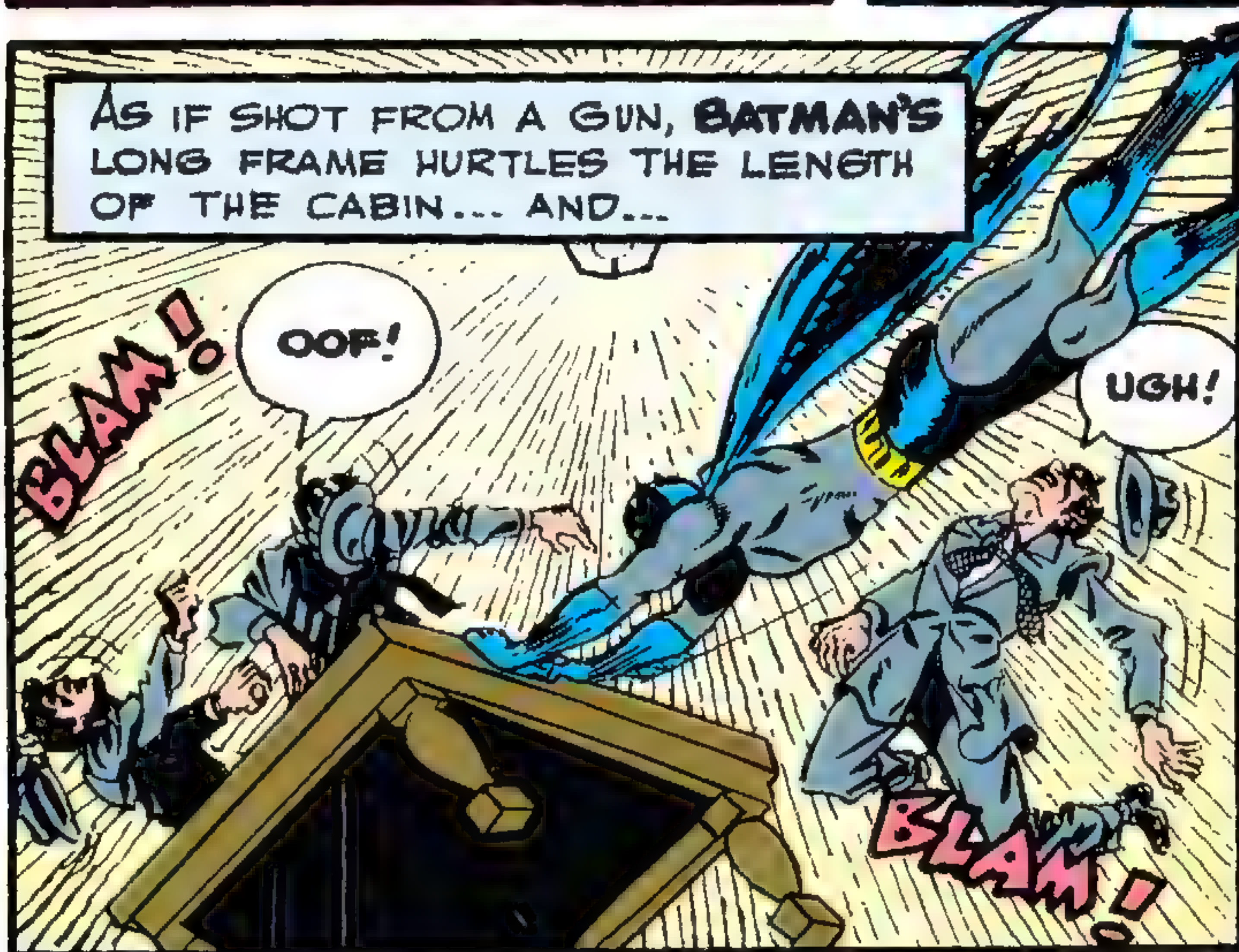
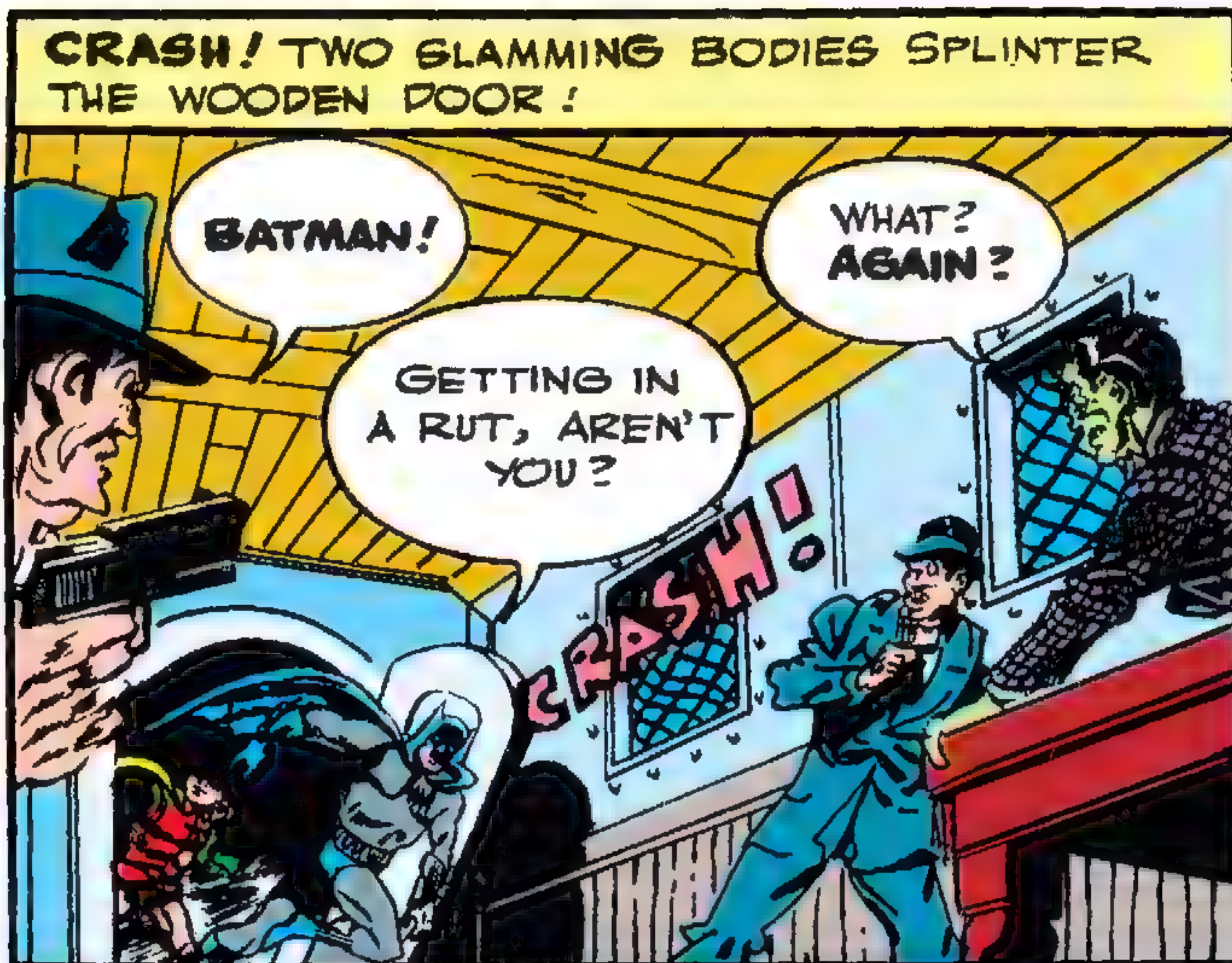


THE BATMOBILE RACES THROUGH DIMMED-OUT STREETS... BUT ALL THE WHILE, ANOTHER CAR IS FOLLOWING! THE CAR OF THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER!

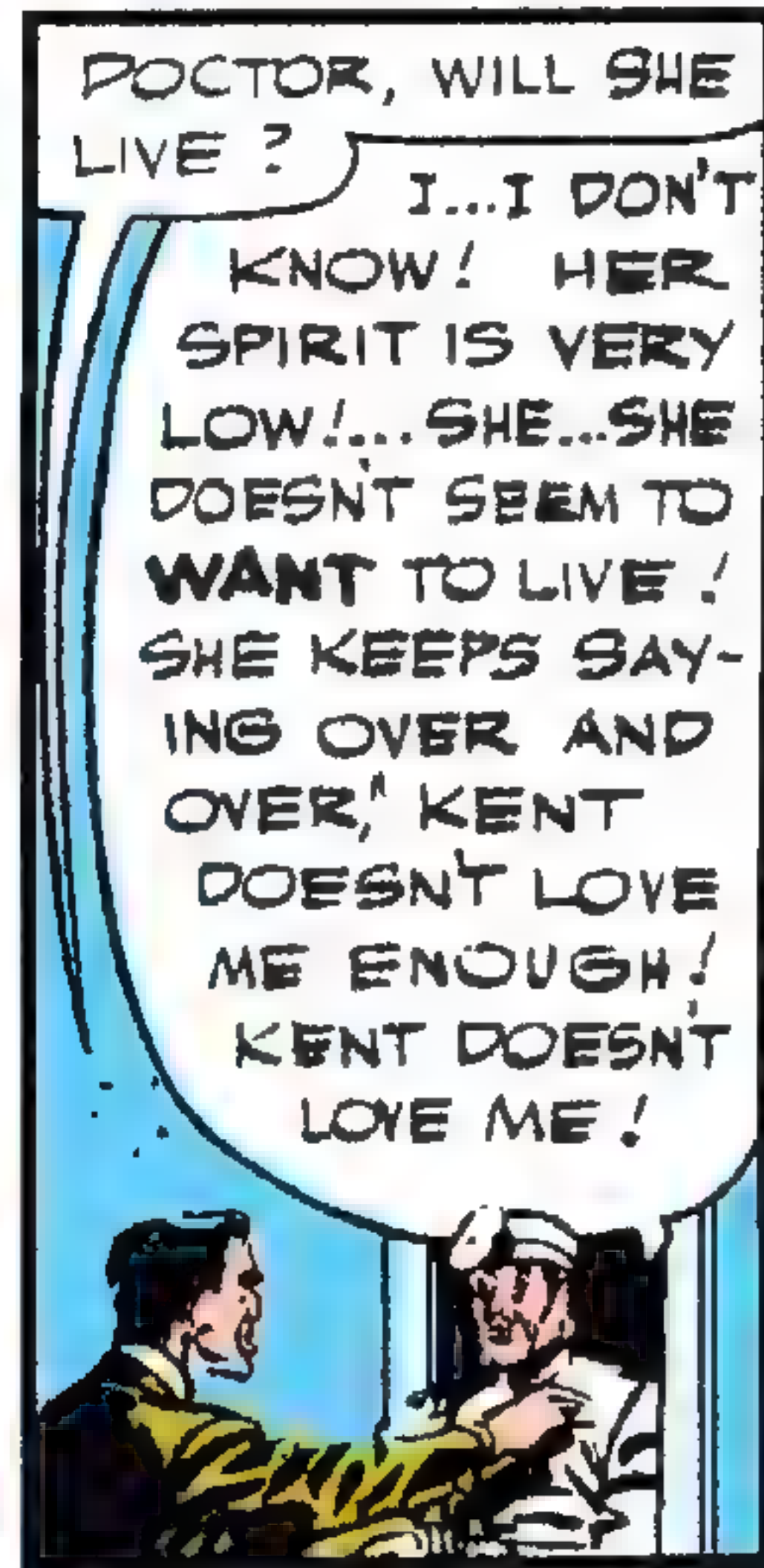
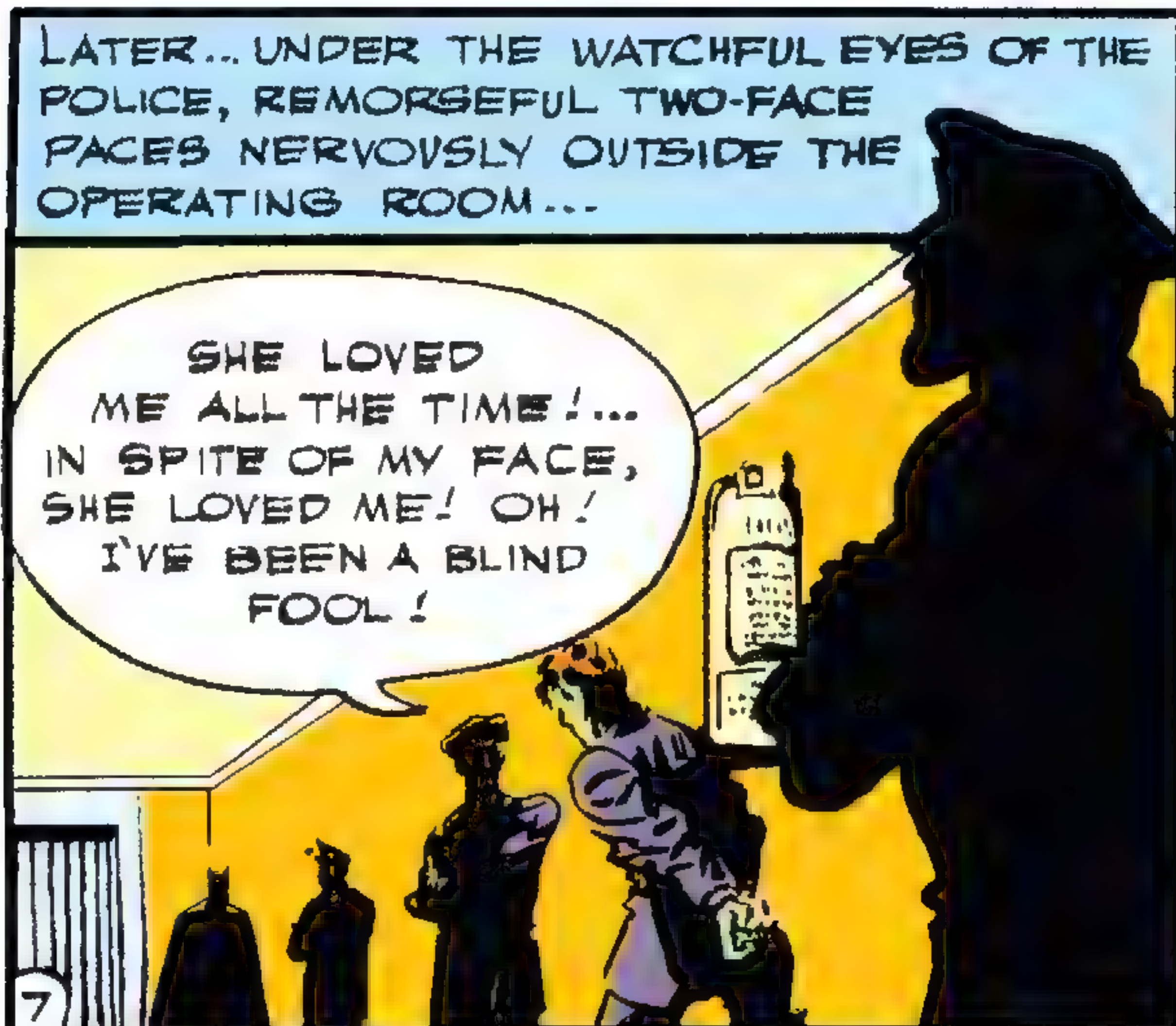


THE WATERFRONT! WHERE THE DIM HULK OF AN ANCIENT SAILING VESSEL CREAKS MOURNFULLY AS IT RIDES AT ANCHOR!





SUDDENLY... THROUGH THE DOOR A COWLED
FIGURE LEAPS FORWARD -- INTO THE PATH
OF THE BULLET!



KENT, DO YOU UNDER-
STAND? SHE DOESN'T WANT
TO LIVE BECAUSE SHE THINKS
YOU DON'T LOVE HER ENOUGH
TO GIVE UP YOUR CRIME
CAREER! SHE FEELS SHE
HAS NOTHING TO LIVE FOR!



SHE'S DONE EVERYTHING
TO TRY TO BRING YOU
BACK TO YOUR SENSES!
WELL... NOW WHAT CAN
YOU DO FOR HER?



I CAN GIVE
HER BACK HER
LIFE!

GILDA, DARLING...
YOU'VE GOT TO LIVE! YOU'VE
GOT TO! I'LL DO ANYTHING
YOU ASK! DARLING, I
LOVE YOU SO MUCH!



I WAITED SO
LONG FOR YOU TO SAY
THAT! KENT,
DEAREST!

SOMETIME LATER...

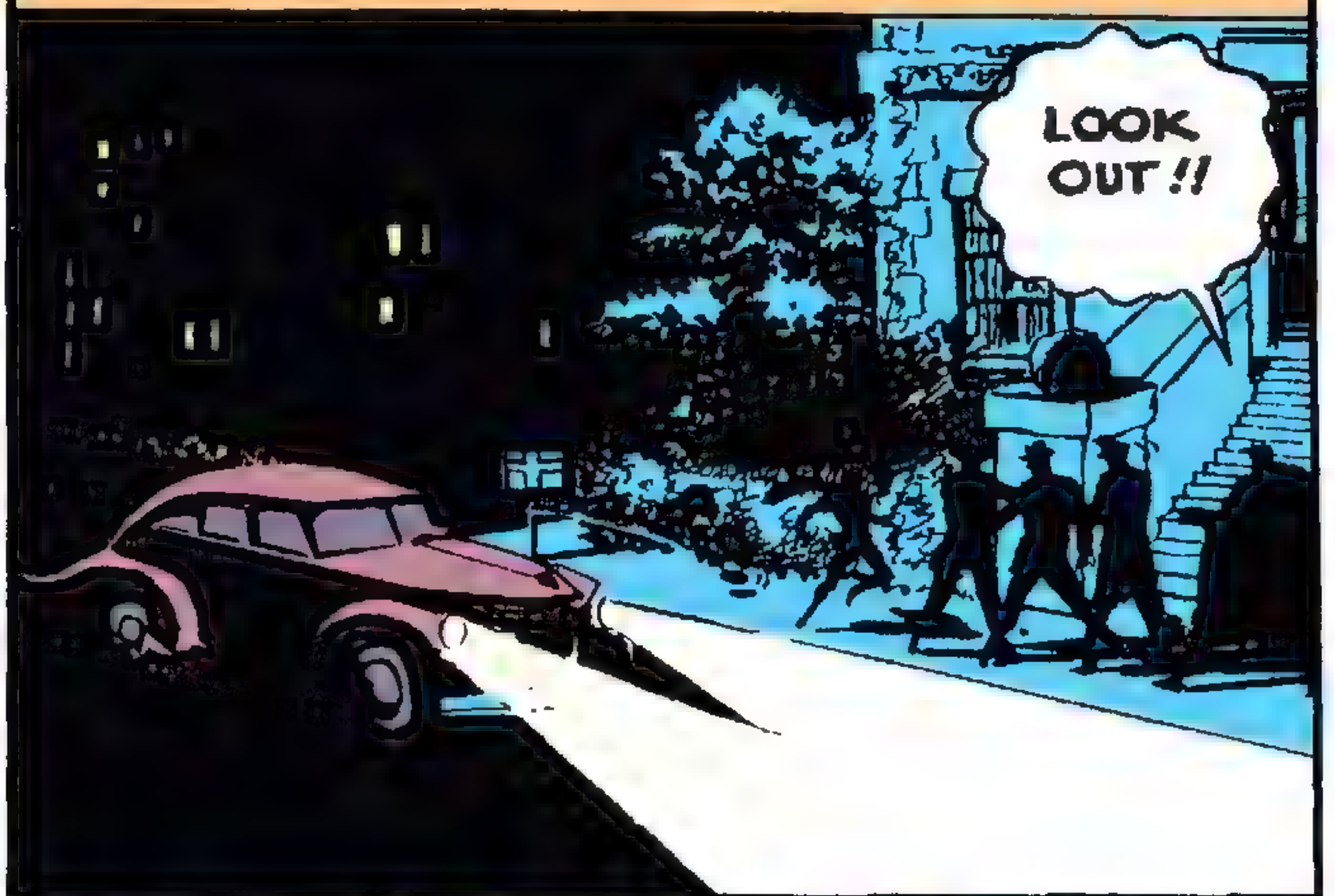


WELL,
KENT?

SHE'LL
BE ALL RIGHT
NOW, **BATMAN!**
OFFICER, I'M
READY FOR
YOU NOW!

OKAY,
LET'S
GO!

BUT AS THE GROUP STEPS TO THE STREET...A CAR
WHIPS TOWARD THE CURB...



LOOK
OUT!!

TOO LATE! THE CAPSULE FLOPS OPEN... AND A
BLINDING SMOKE POURS OUT!



C'MON, BOSS!
WHAT'RE YA
WAITIN' FOR!
GET IN!

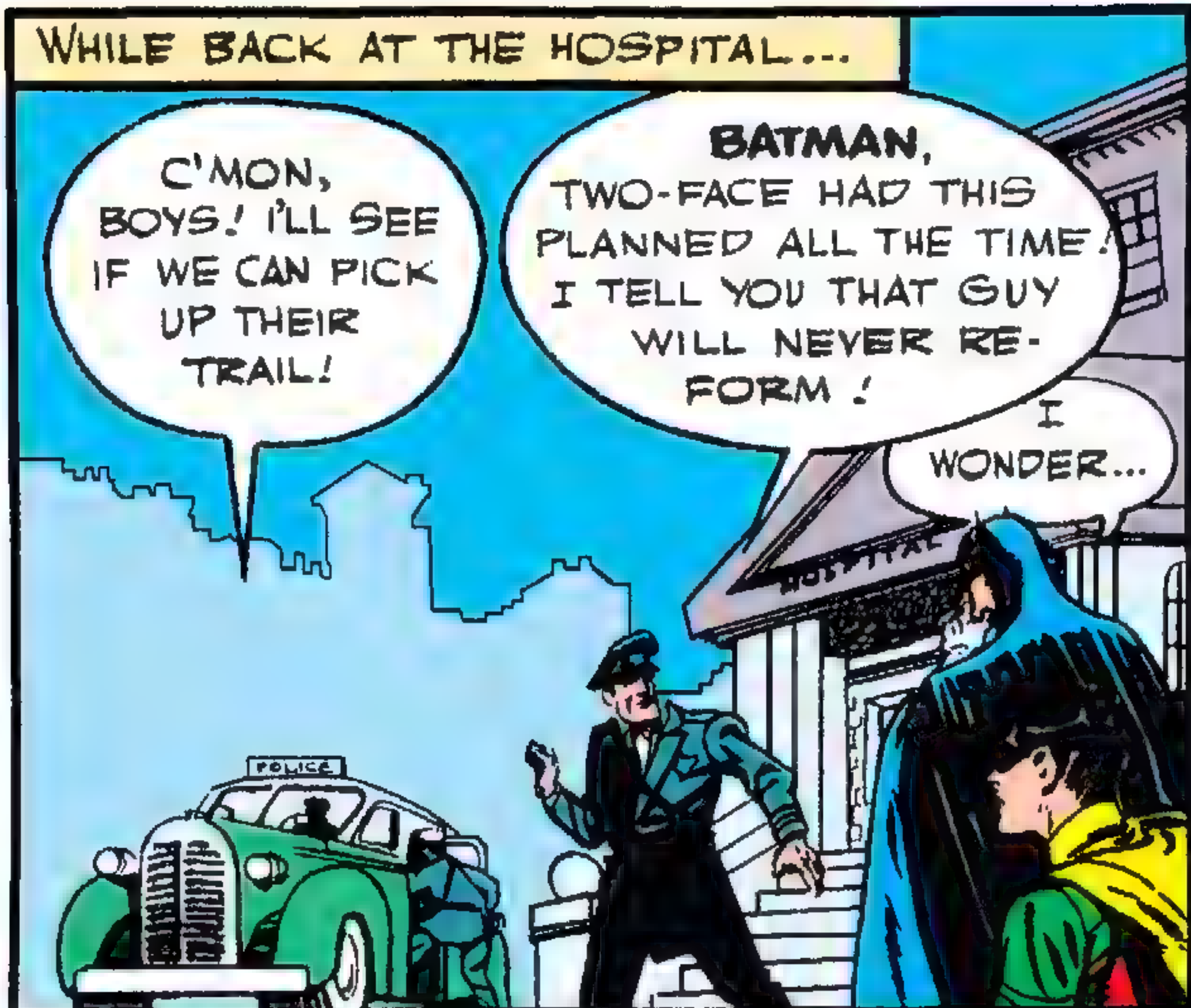
OKAY,
JOE! START
THIS HEAP
MOVIN'!

HOW...
HOW DID YOU
KNOW WHERE
I WAS?

THE RADIO! SAID
YOU WENT TO THE
HOSPITAL WITH THE
GIRL FRIEND AND
THE COPPERS!

YEAH...SO
WE FIGURED
WE'D USE YOUR
SMOKE BOMB
STUNT AND
PULL A LITTLE
RESCUE JOB!
AIN'TCHA GLAD
WE'RE SO
SMART?





AND SOON FROM THE BAT-MOBILE'S SHORT-WAVE RADIO COMES A PHONE CALL...

CALLING CAR 35! GO TO WEST 4th AND ANDREWS AVENUE! PICK UP A DRUNK WHO CLAIMS THAT SOMEONE IS DROPPING TWO-DOLLAR BILLS FROM A DESERTED WAREHOUSE! INVESTIGATE! THAT IS ALL!



TWO-DOLLAR BILLS? COULD IT BE...??

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

THASS IT! THE BILLS'RE COMIN' FROM THERE!

LOOK! A HAND SHOVIING A BILL THROUGH A KNOT-HOLE IN THE WOOD!



SECOND FLOOR! LET'S GO!

WHEW! I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD WORK! BATMAN, WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE RAILROAD STATION RIGHT AWAY!

OKAY! YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ABOUT WHILE WE RIDE!



MEANTIME... SHIV AND HIS COHORTS HAVE LOST NO TIME IN FOLLOWING OUT TWO-FACE'S PLAN...



HERE SHE COMES!

THESE UNIFORMS FIT US GOOD! EVEN BETTER THAN THE PUNKS TIED UP IN THE BACK OF THE GUM TRUCK!

THINK SO! WAIT TILL YOU SEE HOW WELL THE PRISON UNIFORMS FIT YOU!

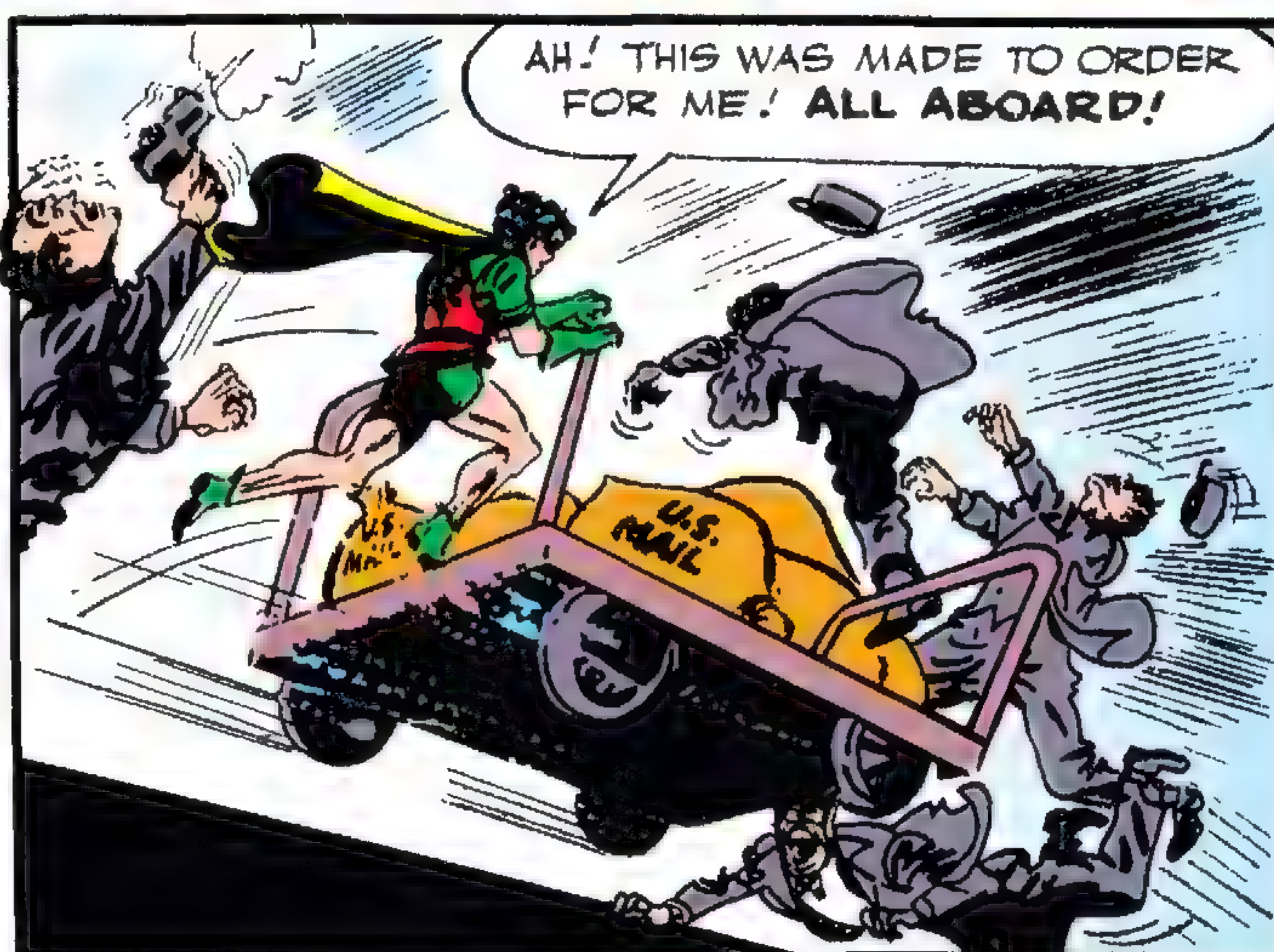
I HEAR YOU TALKING!

SHIV IS THE MAN FOR ME!



HERE, PAL... CHEW ON THIS FOR AWHILE!

UGH!



AH! THIS WAS MADE TO ORDER FOR ME! ALL ABOARD!

AS FOR TWO-FACE ...OR KENT...HE IS BACKING UP HIS REFORM WITH TWO IRON FISTS!

THAT'S FOR EVEN THINKING OF HURTING GILDA!

D-DON'T! DON'T HIT ME ANYMORE!

THEN...CATASTROPHE! A HURLED GUN SLAMS AGAINST BATMAN'S TEMPLE, AND SENDS HIM TOPPLING FROM THE PLATFORM --INTO THE PATH OF THE ONCOMING LOCOMOTIVE!

UH!

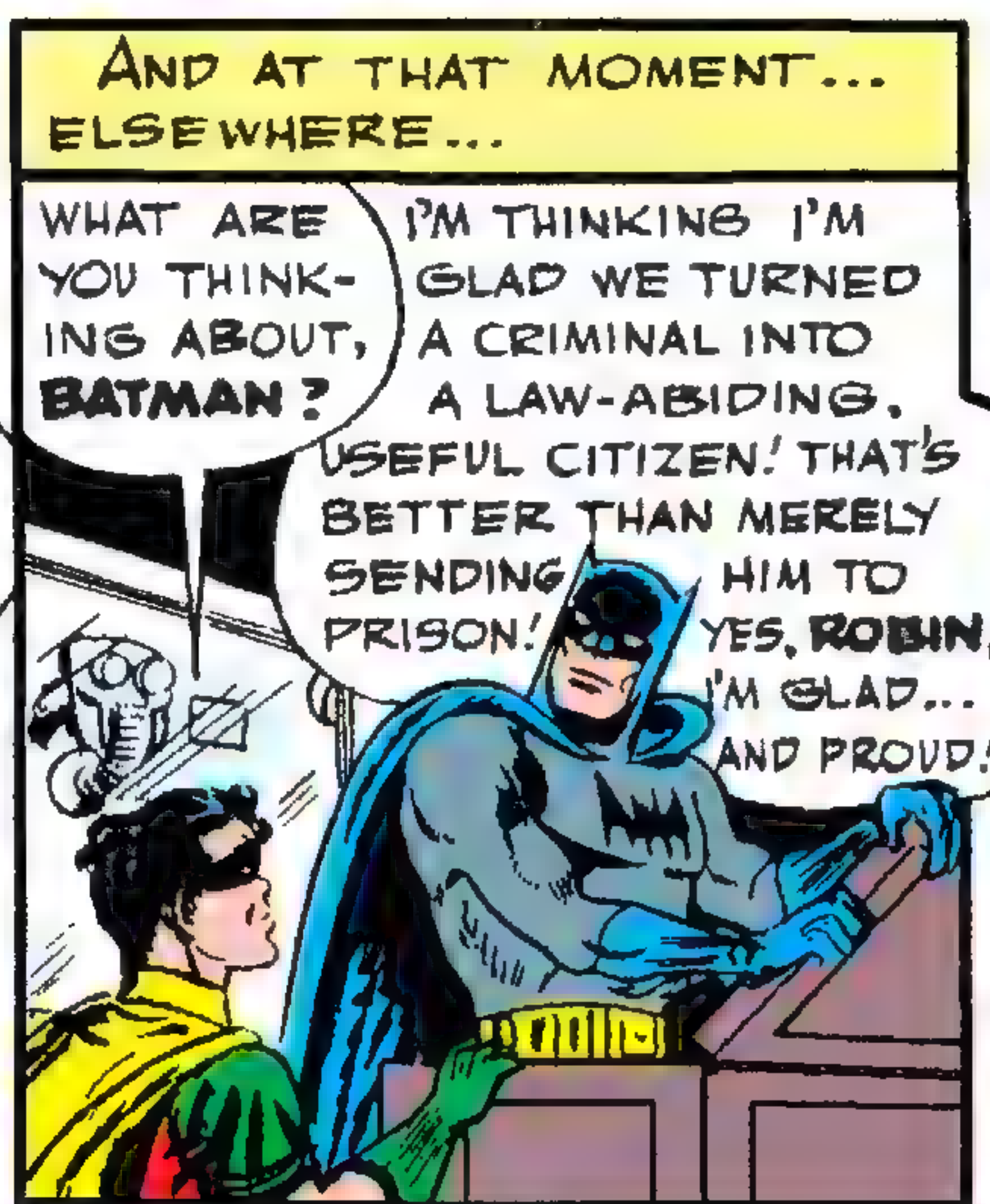
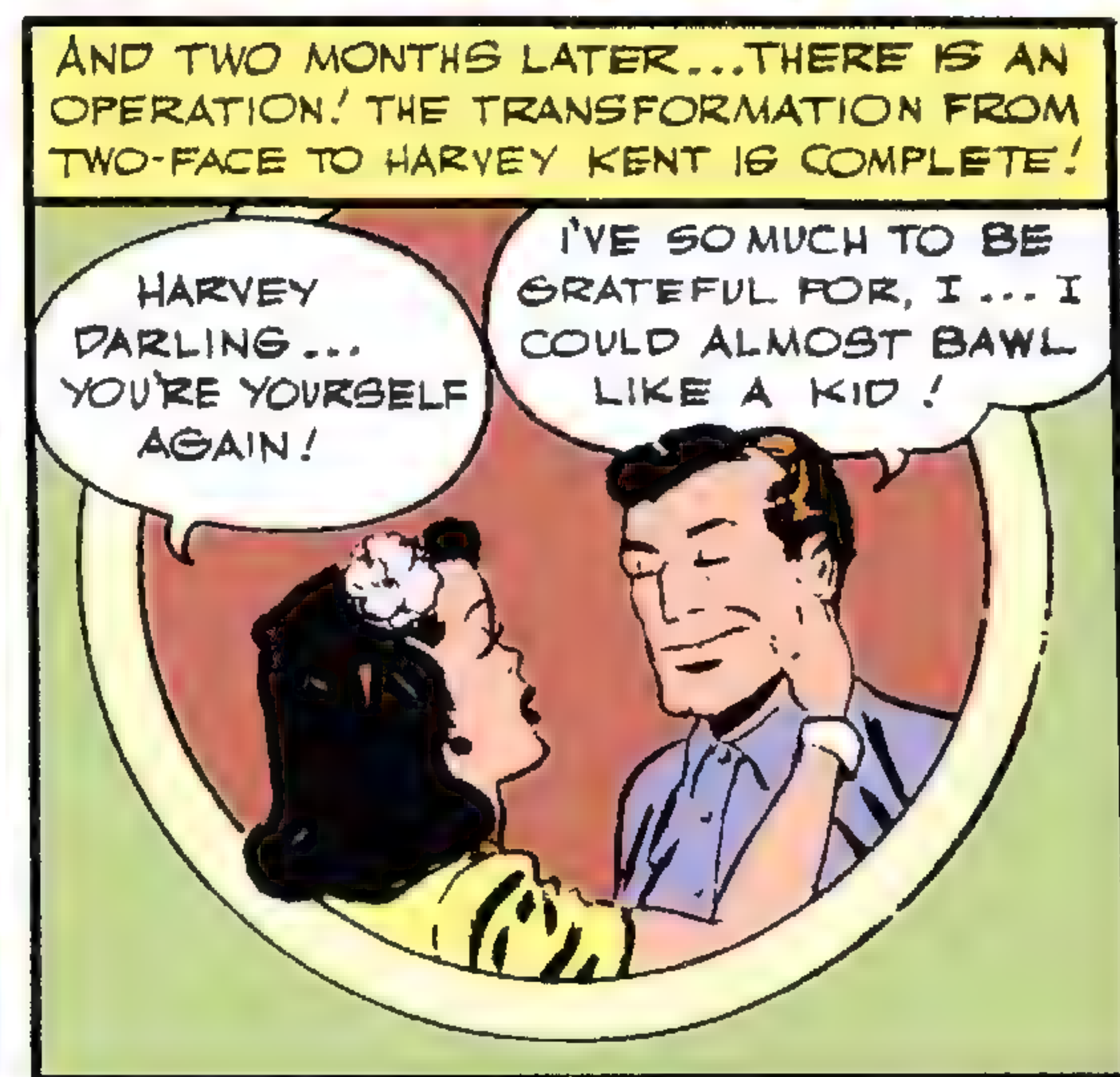
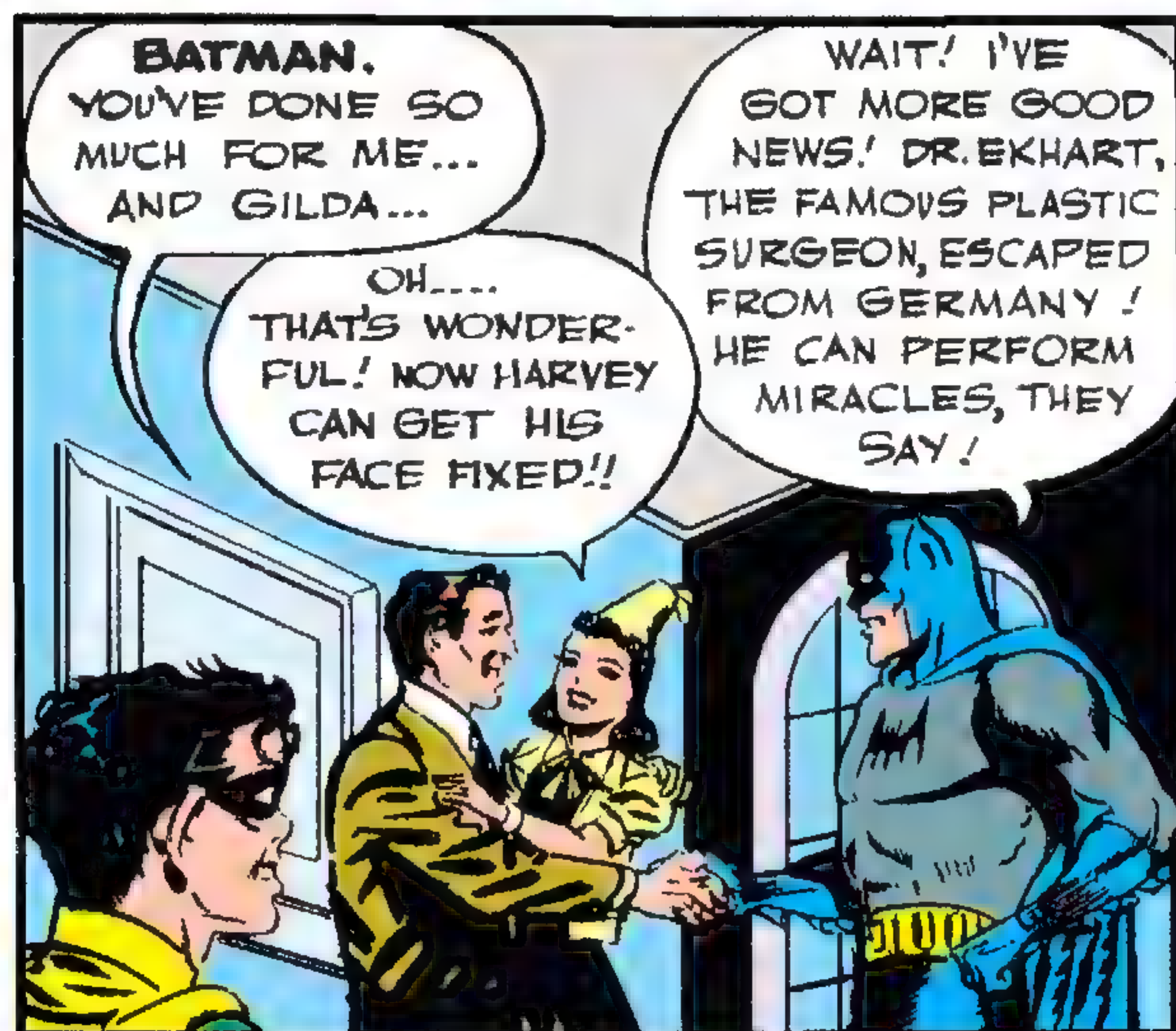
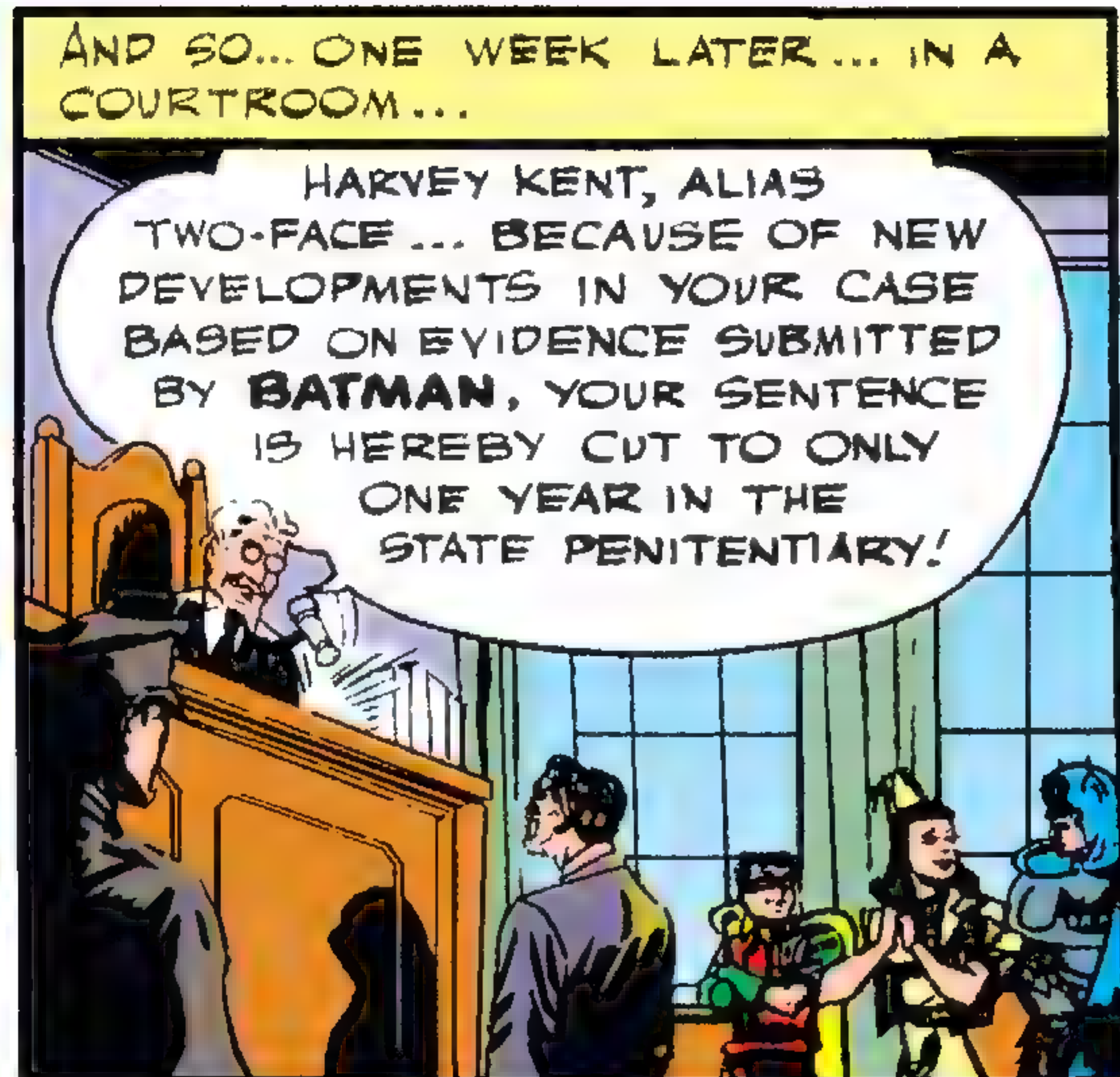
BATMAN! LOOK OUT! GOLLY, HE'S TOO DAZED TO GET UP IN TIME AND I'M TOO FAR AWAY TO HELP! BATMAN! THE ENGINE! THE ENGINE!

THEN IT IS THAT A FIGURE LEAPS FORWARD AS THE ONCOMING IRON MONSTER THUNDERS TOWARD THE FALLEN BATMAN!

DEATH... HORRIBLE, MANGLING DEATH HURTTLES AT THE BATMAN... BUT EVEN FASTER IS THE PLUNGING FIGURE THAT PLOWS INTO HIM AND ROLLS HIM SAFELY AWAY FROM CHURNING WHEELS!

MAN, OH MAN, THAT WAS CLOSE! KENT, YOU SAVED MY LIFE ... BUT YOU CERTAINLY TOOK A TERRIBLE CHANCE DOING IT! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU...

THAT WAS NOTHING COMPARED TO WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR ME! FORGET IT! I'M GLAD YOU'RE OKAY!



BATMAN
No.19

OCT...NOV.



BATMAN

FOUR BIG
BATMAN & ROBIN
ACTION STORIES

No. 1
"BATMAN MAKES
A DEADLINE"

No. 2
"ATLANTIS
GOES TO WAR"

No. 3
"CASE OF THE
TIMID LION"

No. 4
"COLLECTOR OF
MILLIONAIRES"



BATMAN

WITH ROBIN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

BOB
KANE



Gotham City Graphic

EXTRA

GOTHAM CITY'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
GOTHAM CITY, FEBRUARY 1, 1944

PRICE 3 CENTS

VOL. 75.. NO. 147

REPORTER EXPOSES VAST DEATH RING!

Gangster

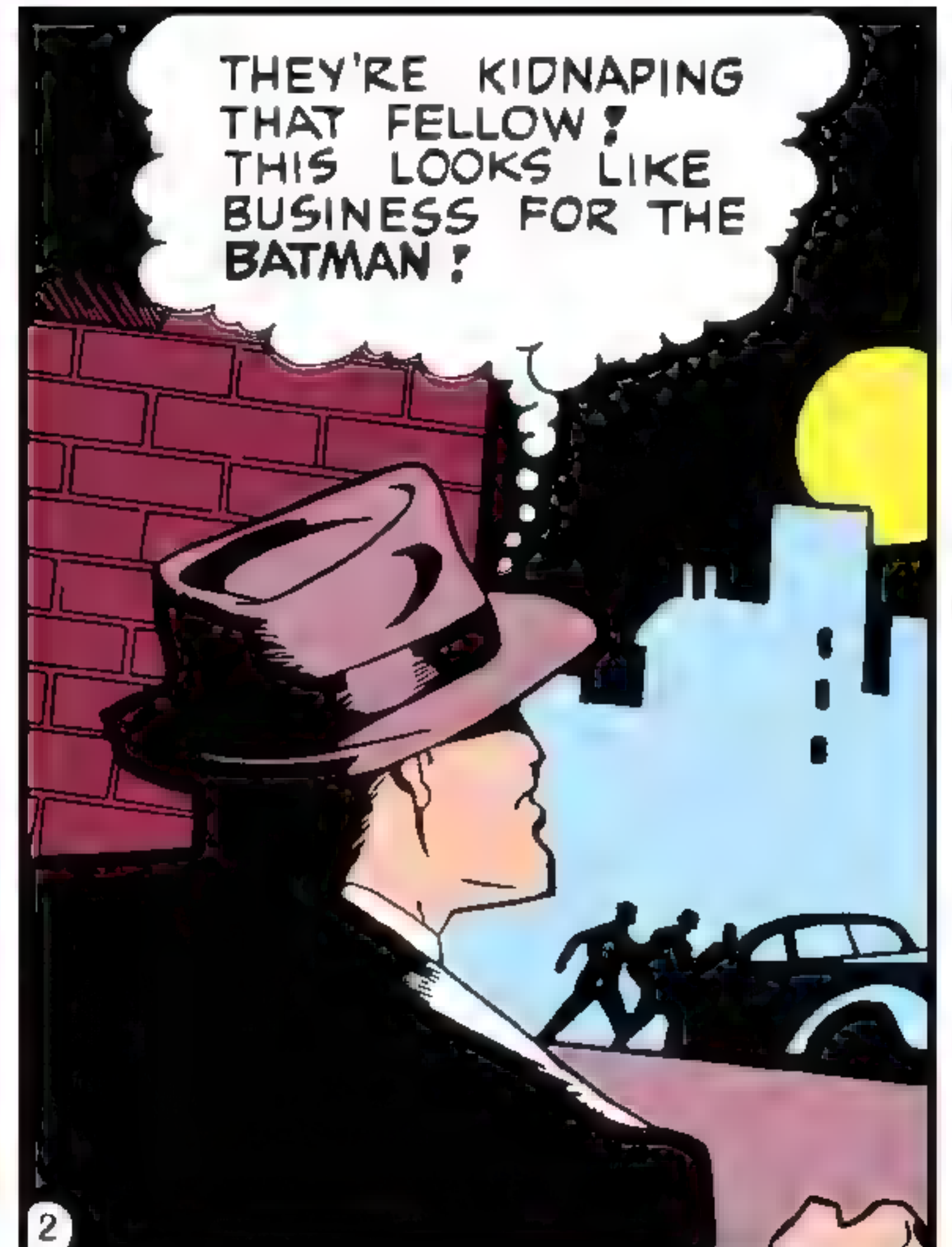
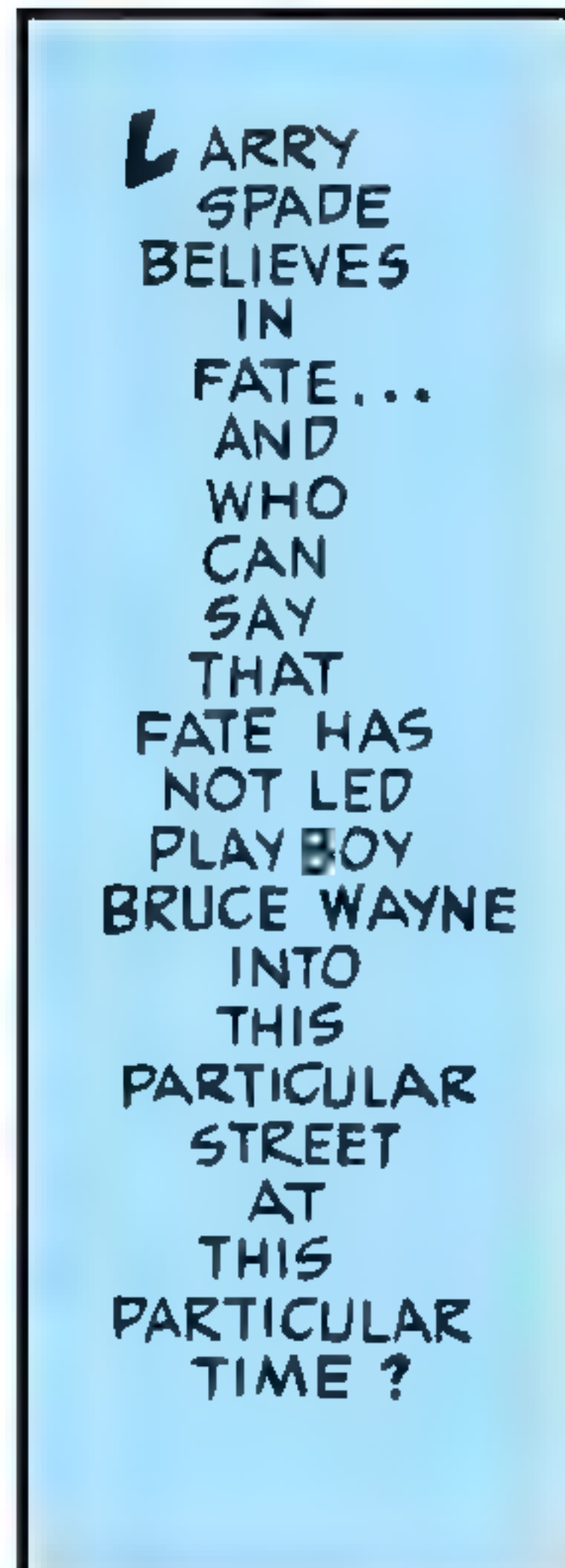
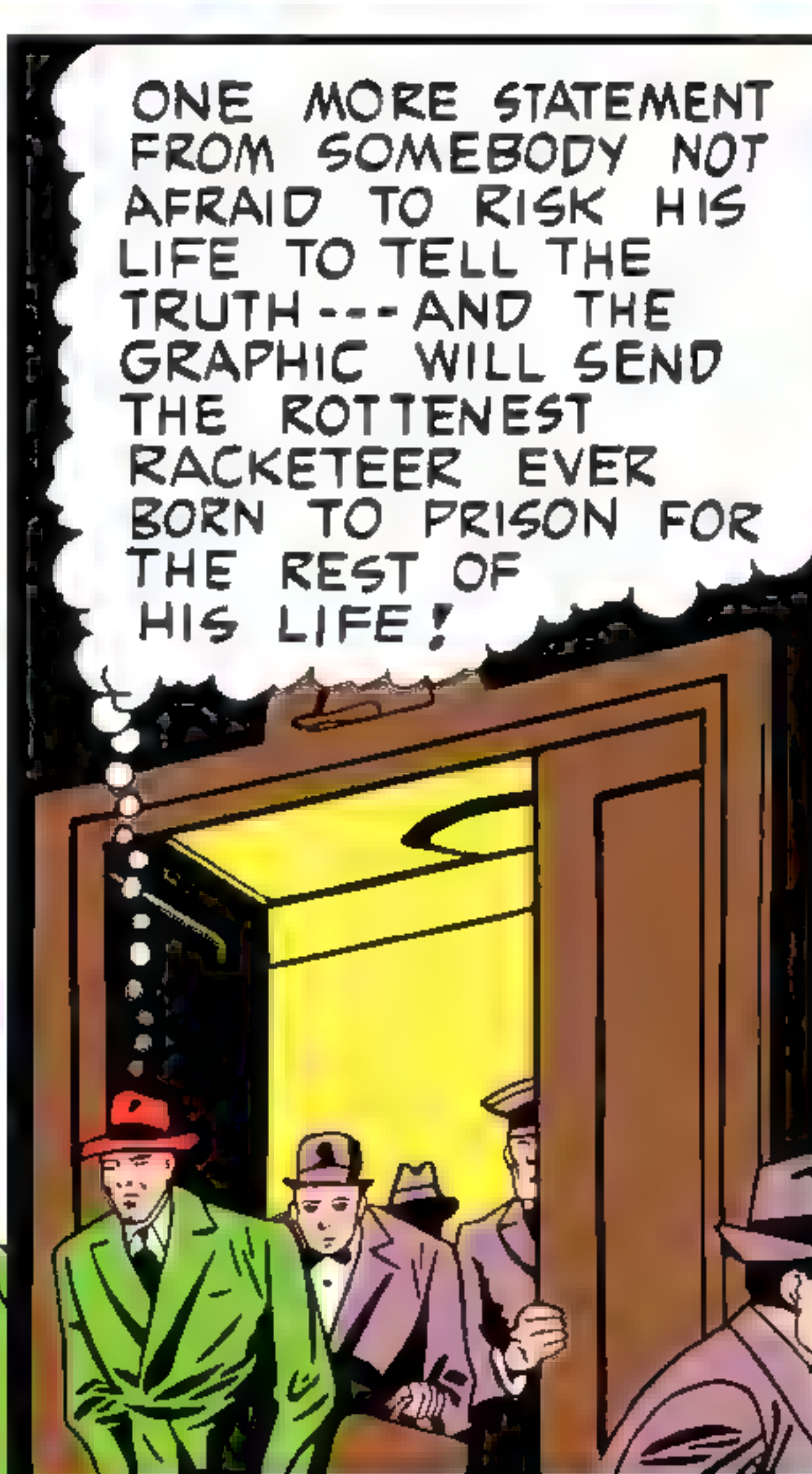
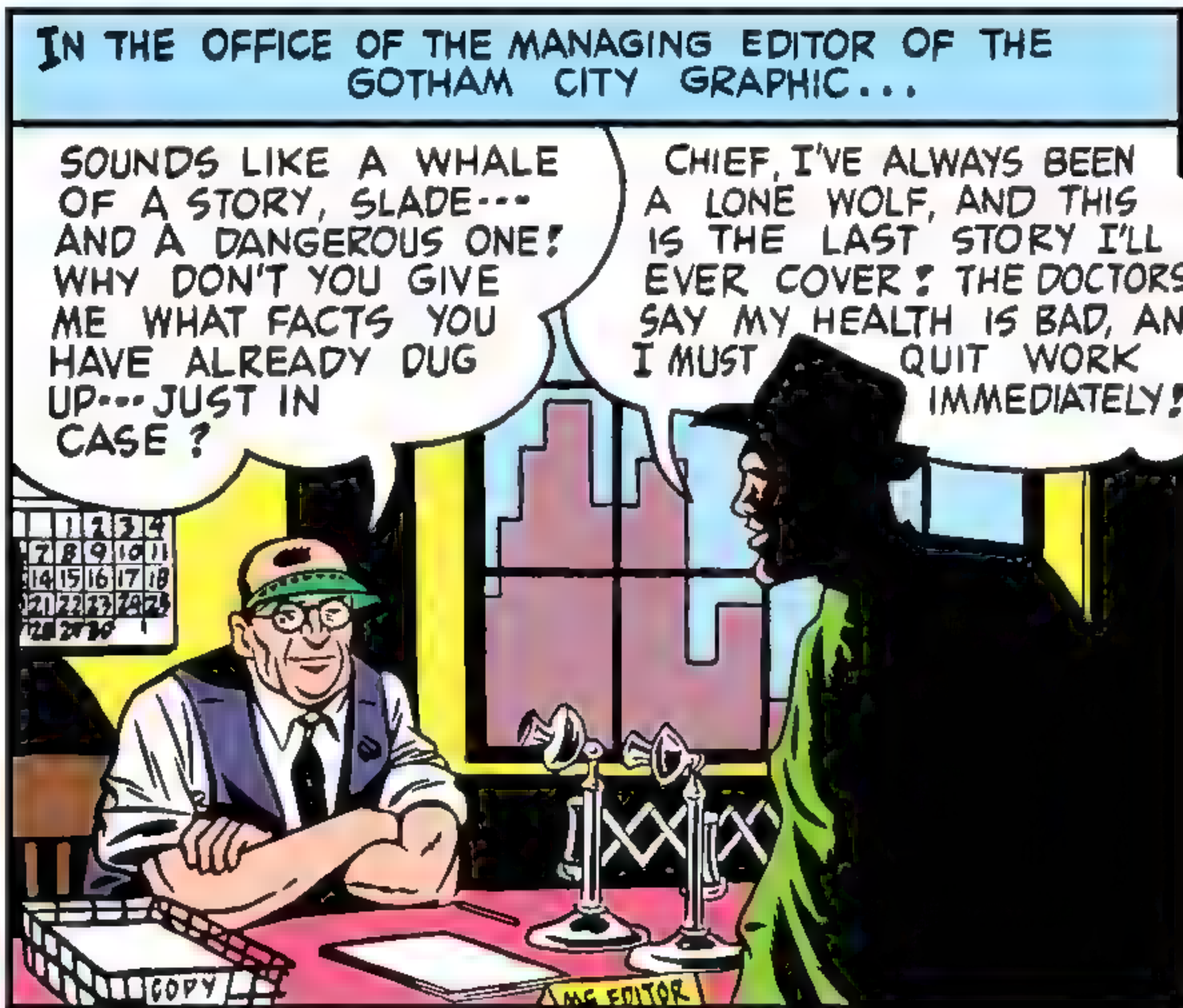
Biggest So-
Gang Shoot-
Citizens are
THRILLING
AND KILLER
WERE FOUND

Police

an
ter
ped
ONES

HEADLINES
TELL THRILLING
STORIES---BUT MANY A
STORY BEHIND THE HEAD-
LINES IS FAR MORE DRAMATIC!
HERE IS ONE--- THE STRANGE
STORY OF LARRY SPADE, VETERAN
REPORTER, WHO PLANS TO END
HIS COLORFUL CAREER WITH THE
BIGGEST SCOOP OF ALL--- AND FINDS
IT IN THE MIDST OF DEADLY PERILS
THAT WOULD STOP A LESS DETERMINED
MAN! AND WHEN HEARTLESS KILLERS
STRIKE TO SILENCE HIM, THOSE
ARCH-FOES OF EVIL, THE BATMAN
AND ROBIN, ERUPT INTO SPECTACULAR
ACTION AGAINST A BACKGROUND
OF CHATTERING LINOTYPES AND
THUNDERING PRESSES AS---

"BATMAN MAKES A
DEADLINE!"



IN A SHADOWED AREAWAY, A SWIFT TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE...

IF IT ISN'T ONE THING, IT'S ANOTHER --- AND IF IT WASN'T THAT WAY, I'D BE BORED!



AND A BORROWED VEHICLE SPEEDS THE BATMAN TOWARD A NEW DATE WITH DANGER...

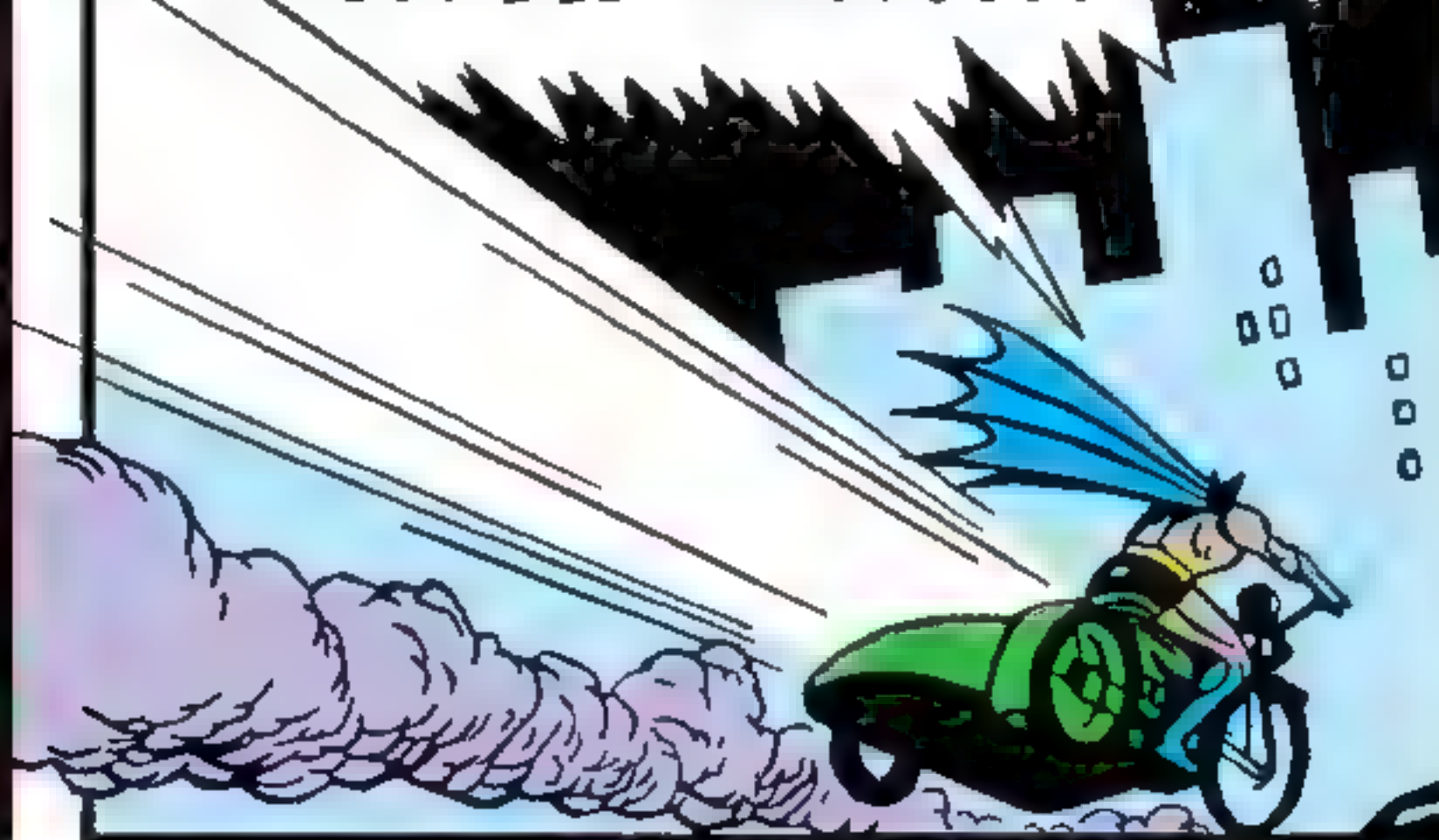


I NEED THIS WORSE THAN THE GRAPHIC DOES RIGHT NOW! I'LL RETURN IT UNDamAGED OR BUY A NEW ONE LATER!

FROM THE CRIME-SMASHERS UNIQUE BELT RADIO, A CALL CRACKLES THROUGH THE ETHER FOR ROBIN, HIS YOUNG PARTNER IN PERIL...

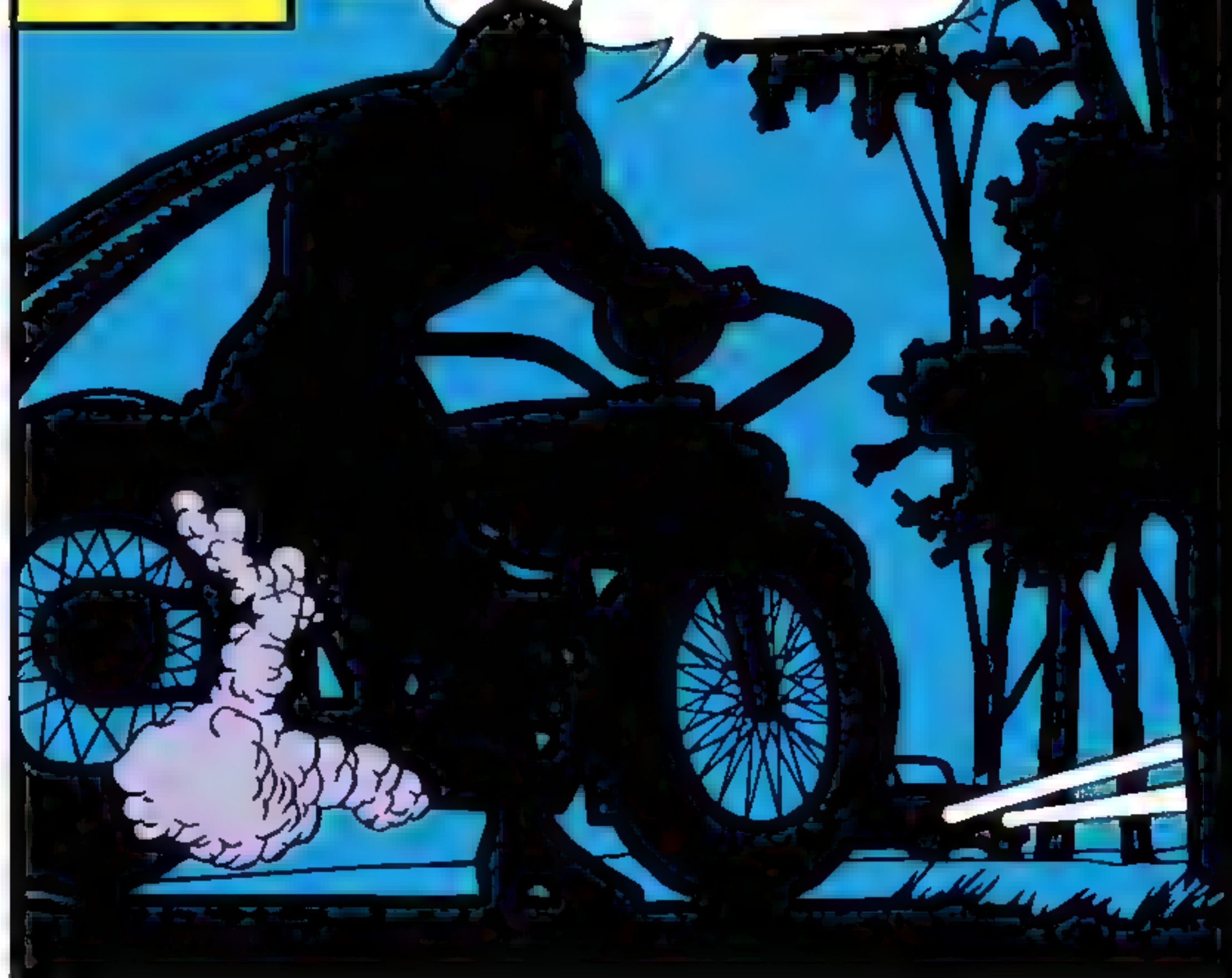
ROBIN!
BATMAN CALLING ROBIN!

FOLLOW RADIO BEAM IN BATMOBILE WITH ALL POSSIBLE SPEED!...



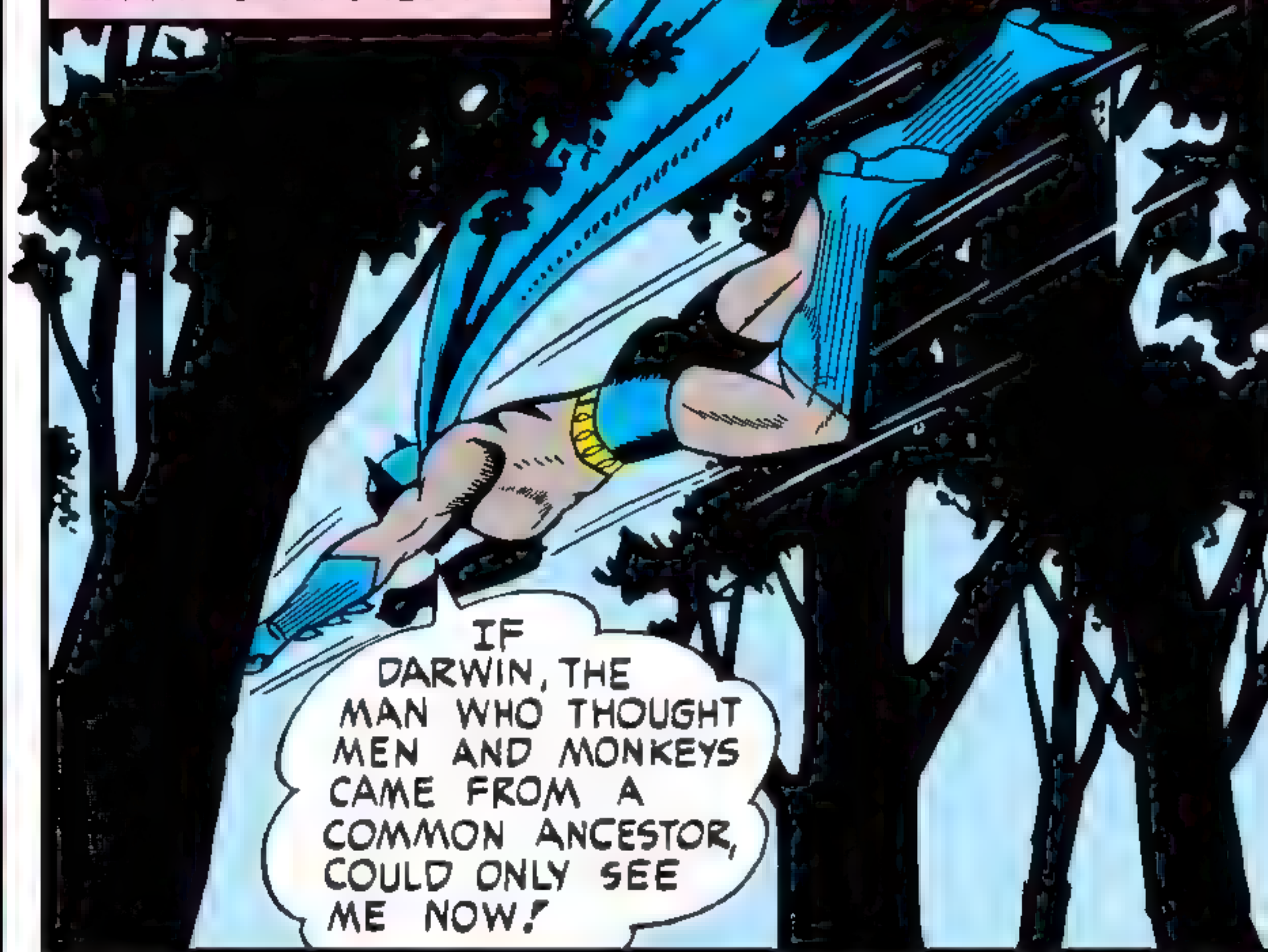
BEYOND THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...

THEY'RE STOPPING --- WHICH MEANS I'D BETTER STOP THIS NOISEMAKER AND TRY A QUIETER APPROACH!



MIGHTY MUSCLES HURL THE BATMAN THROUGH

BATMAN THROUGH



IF DARWIN, THE MAN WHO THOUGHT MEN AND MONKEYS CAME FROM A COMMON ANCESTOR, COULD ONLY SEE ME NOW!

JOURNEY'S END FOR THE GANGSTERS' PASSENGER...

THIS IS AS GOOD A PLACE TO DITCH HIM AS ANY!

THE BOSS AIN'T PARTICULAR WHERE HE DIES --- JUST SO HE DOES!

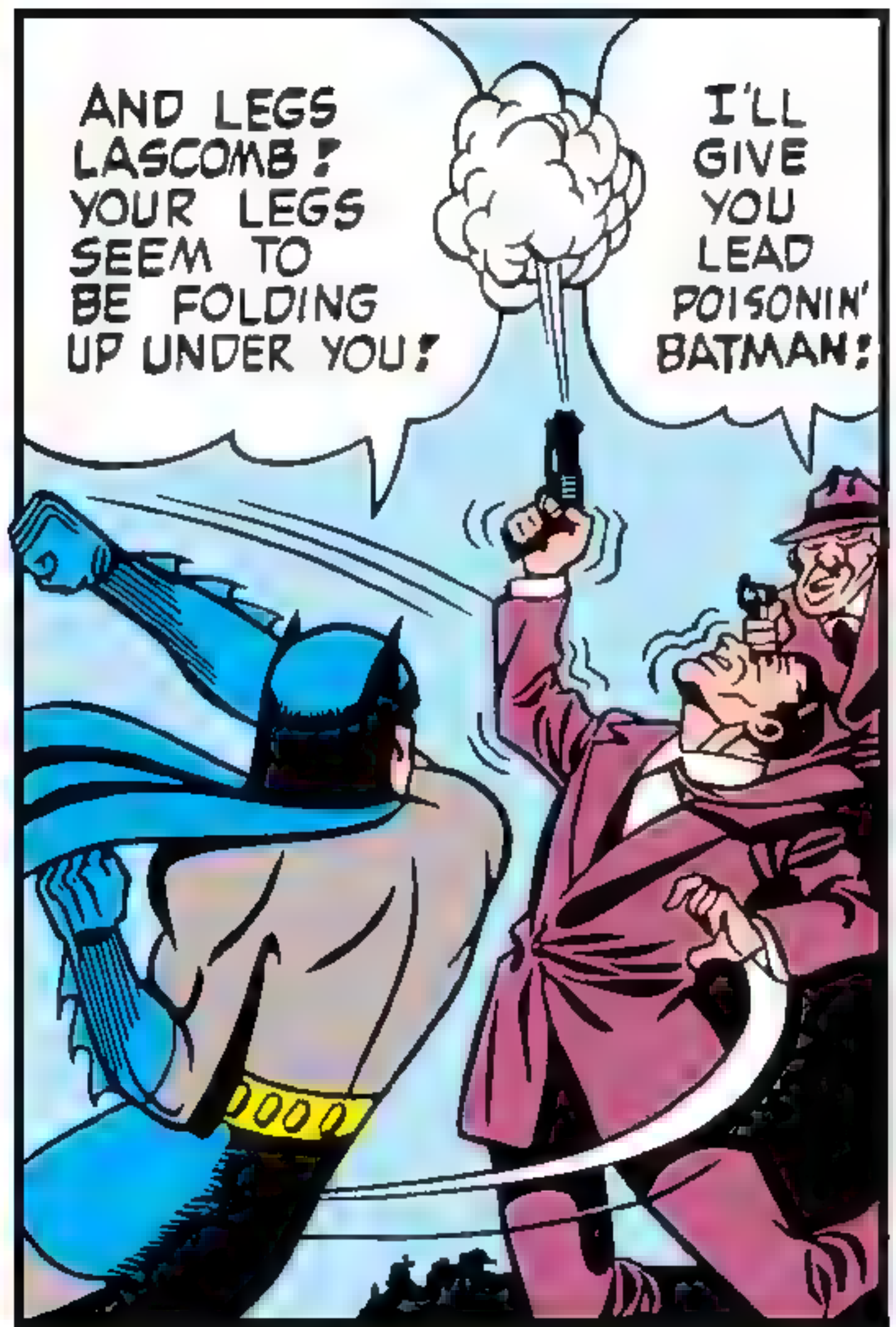


A NERVELESS HAND PREPARES TO COMMIT THE DARKEST DEED OF ALL...

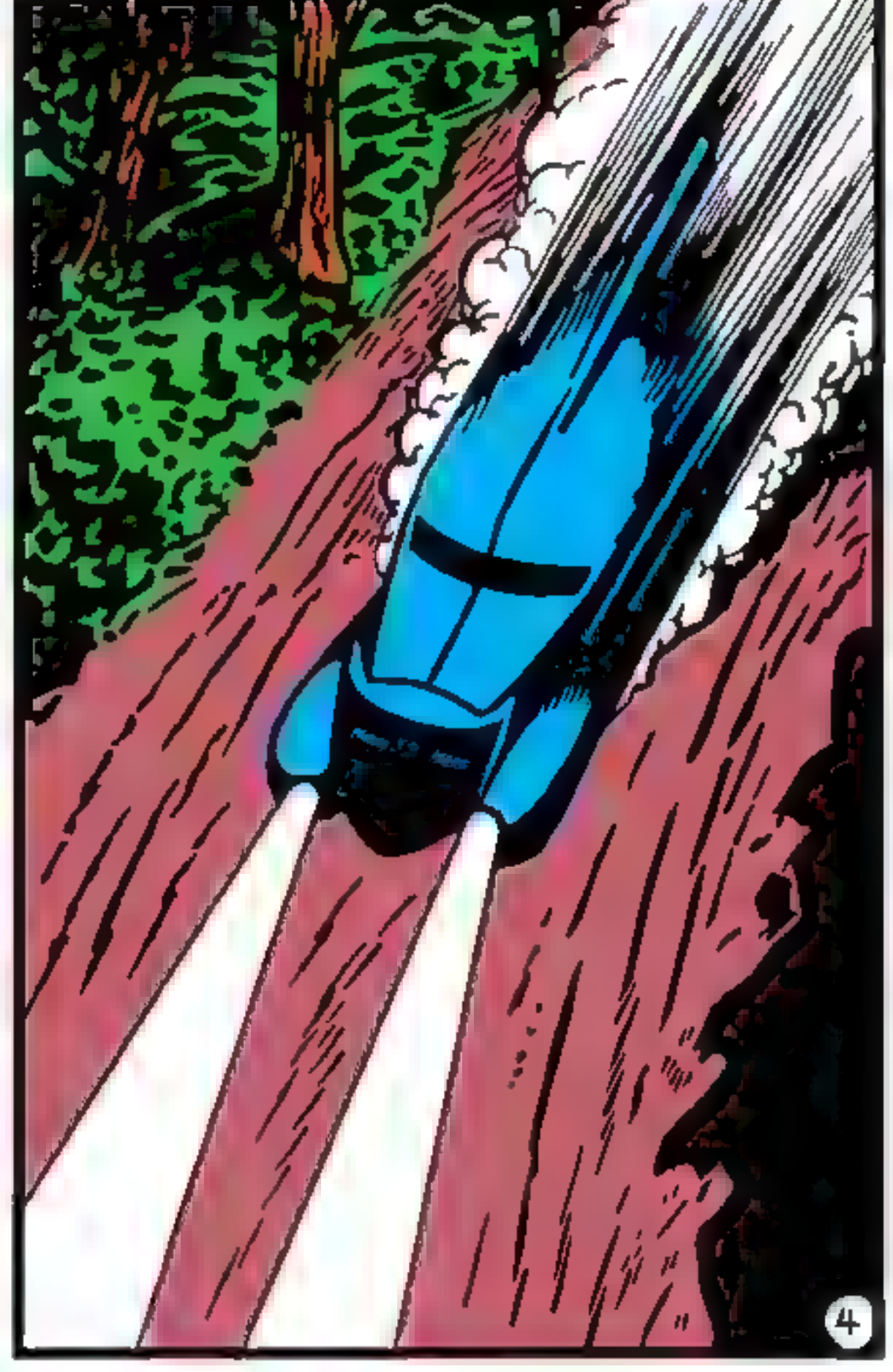
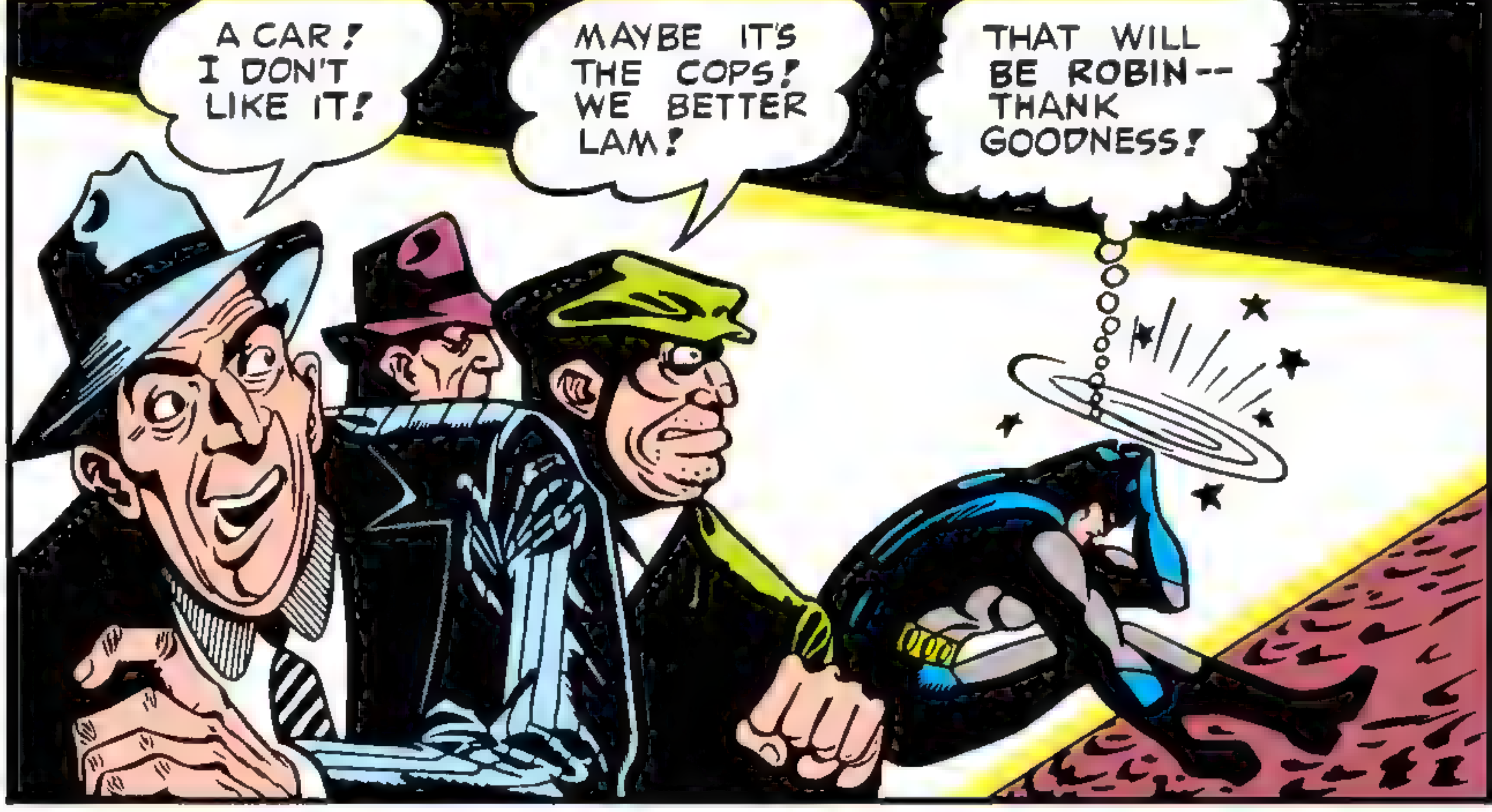
HE'LL NEVER TELL THE WORLD ABOUT OUR RACKET!

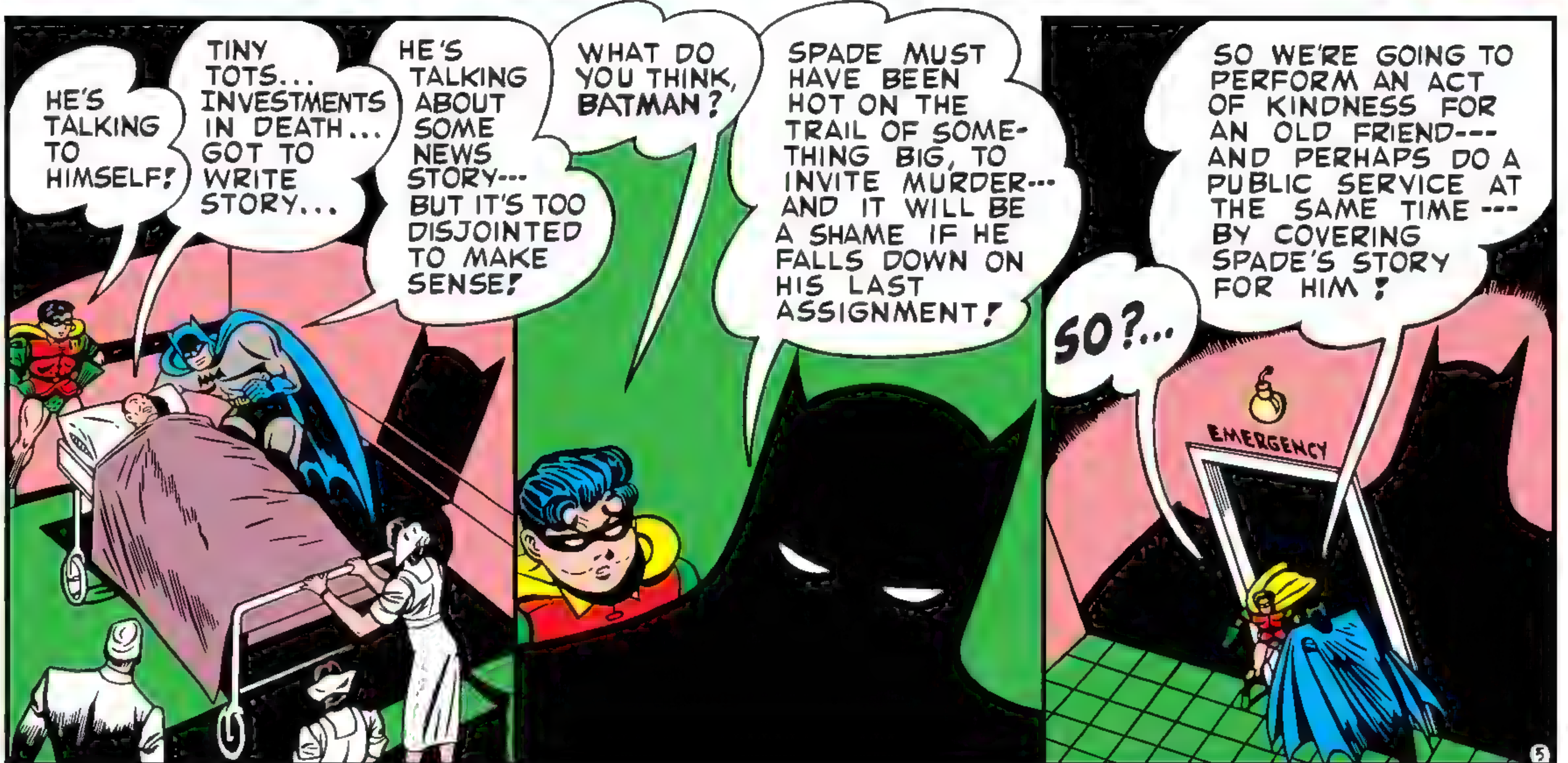
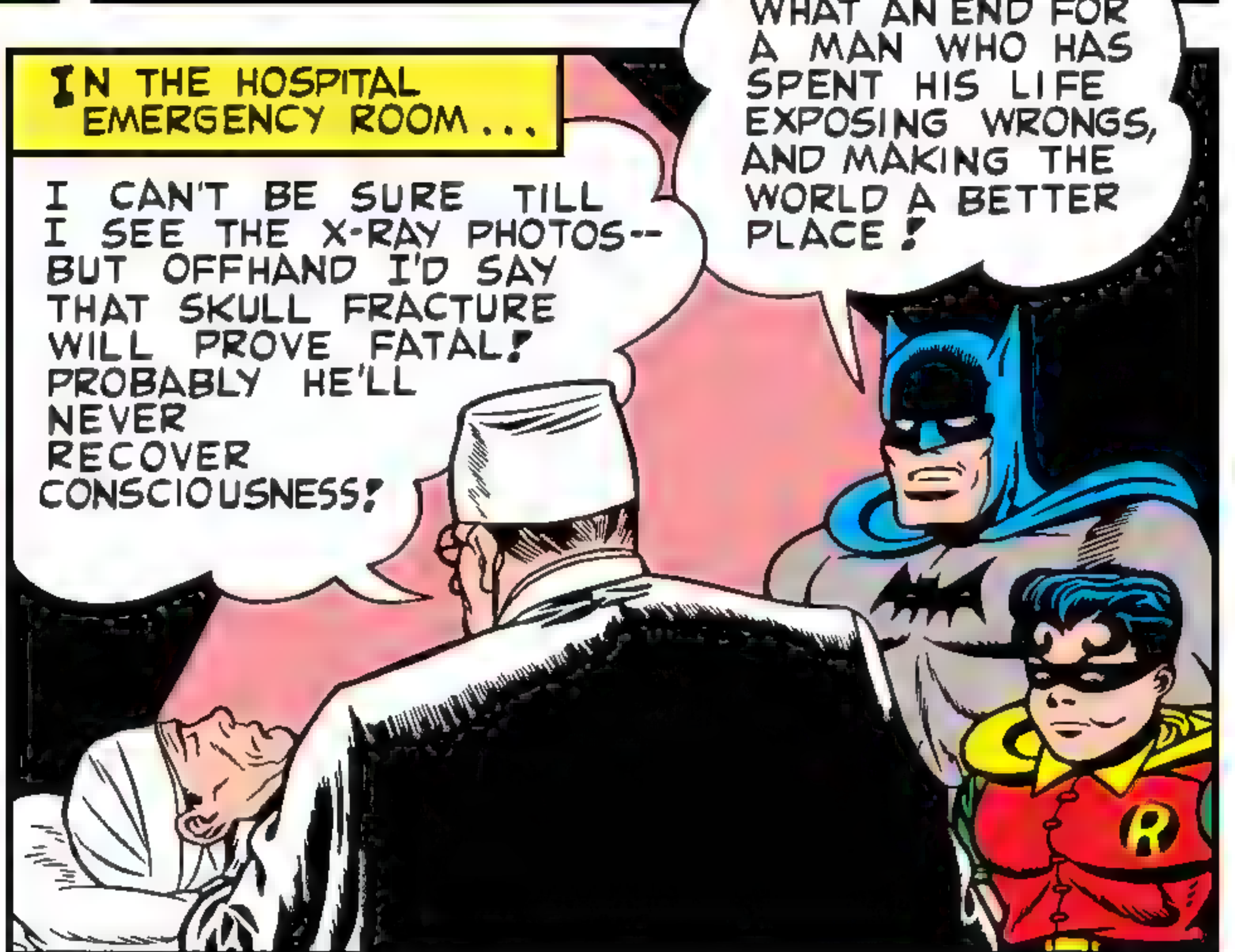
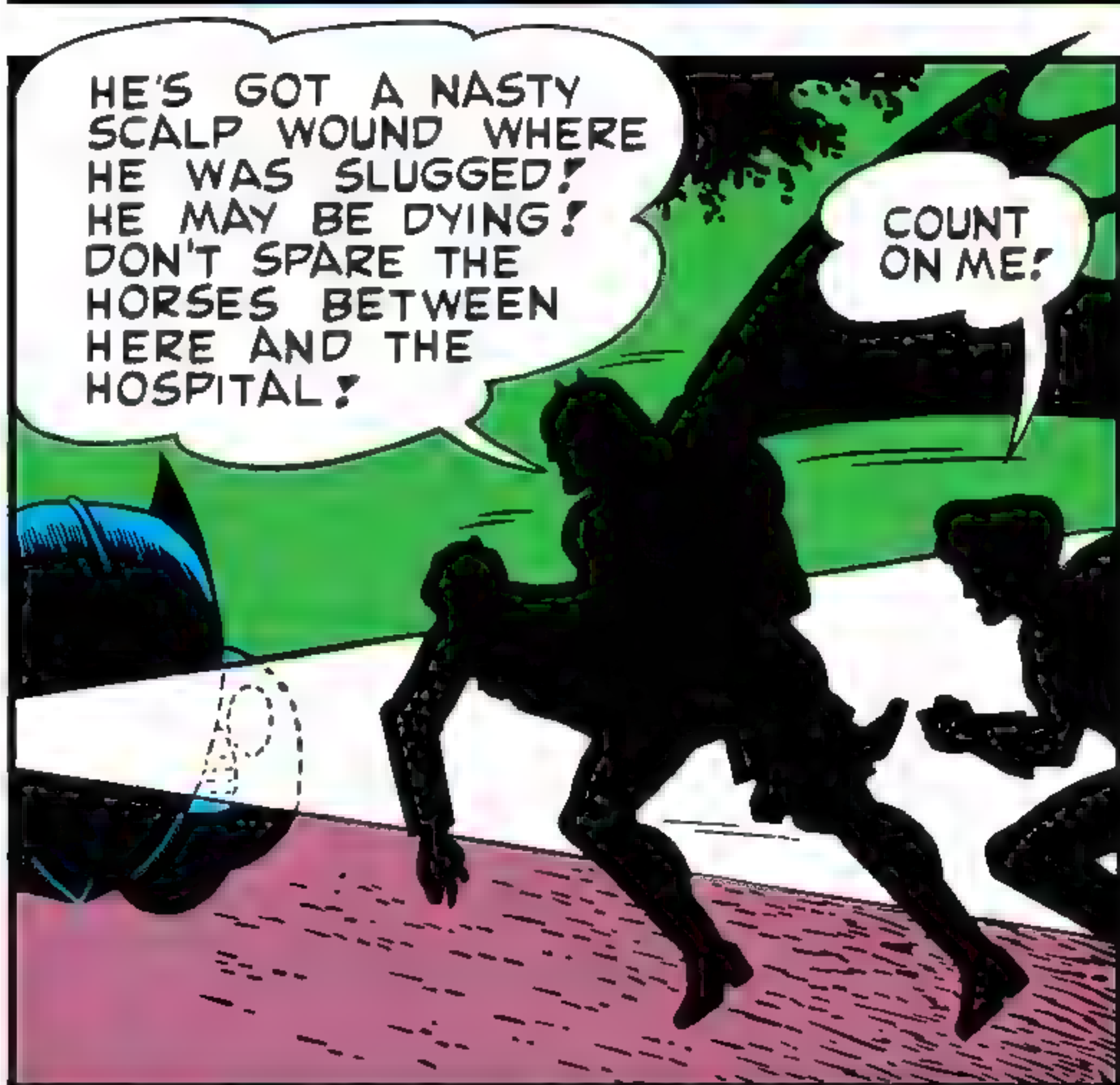
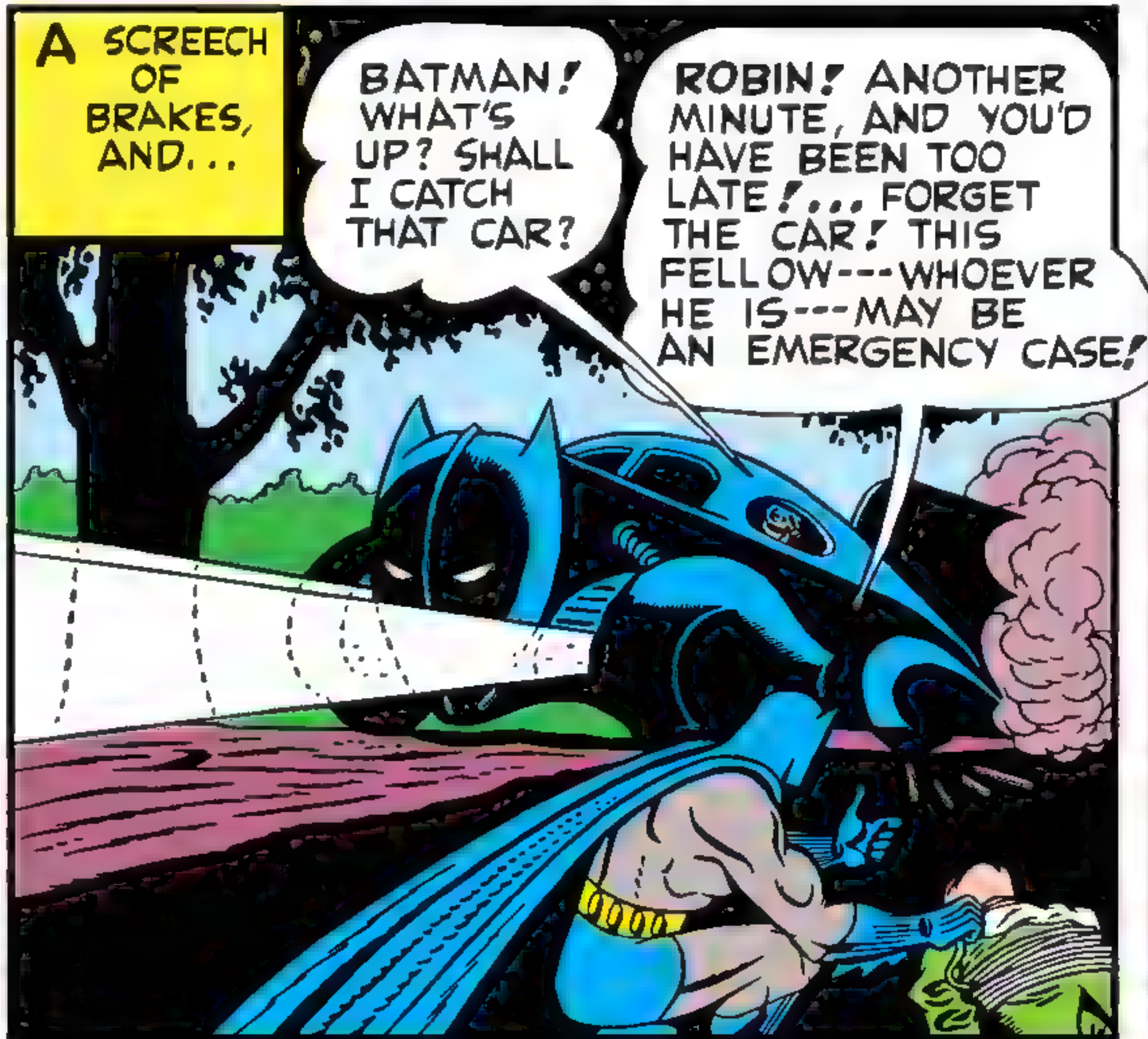
WE'LL DO THE SAME TO ANYBODY WHO TRIES TO KEEP US FROM MAKING ALL THEM MILLIONS!

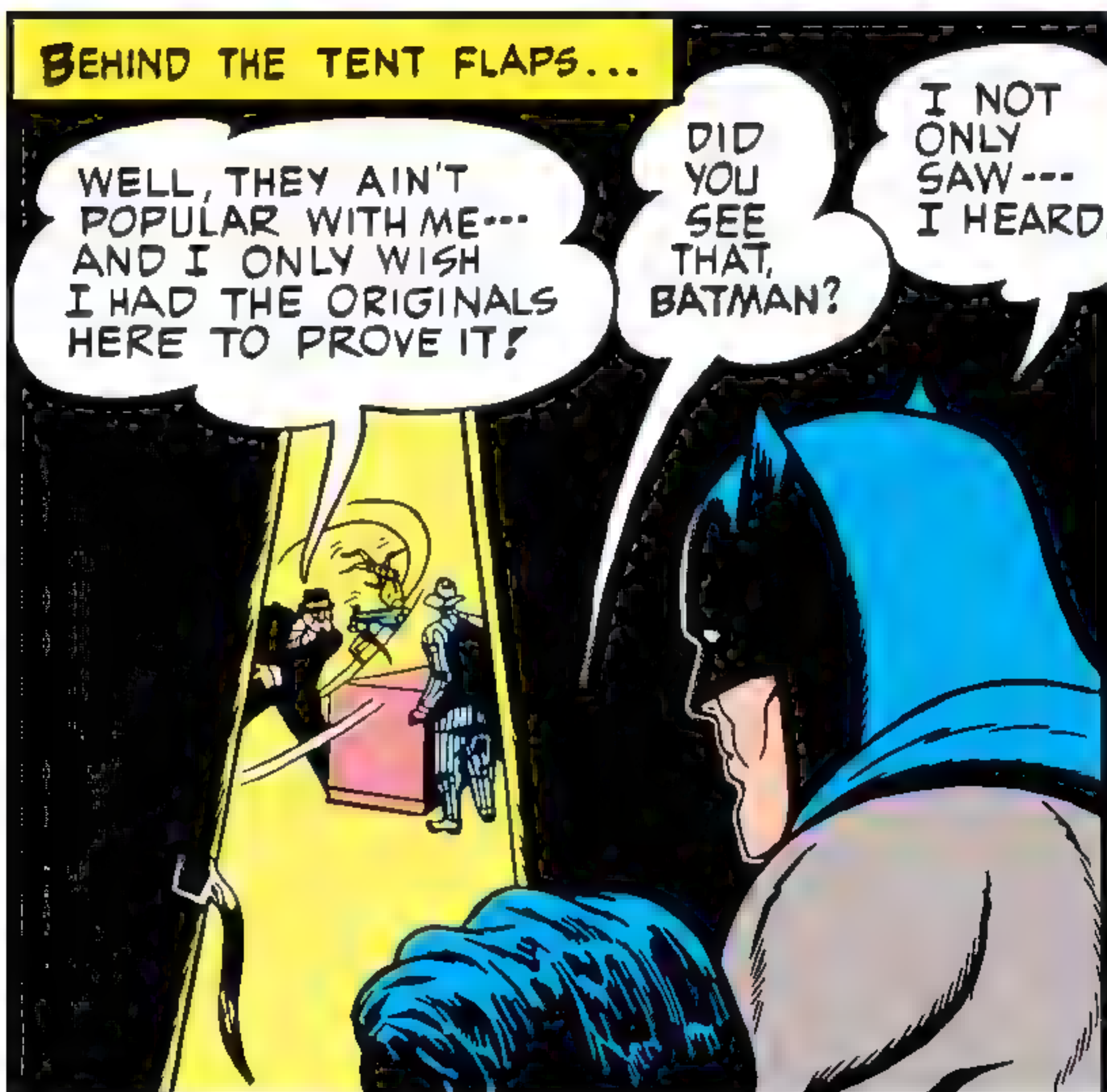
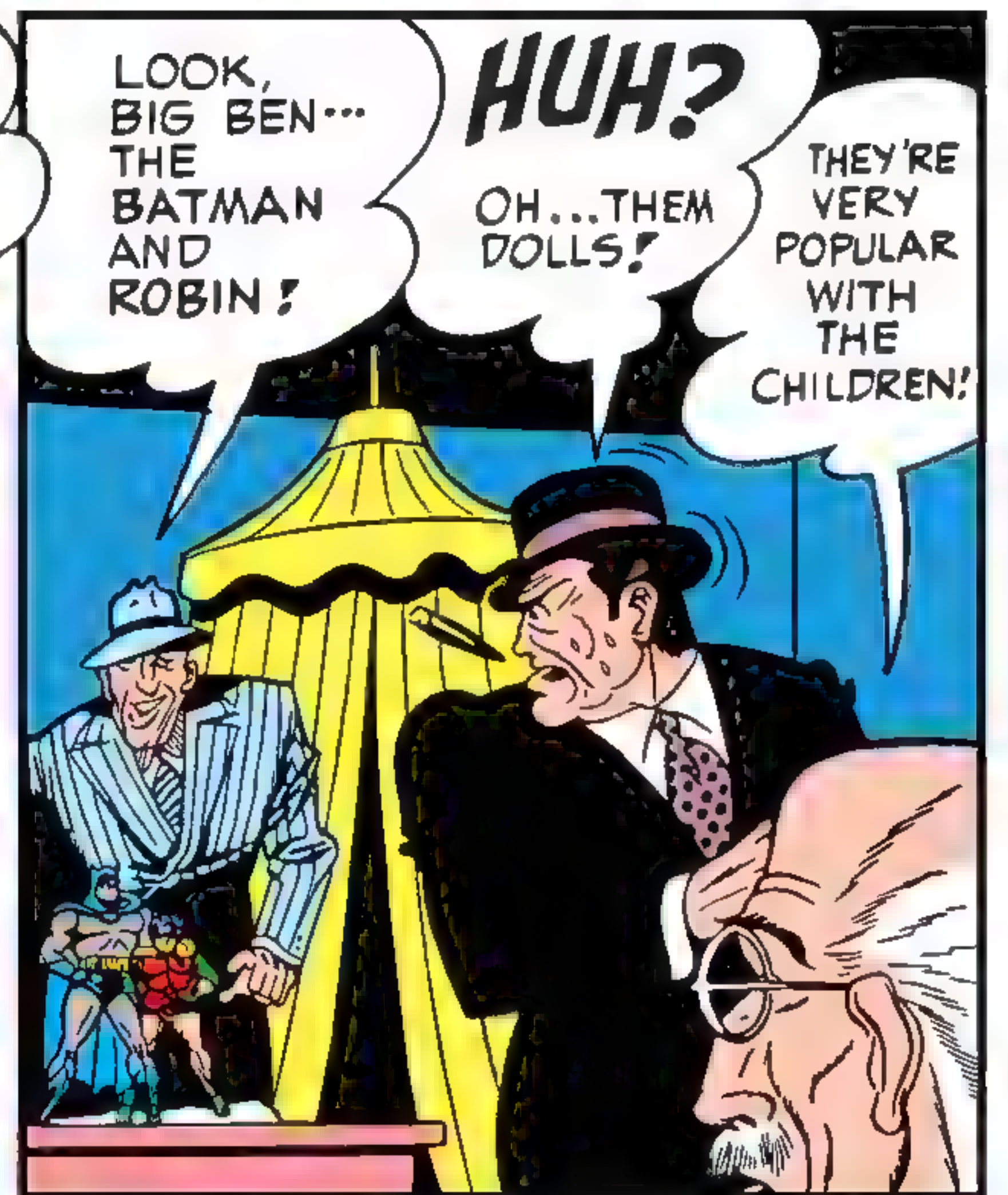
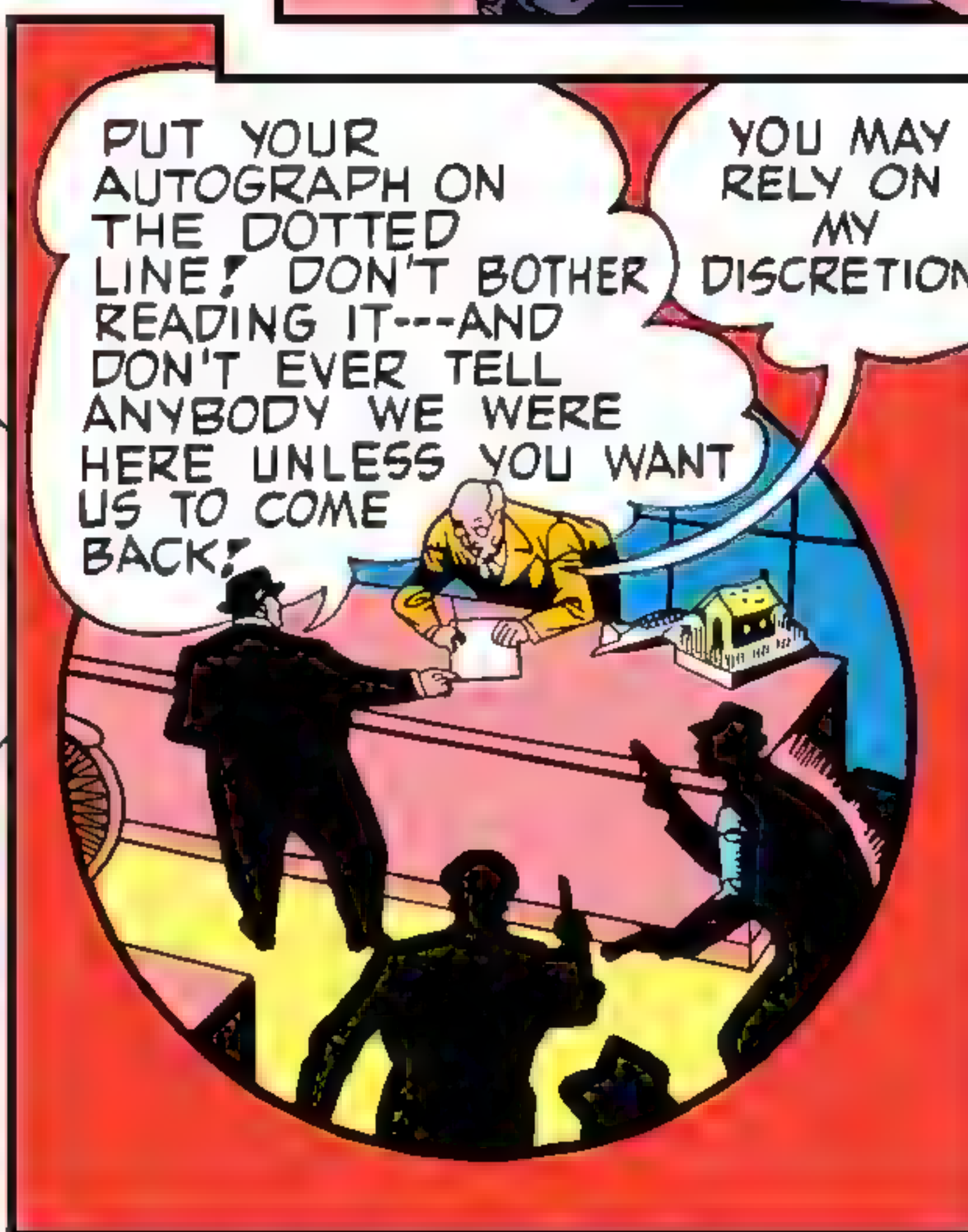
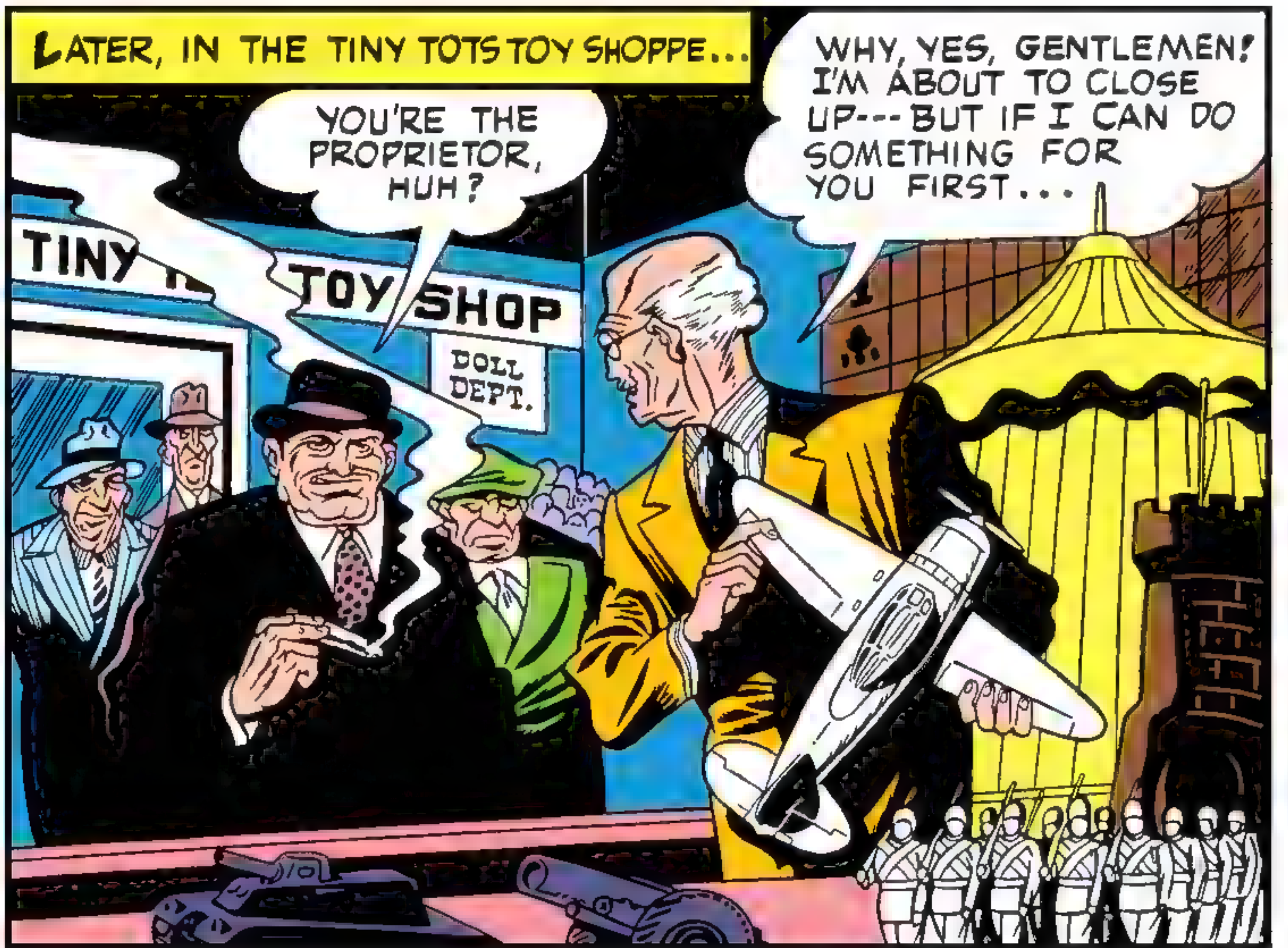


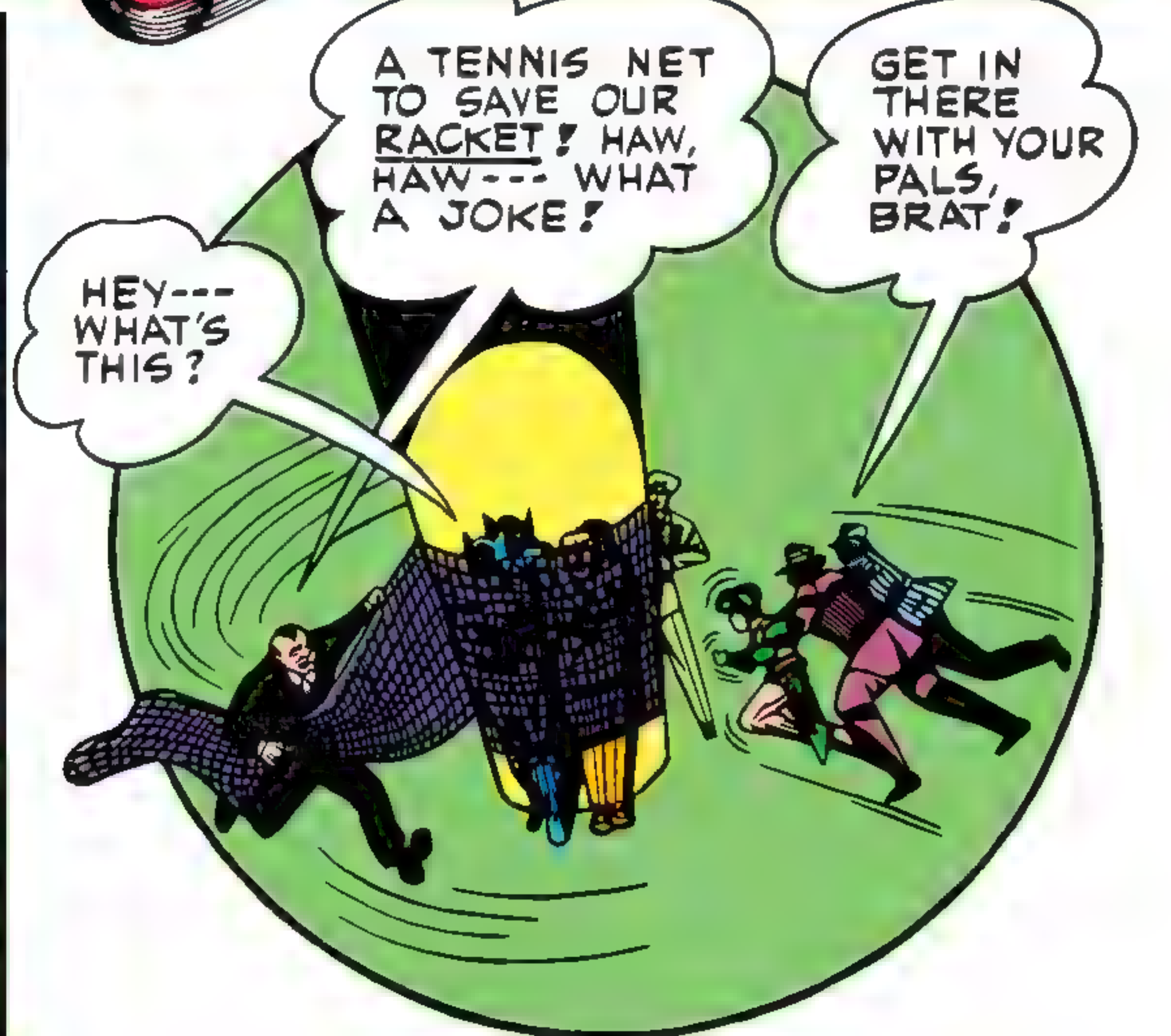
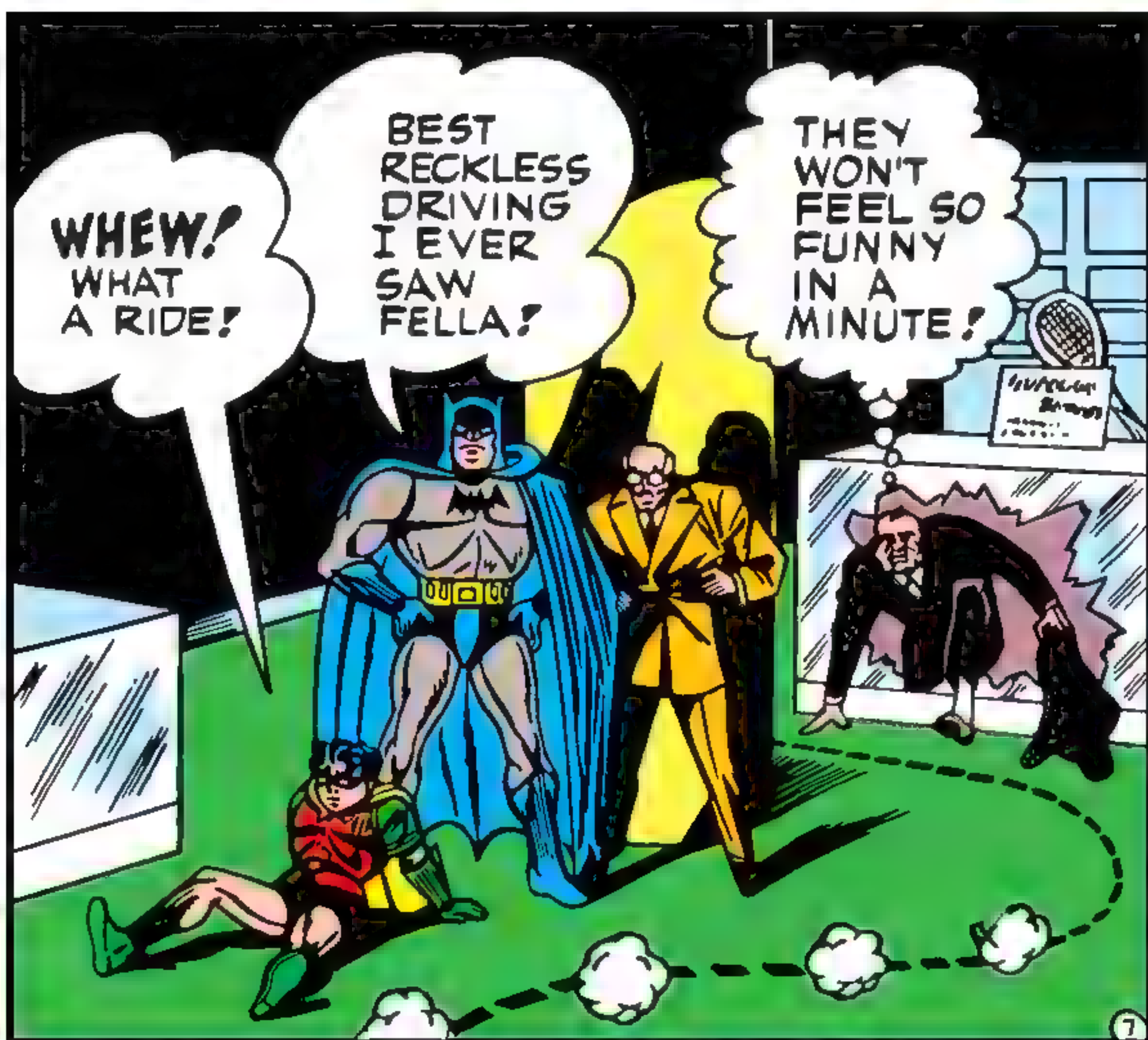
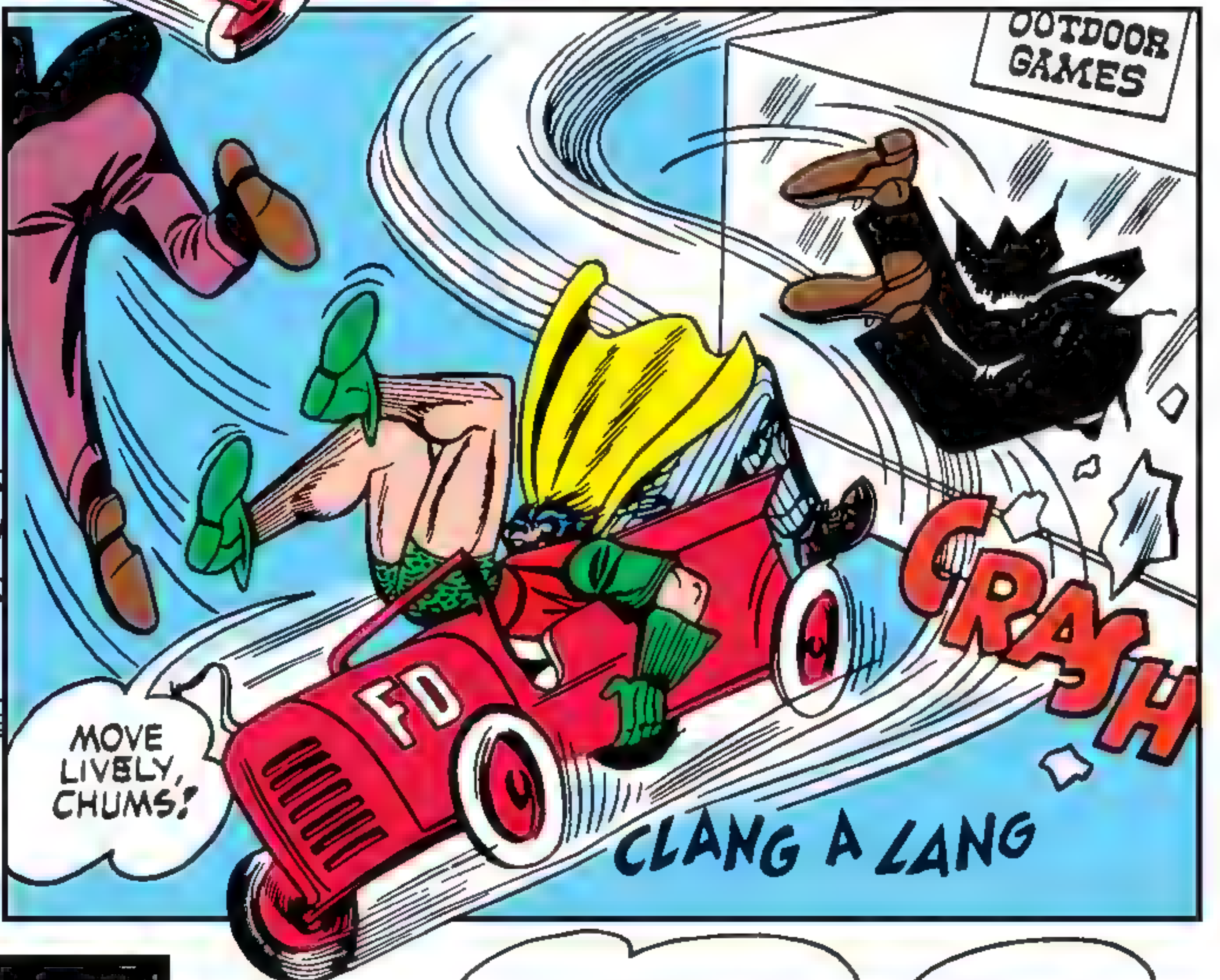
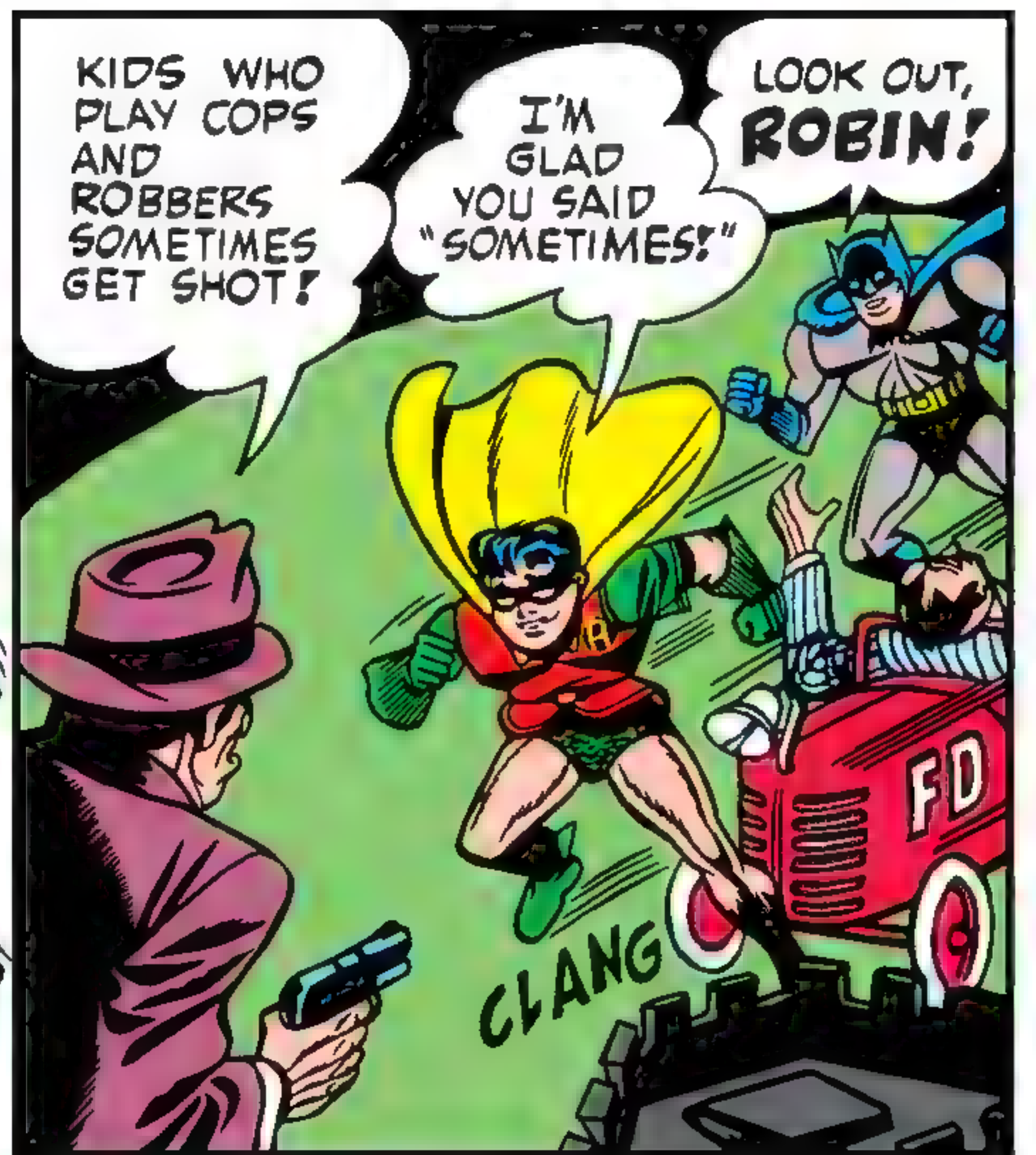


ABRUPTLY, THE ROAR OF A HIGH-POWERED MOTOR, ACCOMPANIED BY A BLAZE OF LIGHTS, DULLS THE KILLERS' ENTHUSIASM...





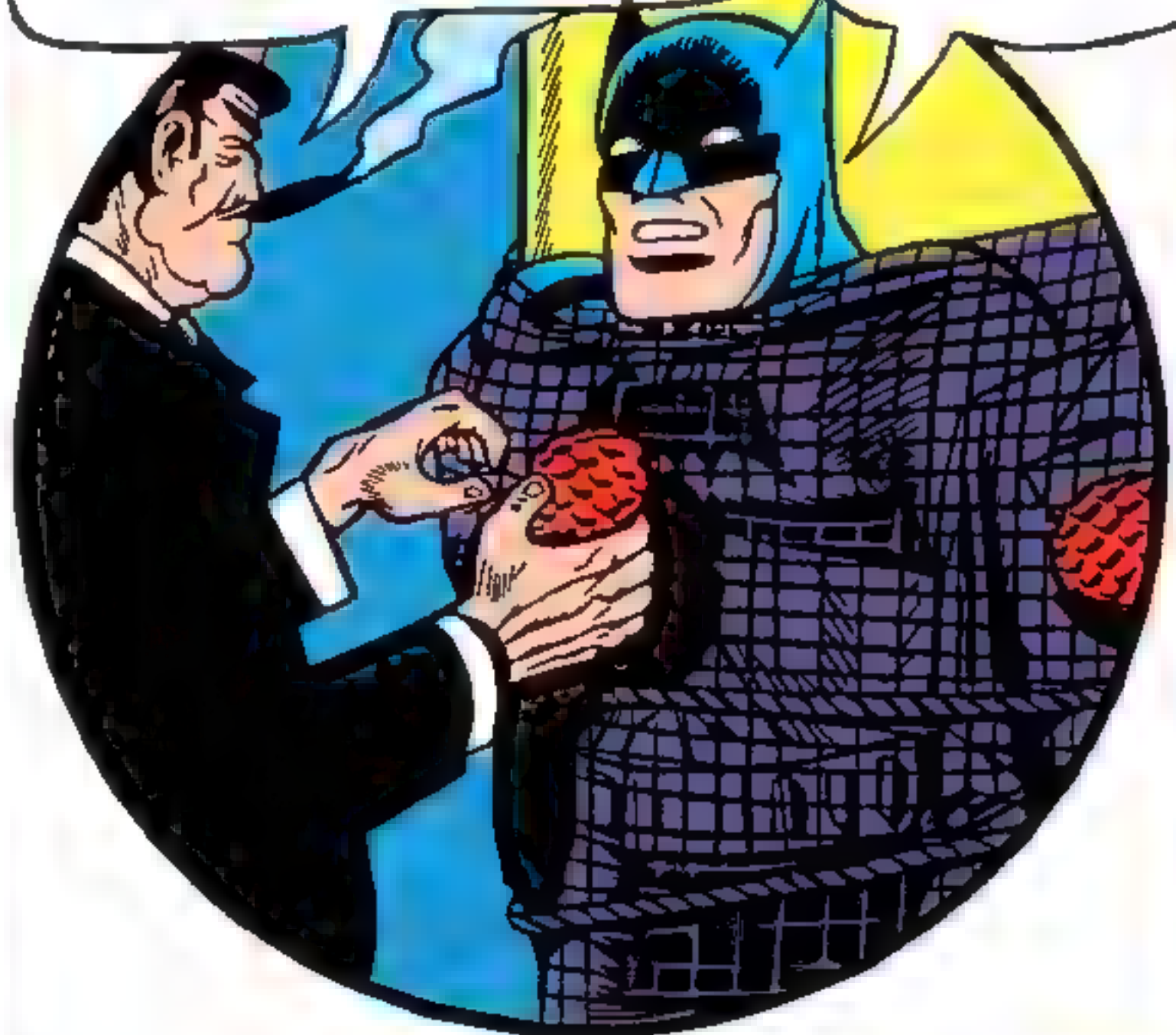




IN A MOMENT THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE THE HELPLESS VICTIMS OF A GRIMMER GAME THAN EVER WAS PLAYED ON A TENNIS COURT...

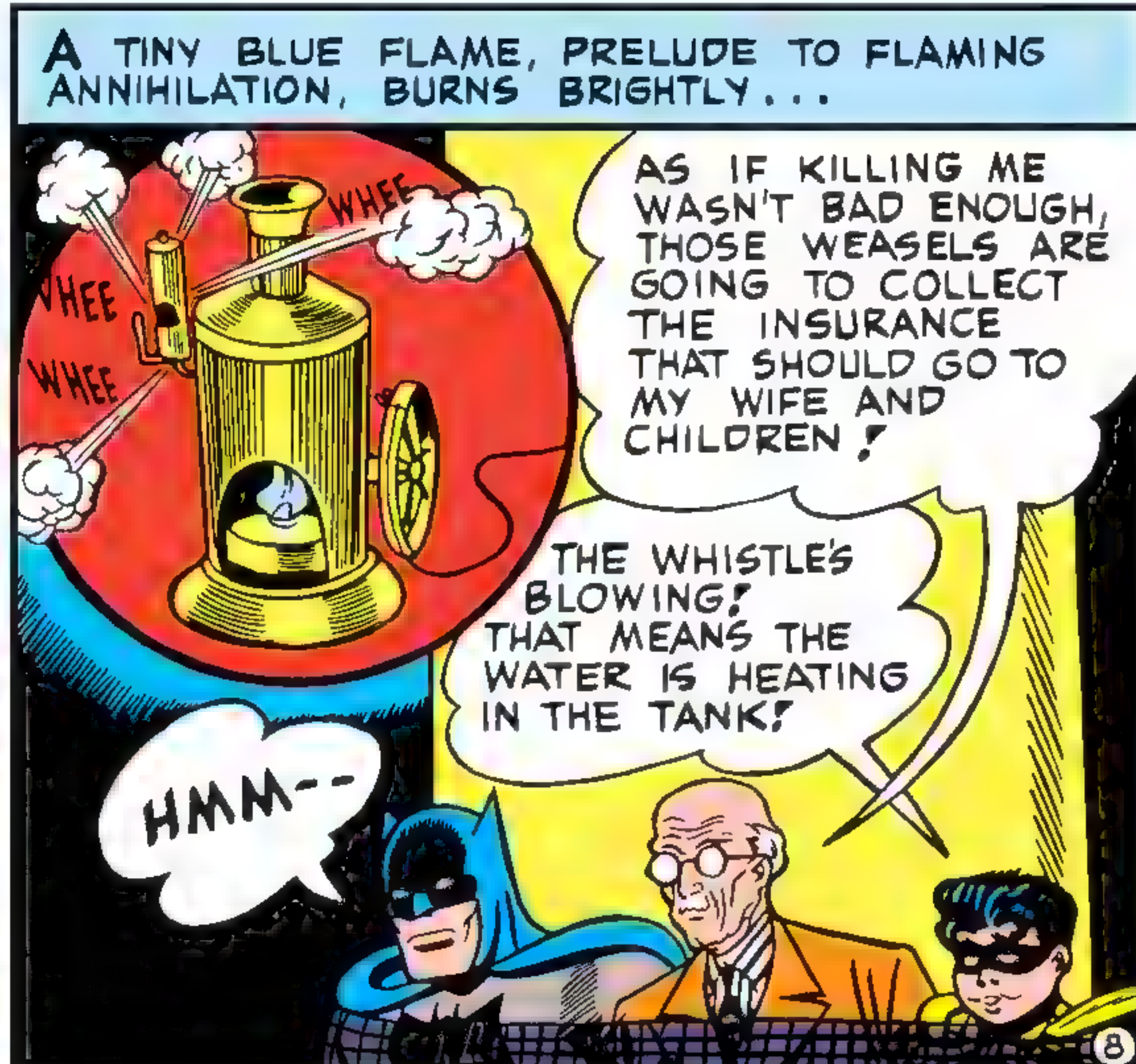
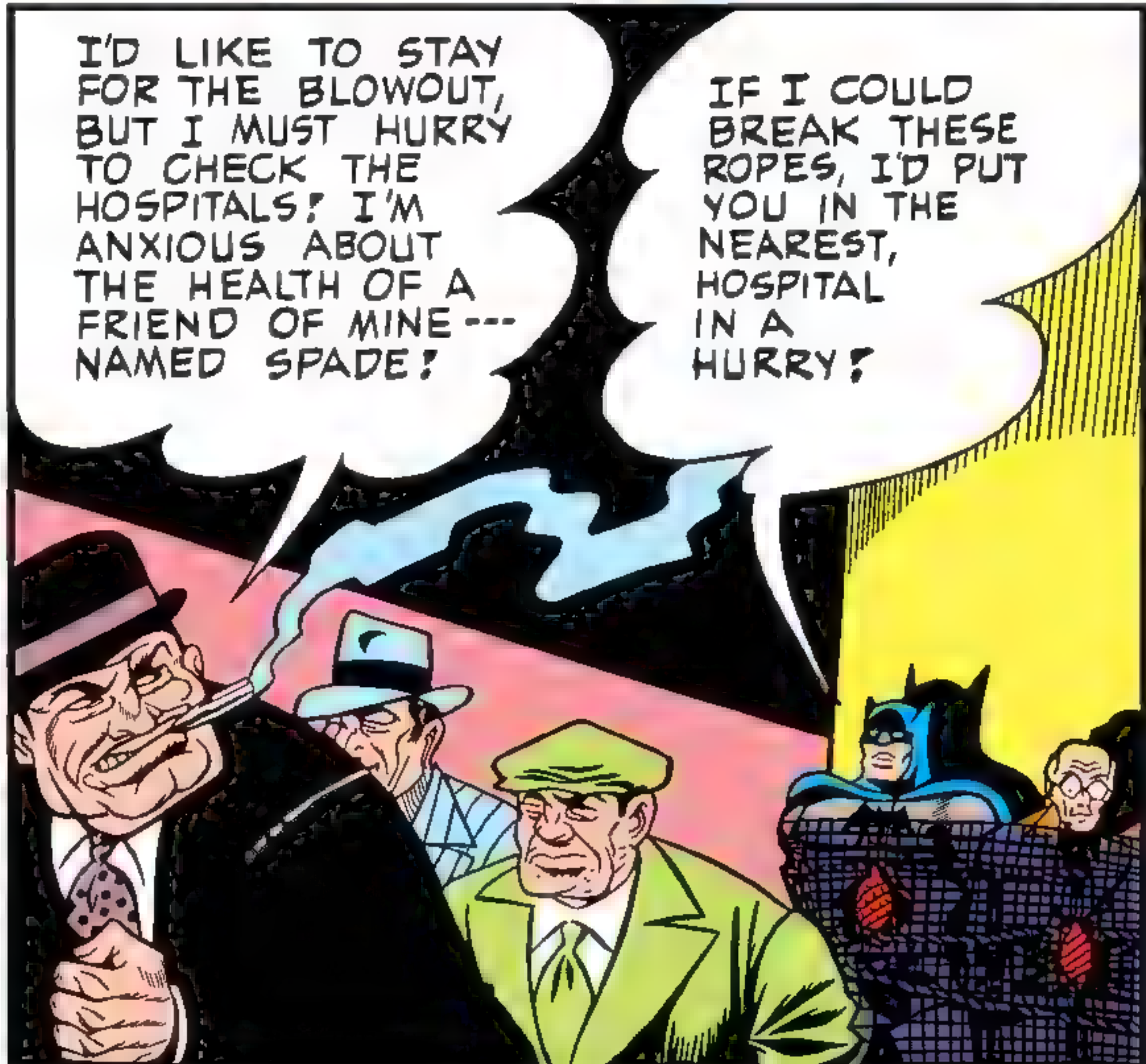
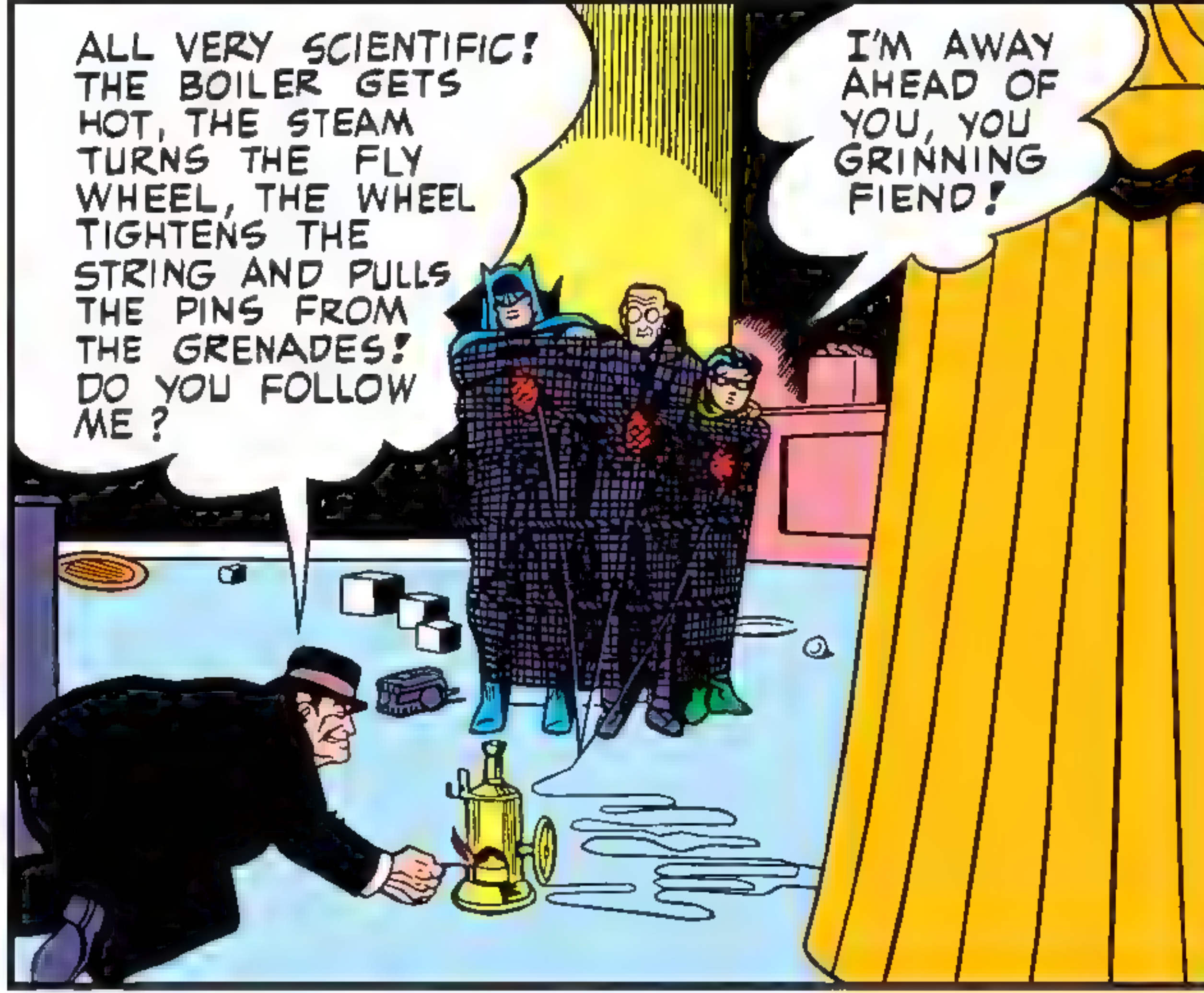
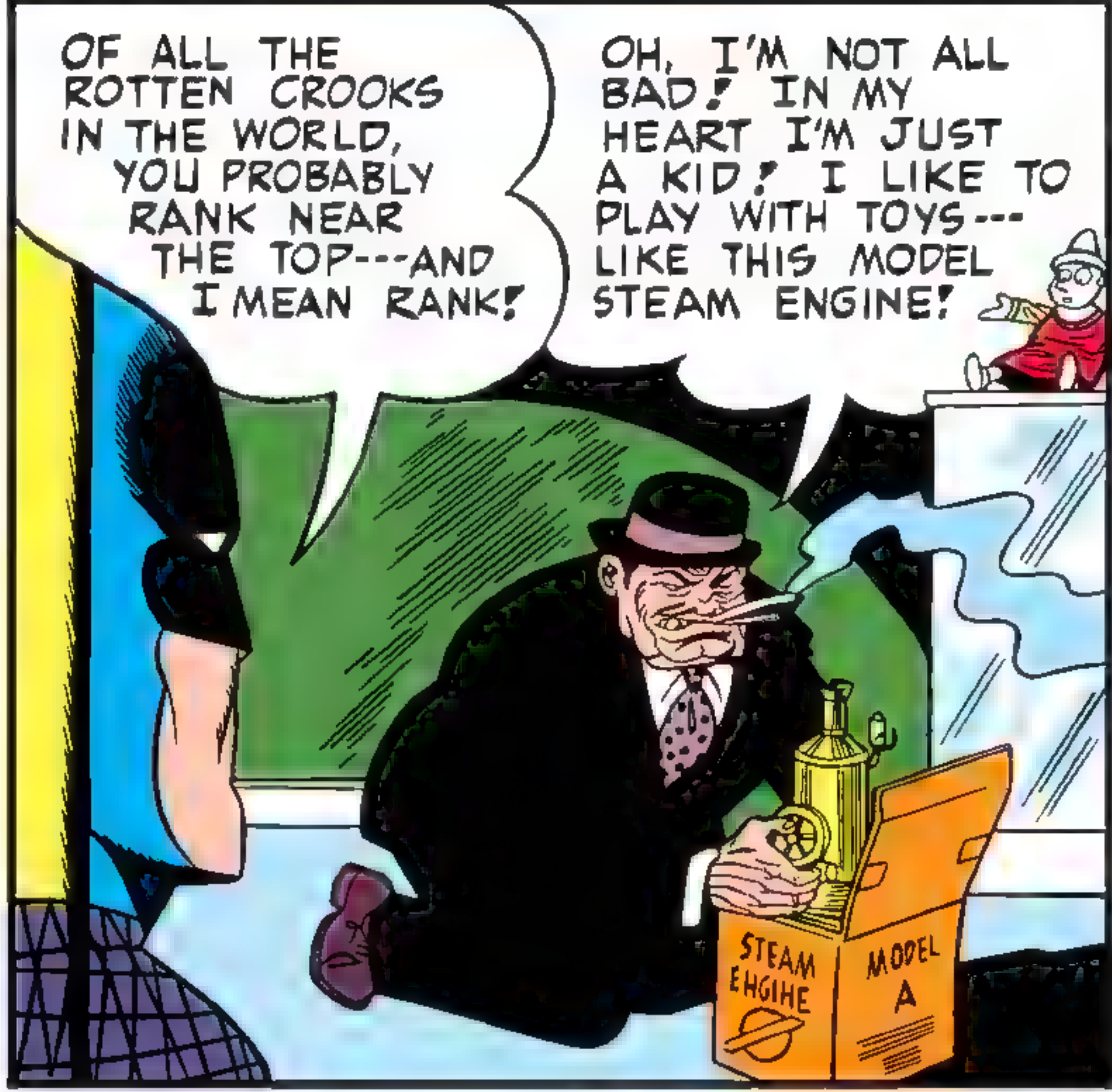


AFTER THESE GRENADES EXPLODE, THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING LEFT TO HOLD! TOO BAD I CAN'T COLLECT INSURANCE ON THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, TOO!



INSURANCE? ... SO THAT'S YOUR RACKET! THAT'S WHAT SPADE MEANT BY "INVESTMENTS IN DEATH!"

IT'S A NATURAL! I GET THE NAMES OF MEN WITH BIG INSURANCE POLICIES, THEN MAKE 'EM SIGN THE BENEFITS OVER TO ME WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT THEY'RE DOING! PRETTY SOON, THEY HAVE FATAL ACCIDENTS--- AND I COLLECT!





SPEAKING OF TANKS, YOU'VE GIVEN ME AN IDEA, **ROBIN!** IF I CAN ONLY REACH THIS ONE...



I DON'T SEE HOW EVEN A REAL TANK COULD SAVE US NOW!

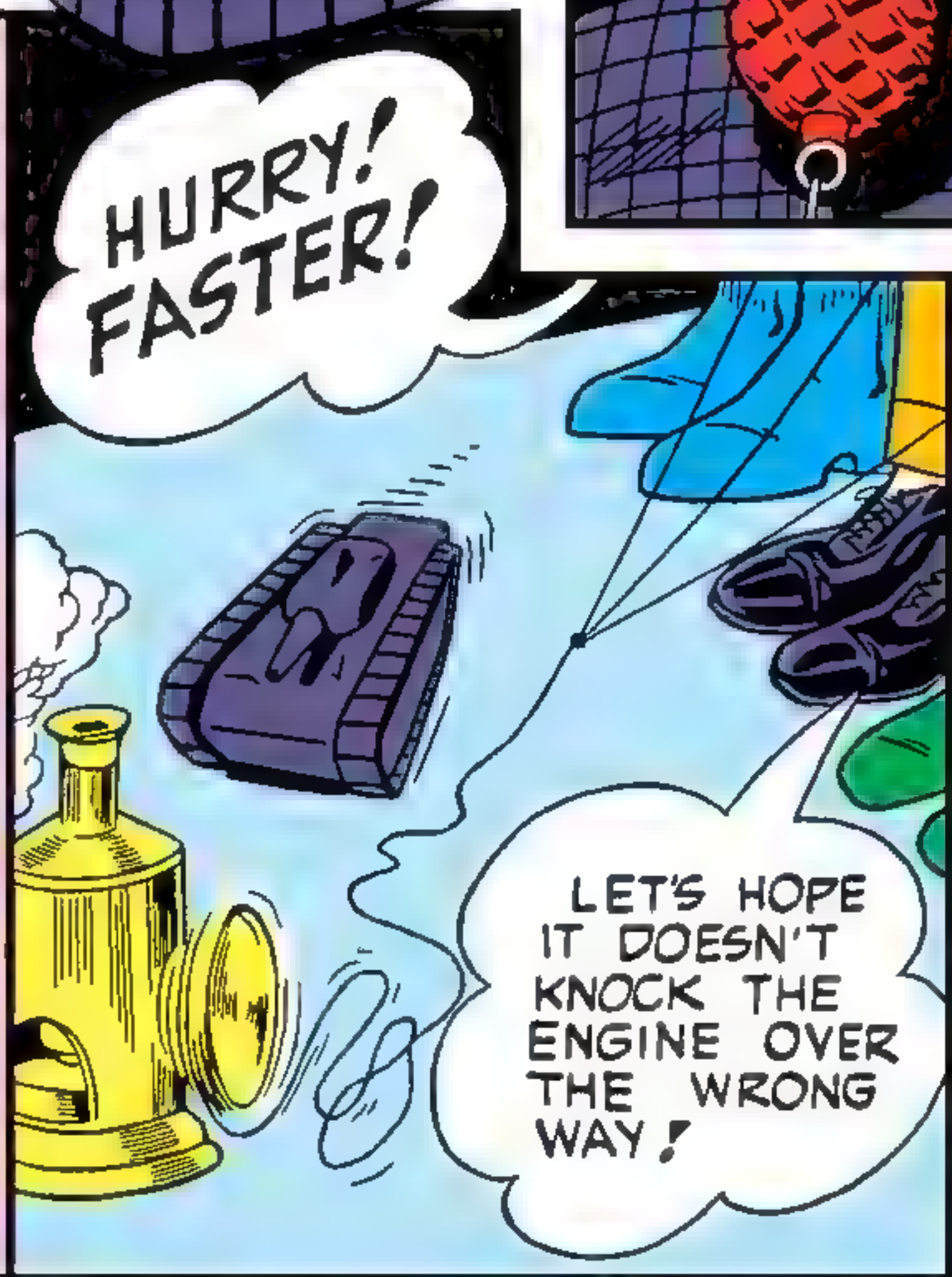


STRETCHING, STRAINING, THE **BATMAN'S** TOUGH MUSCLES PRESS AGAINST THE TOUGH CORDS --- UNTIL FINALLY...

GOT TO SET IT RIGHTSIDE UP---AIM IT---AND THROW THE STARTING LEVER!

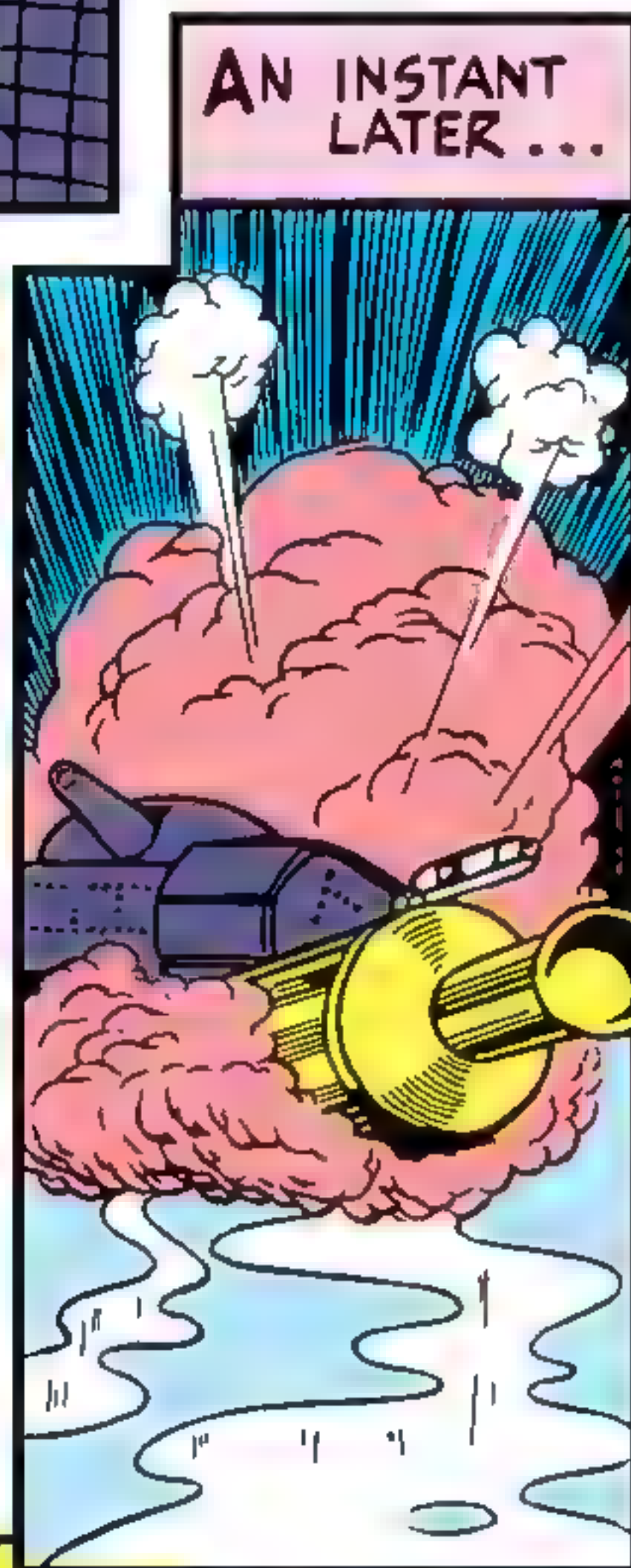
THE STEAM ENGINE HAS STARTED! THE FLYWHEEL IS WINDING IN THE STRING!

A CHILD'S TOY---A THING OF CLOCKWORK AND PAPER-THIN METAL---YET MANY A REAL TANK HAS PLUNGED INTO THE THICK OF BATTLE WITH LESS DEPENDING ON IT!



HURRY! FASTER!

LET'S HOPE IT DOESN'T KNOCK THE ENGINE OVER THE WRONG WAY!



AN INSTANT LATER...



HURRAY!

WE'RE SAFE! THE ENGINE HAS STOPPED, AND WE CAN QUIT SWEATING!

NO, WE CAN'T! WE'RE STILL PRISONERS---AND THOSE KILLERS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO MAKE SURE THAT NO MIRACLE SAVES SPADE'S LIFE!



AND SPEAKING OF SPADE AND MIRACLES---HERE WE SEE THE TWO TOGETHER!

WH-WHERE AM I?... GREAT SCOTT--- A HOSPITAL ROOM? I MUST HAVE BEEN KNOCKED OUT SOMEHOW, AND...

TWO POWERFUL FORCES DRIVE THE VETERAN REPORTER EVEN IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH--- HIS LIFELONG CREED THAT A BIG NEWS STORY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYTHING ELSE, AND HIS INDOMITABLE BELIEF THAT FATE IS ON HIS SIDE!



I'VE GOT TO CHECK MY TIP THAT THE TINY TOTS TOY SHOPPE IS NEXT ON BIG BEN'S LIST---AND I SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE LONG AGO!

SORT OF ROCKY... BUT I CAN'T QUIT! IT'S TOO LATE TO GO TO THAT TOY STORE! THE DEADLINE WON'T WAIT--- NOT EVEN FOR ME! I'LL HAVE TO USE THE EVIDENCE I ALREADY HAVE!

AS THE DEADLINE NEARS IN THE CITY ROOM OF THE GRAPHIC...

JUMPIN' GRASSHOPPERS... LOOK AT SPADE! I NEVER SAW HIM THIS WAY BEFORE!

I GUESS, WHEN A FELLOW'S QUITTING THE GAME AFTER THIRTY YEARS, HE'S GOT A RIGHT TO CELEBRATE!

DEATH IS VERY NEAR--- BUT STRONGER EVEN THAN DEATH IS THE WILL OF THIS MAN, TO WHOM NEWS MEANS MORE THAN LIFE!

YOU LOOK ALL IN, LARRY! HOW ABOUT THAT BIG YARN THE CHIEF MENTIONED?

RIP OPEN THE FRONT PAGE! MY STORY WILL BEAT THE DEADLINE TO YOUR DESK---IF YOU QUIT PESTERING ME!

MEANWHILE, BIG BEN BOLLING IS ALSO CONCERNED WITH NEWS... BAD NEWS!

HE WAS AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, BUT HE'S GONE! HE WALKED OUT WHILE NOBODY WAS LOOKING!

WE KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM! WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

THIS IS DANGEROUS --- BUT IF HE PRINTS THAT STORY, IT WILL BE MORE DANGEROUS FOR ALL OF US!

IT'LL MEAN THE HOT SEAT! WHATTA WE GOT TO LOSE?

PRESENTLY...

IT'S ALL HERE... BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO WRITE... MY OBITUARY--- YOURSELF!

GREAT CAESAR! LARRY---YOU'RE HURT! WHY, I THOUGHT...

THE KILLERS STRIKE...

WE'RE GOING TO KILL THIS STORY... AND THE SAME GOES FOR ANYBODY WHO SAYS NO!

WHA--! WHO ARE YOU?

DON'T LET THEM! CALL THE COPS!

ABRUPTLY...

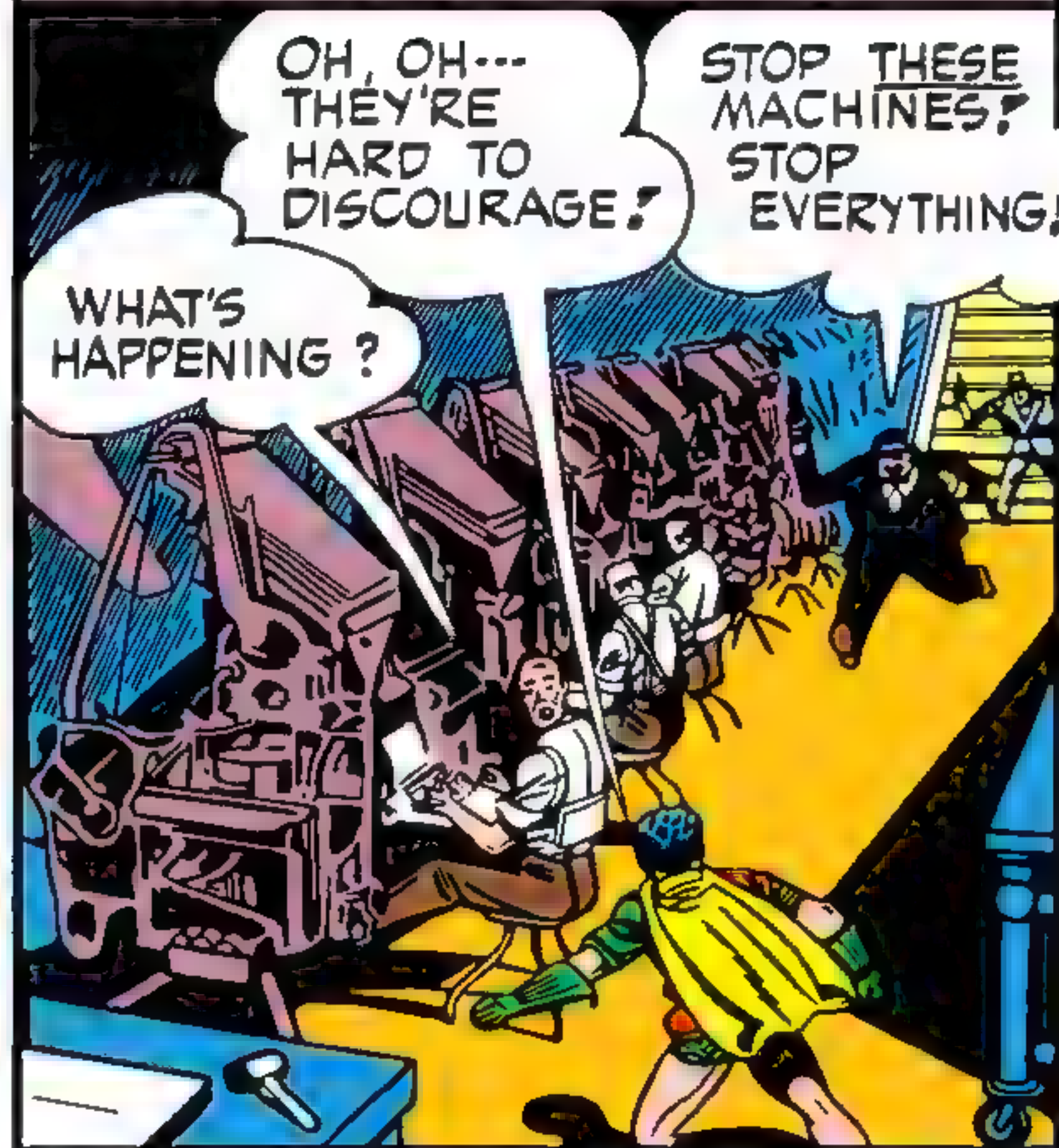
I FIGURED THIS IS WHERE SPADE WENT FROM THE HOSPITAL---AND SO DID THE RATS!

THE BATMAN... OR HIS GHOST? GET HIM!

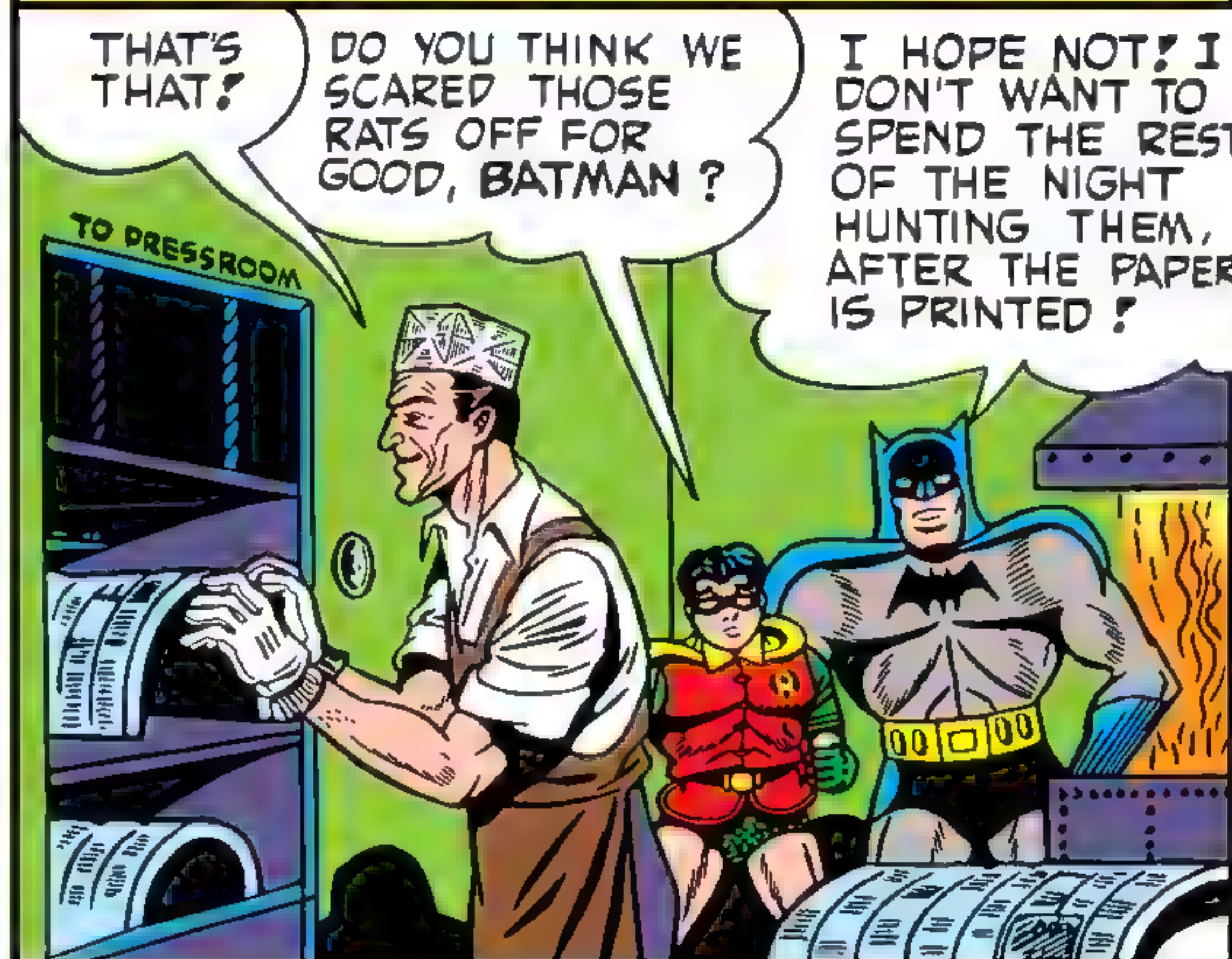
IF IT'S HIS GHOST, HOW CAN WE?

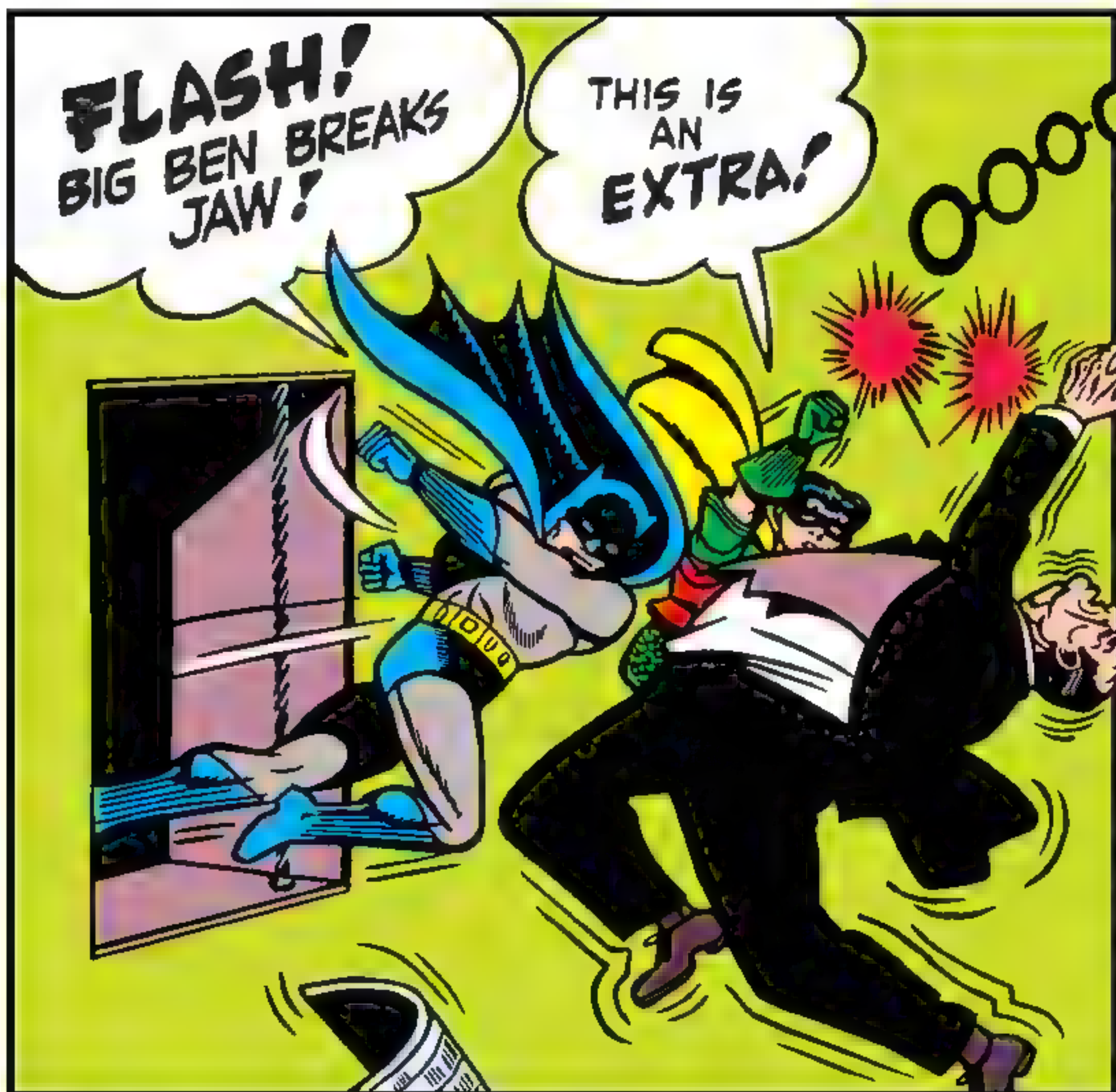


AS LINOTYPE MACHINES CLATTER BUSILY, SETTING UP SPADE'S STORY IN HARD, PITILESS TYPE...

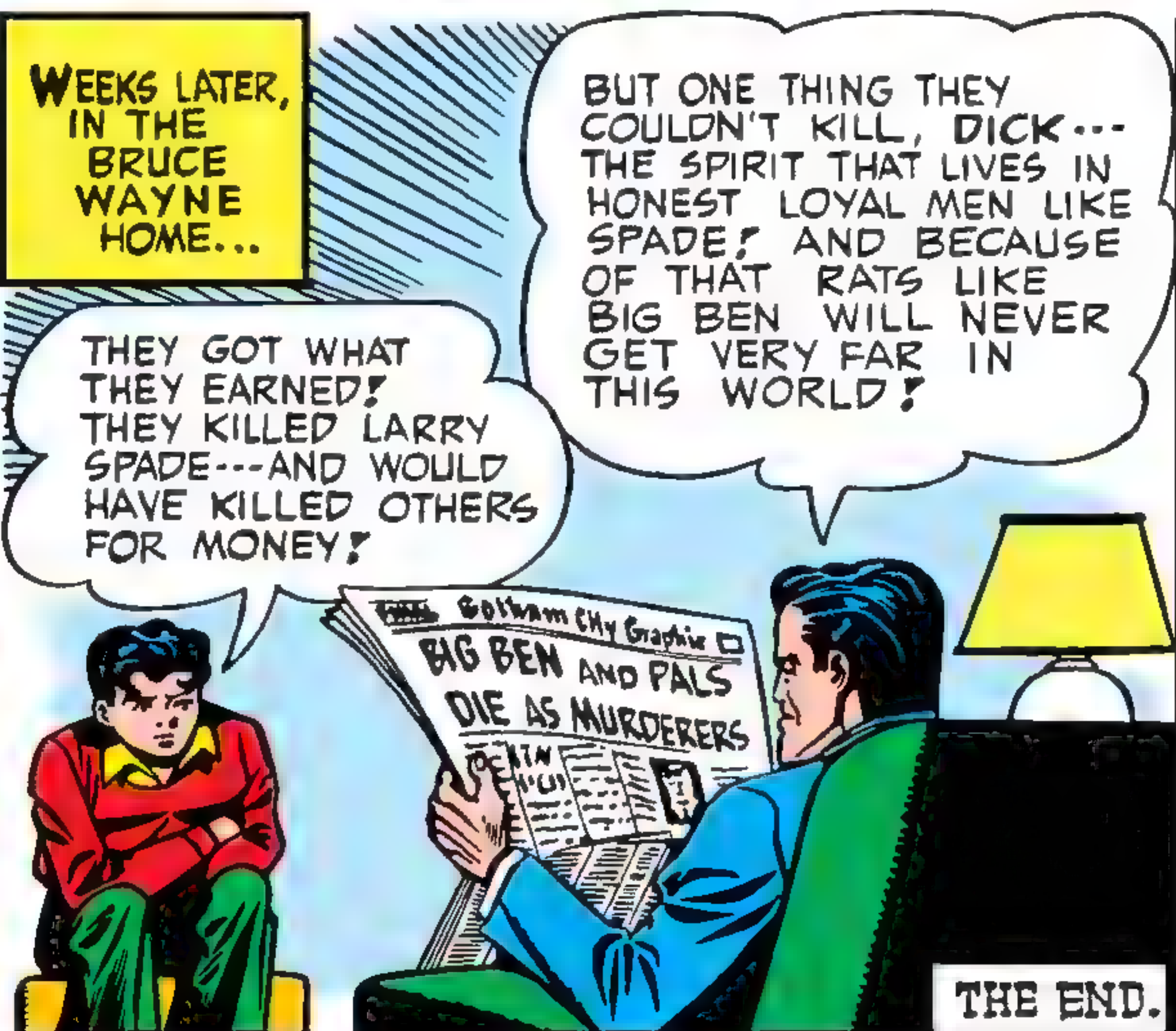


THE TYPE IS SET... THE PAGE FORM STEREOTYPED... AND THE PLATE FOR THE NEW FIRST PAGE STARTS DOWN TO THE PRESSROOM...





AS THE MIGHTY PRESSES PEAL OUT THEIR DEEP-TONED THUNDER, A MAN'S LAST REMAINING OUNCE OF STRENGTH AND PRIDE AND COURAGE CARRIES HIM TO THE UTMOST END OF THE ROAD.....



BATMAN

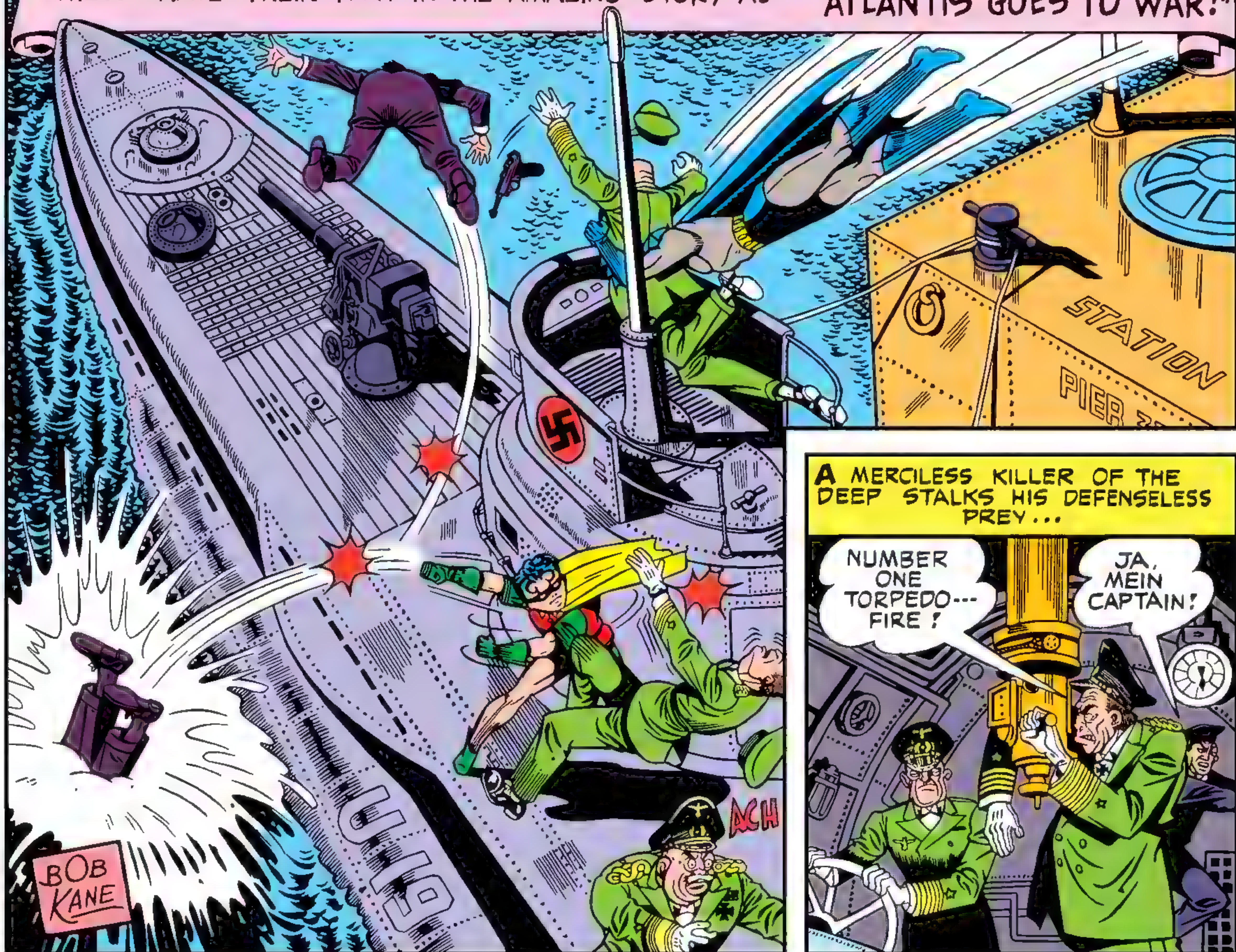
WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

ATLANTIS---MYSTERIOUS LAND OF LEGEND---BAFFLING ENIGMA WHICH HAS ENTHRALLED THE FANCY OF SCIENTISTS AND HISTORIANS, ANCIENT AND MODERN! WHAT BECAME OF ITS PEOPLE, ITS CULTURE, ITS IDEALS, WHEN EARTHQUAKE AND TIDAL WAVE BURIED IT DEEP IN THE OCEAN THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO?

NO ONE REALLY KNOWS, SAY THE SCHOLARS--- BUT THE MIGHTY BATMAN AND HIS DAREDEVIL COMRADE ROBIN KNOW--- FOR THE TRAIL OF SKULKING NAZI U-BOATS LEADS THEM INTO THEIR MOST FANTASTIC ADVENTURE OF ALL, DEEP IN THE ROLLING SEA! TREACHERY AND PERIL... BATTLES AND HAIRSBREADTH ESCAPES... GLAMOR AND ROMANCE... ALL THESE HAVE THEIR PART IN THE AMAZING STORY AS---"ATLANTIS GOES TO WAR!"



A MERCILESS KILLER OF THE DEEP STALKS HIS DEFENSELESS PREY...

NUMBER ONE TORPEDO--- FIRE!

JA, MEIN CAPTAIN!

AND THE CALM OF THE NIGHT IS SHATTERED BY THE FLAME AND THUNDER OF A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION...



ABOARD THE STRICKEN AMERICAN TANKER, A WOUNDED HERO STICKS GRIMLY AT HIS POST...



CALLING U.S. COAST GUARD! TANKER CRYSTAL BELLE TORPEDOED EIGHTY MILES EAST OF SAVANNAH! WE'RE SINKING FAST...

CRACKLING THROUGH THE ETHER, THE RADIO CALL IS AT ONCE A WARNING AND A FAREWELL...



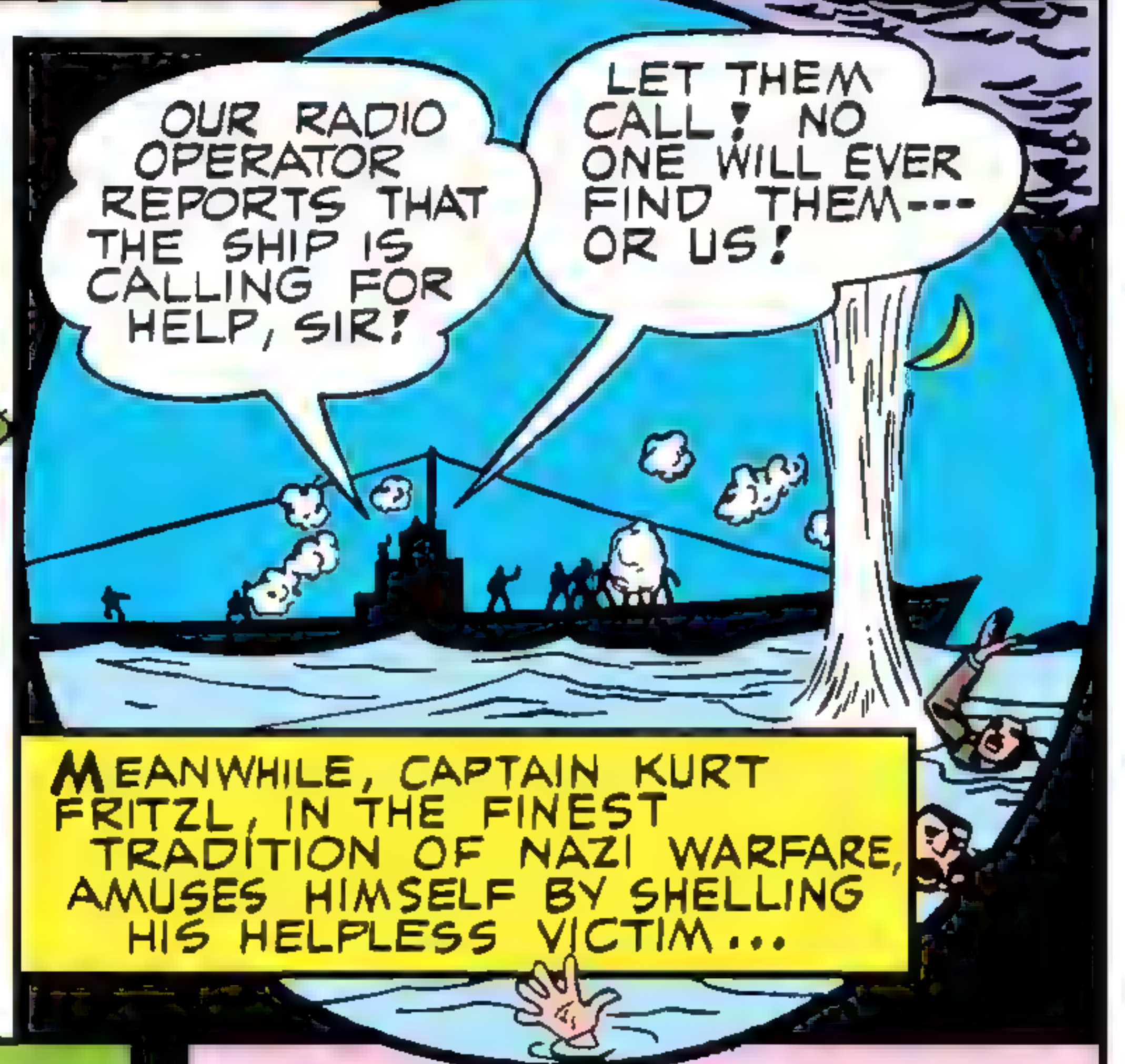
ALL LIFEBOATS SMASHED BY... THIS STANDING BY... THE LOOKS LIKE FOR ALL FINISH OF US!

LANDBASED PLANES ROAR INTO THE BLACKNESS ON THE SLIM CHANCE OF SIGHTING THE DEADLY U-BOAT IN THE VAST EXPANSE OF OCEAN...



IF YOU SIGHT THE SHIP BEFORE SHE SINKS, DROP YOUR RUBBER LIFEBOAT... IT MIGHT SAVE SOME OF THOSE POOR DEVILS!

RIGHT, MAJOR!!



OUR RADIO OPERATOR REPORTS THAT THE SHIP IS CALLING FOR HELP, SIR!

LET THEM CALL! NO ONE WILL EVER FIND THEM--- OR US!

MEANWHILE, CAPTAIN KURT FRITZL, IN THE FINEST TRADITION OF NAZI WARFARE, AMUSES HIMSELF BY SHELLING HIS HELPLESS VICTIM...

NOT IN TEN MILLION YEARS COULD AMERICAN PLANES OR SHIPS FIND THE SECRET BASE OF OUR UNDERSEA FLEET! SOMETIMES I MYSELF WONDER IF IT IS NOT ALL A DREAM!



LATER, AS THE KILLER CRAFT GLIDES THROUGH THE INKY DEPTHS THAT ARE THE COMMON GRAVE OF BRAVE MERCHANT SEA MEN...



WHAT COURSE, HERR CAPTAIN?

WE HAVE DONE A GOOD NIGHT'S WORK FOR DER FUEHRER--- LET US RETURN TO OUR HOME PORT--- TO ATLANTIS!

WHAT'S THIS? ATLANTIS-- THE FABULOUS LAND WHERE THE ANCIENTS BELIEVED A GREAT CIVILIZATION FLOURISHED BETWEEN THE CONTINENTS OF EUROPE AND AMERICA, UNTIL THE SEA SWALLOWED IT! DID SUCH A LAND EVER EXIST? CAN IT POSSIBLY STILL EXIST, SOMEWHERE BENEATH THE RESTLESS WAVES?

OH, WELL--- PERHAPS THE NAZI U-BOAT COMMANDER WAS SPEAKING IN JEST...

... PERHAPS.

A BAFFLING MYSTERY FACES THE MEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF A NATION AT WAR...

NEW YORK COMET BUY STAMPS

SECRET SUB BASE ELUDES SEARCHERS

Navy Combs Caribbean without Success

ALTHOUGH CONVINCED THAT NAZI SUBMARINES PREVENTING ON SHIPPING OFF OUR COAST MUST HAVE A SECRET BASE IN AMERICAN WATERS NAVAL PATROLS THAT FAR HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND IT.

AND BECAUSE HUMAN LIVES AND FREEDOM ARE AT STAKE, BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON ARE MORE THAN INTERESTED...

THE NAVY DEPARTS THE LOSS OF FOUR MORE MERCHANT VESSELS TO THE SUBMARINE PACK...

WHY DOESN'T THE NAVY MOP UP THOSE SUBS, BRUCE?

IT WILL, AS SOON AS THEIR BASE IS LOCATED---AND OUR ABLEST AND BRAVEST MEN ARE RISKING THEIR LIVES DAY AND NIGHT TO FIND IT!

BUT IT'S A BIG OCEAN, DICK--- AND THE JOB IS A LOT TOUGHER THAN FINDING A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK!

COULDN'T THE BATMAN AND ROBIN HELP?

HMM... OUR PATROL PILOTS ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD... STILL, THE **BATPLANE** COULD COVER A LOT OF TERRITORY...

LET'S TRY! WHO KNOWS--- WE MAY BE LUCKY ENOUGH TO STUMBLE ON EXACTLY WHAT THE OTHERS HAVE MISSED!

SO IT IS THAT TWO GRIM, CLOAKED FIGURES SLIP FROM THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME THAT NIGHT--- THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

I'M SPOILING FOR ACTION!

WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO FIND SOME!

MOMENTS LATER, AN EERIE CRAFT STREAKS FROM AN UNDERGROUND HANGAR TO THE STARRY SKY--- THE BATPLANE!

OUT OVER THE BROAD ATLANTIC AND SOUTHWARD, HARDLY LESS SWIFT THAN A SHELL FROM A BIG GUN, WINGS THE SUPERCHARGED SHIP...

I GUESS I'VE SEEN THE OCEAN A THOUSAND TIMES, BUT I NEVER REALIZED HOW BIG IT WAS!

THERE ARE FORTY-ONE MILLION SQUARE MILES OF ATLANTIC UNDER US!

AS DAWN BREAKS OVER THE TRACKLESS WASTE OF WATER...

BATMAN--- THERE'S A BOAT--- AND SOMEONE IN IT WAVING TO US!

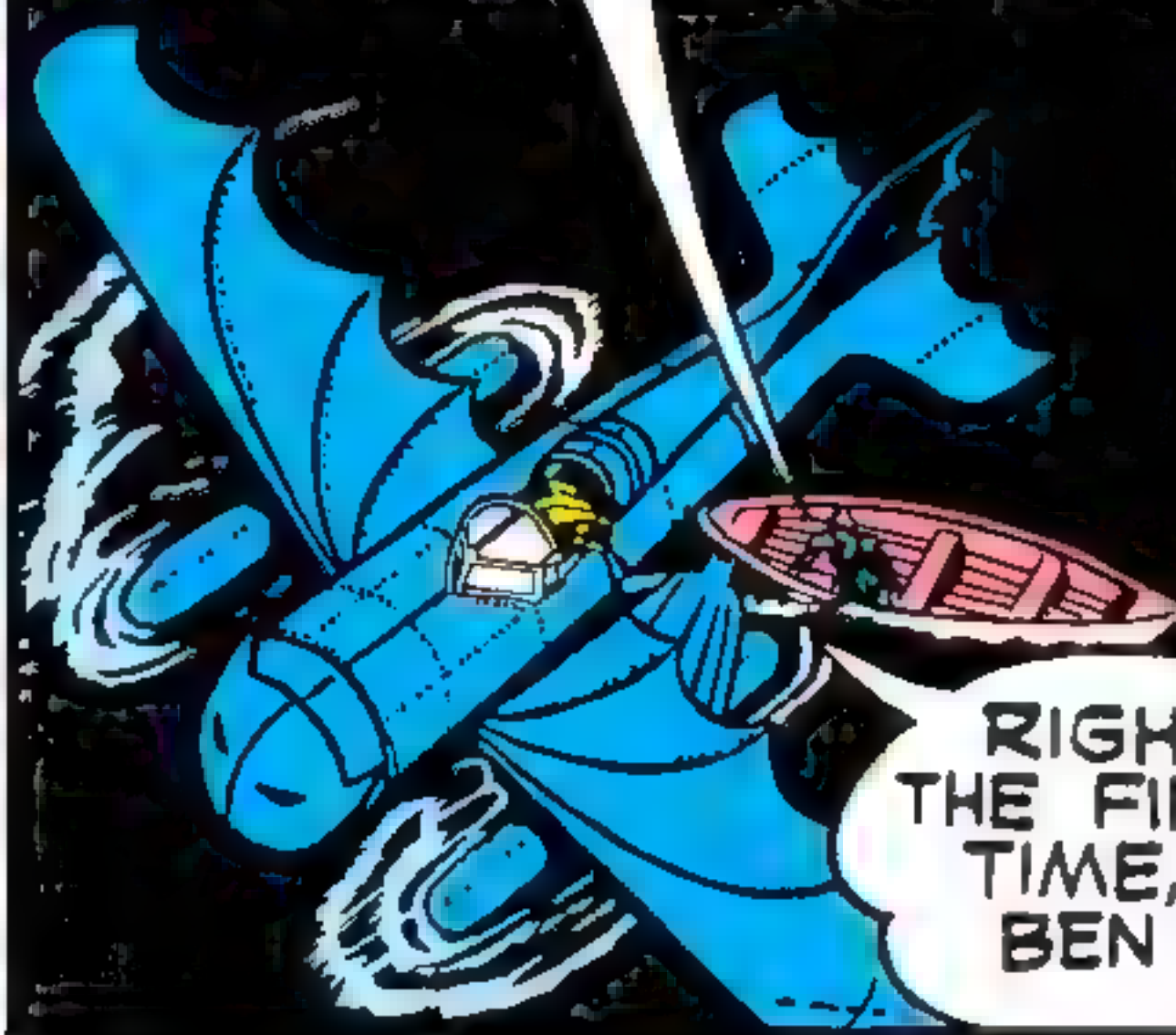
DOWN WE GO! LOOKS AS IF WE'RE GOING TO SAVE ONE LIFE, ANYWAY!

HASTILY-LOWERED PONTOONS
SKIM THE WATER...



... AND A VETERAN SEA DOG
HAS A NARROW ESCAPE
FROM "DAVY JONES' LOCKER!"

BLAST MY DEADLIGHTS!
IS IT THE BATMAN
I'M SEEIN', OR IS OLD
BEN STUNSEL LOSIN'
HIS WITS FROM
THIRST AND HUNGER?



RIGHT
THE FIRST
TIME,
BEN!

IT WAS BEGINNIN'
TO LOOK LIKE MY
LAST VOYAGE! NOT
A BITE TO EAT NOR
A DROP TO DRINK
HAVE I HAD SINCE
THE SNEAKIN' NAZIS
SANK THE ANNA BOWER
AND MACHINE-GUNNED
ALL HANDS BUT
ME!

WE HAVE
FOOD AND
WATER FOR
YOU---AND
MAYBE WE'LL
GET THAT SUB
BEFORE WE'RE
FINISHED!



SUDDENLY, THE SURFACE OF THE
SEA SHIFTS CONVULSIVELY...

WHA---? AN EXPLOSION
UNDERWATER---OR
MAYBE AN EARTHQUAKE!



A POWERFUL CURRENT SEIZES
AND WHIRLS THE BATPLANE..

WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

I DON'T
KNOW--- BUT
I HOPE IT
DOESN'T LAST
LONG!



LIKE A FLY CAUGHT IN A VACUUM
CLEANER, THE TINY CRAFT, IS
DRAWN INTO THE DARK
VORTEX ...

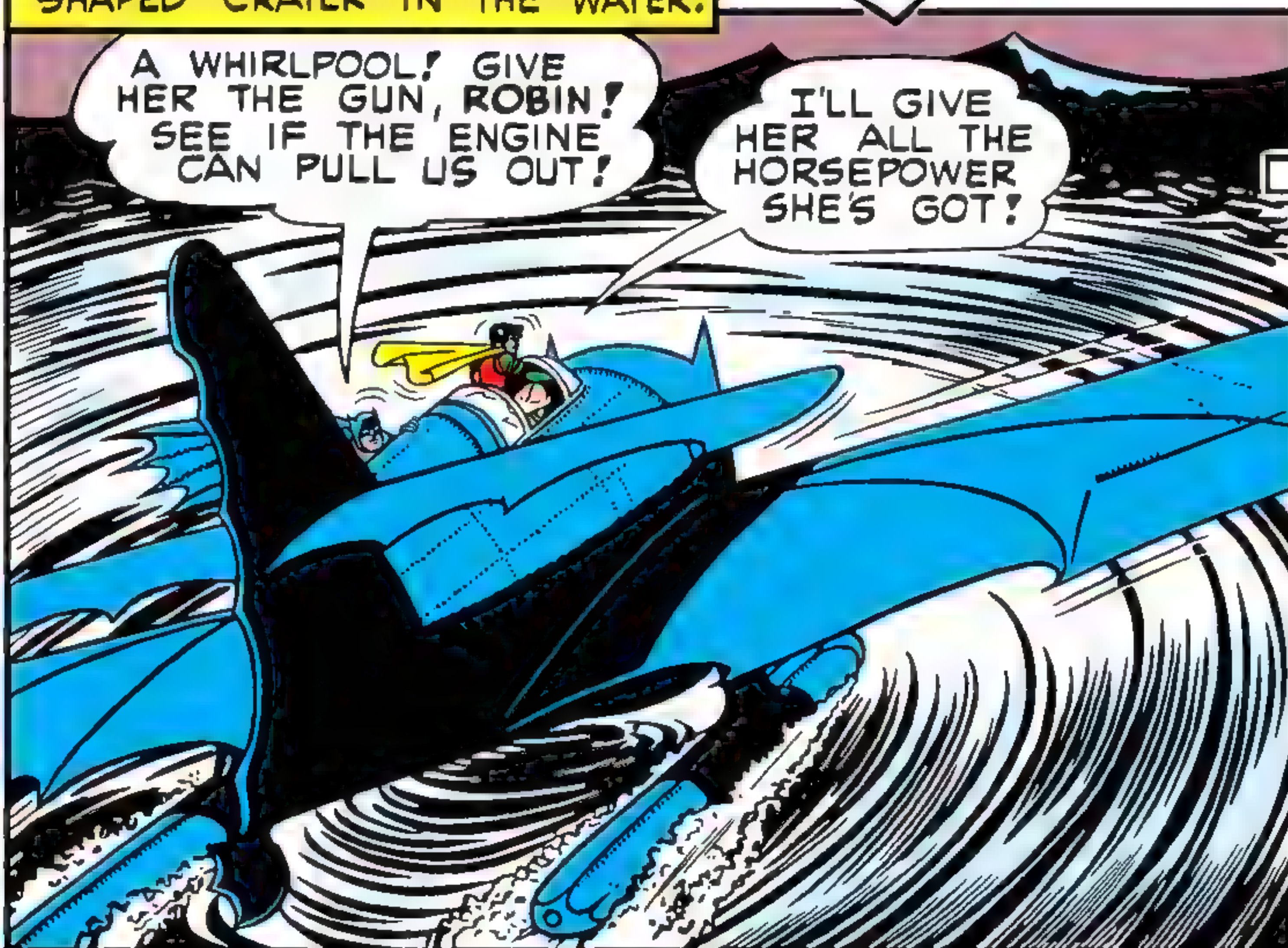
WE CAN'T
TAKE OFF!
THE
CENTRIFUGAL
FORCE IS
TOO GREAT!

CHIN UP!
MAYBE WE'LL
COME
THROUGH
THIS YET!

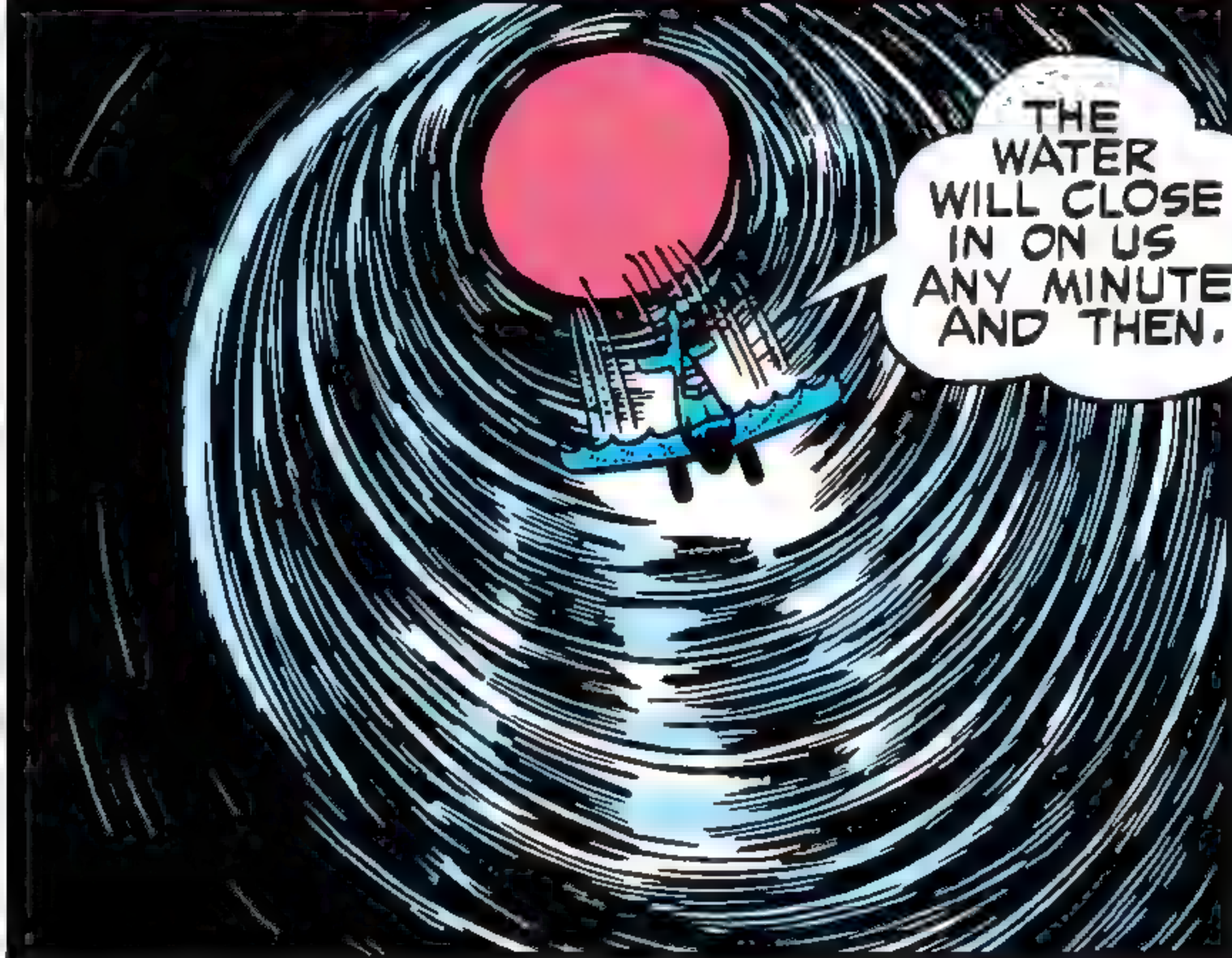
FASTER, FASTER SPINS THE
CURRENT, OPENING A CONE-
SHAPED CRATER IN THE WATER.

A WHIRLPOOL! GIVE
HER THE GUN, ROBIN!
SEE IF THE ENGINE
CAN PULL US OUT!

I'LL GIVE
HER ALL THE
HORSEPOWER
SHE'S GOT!

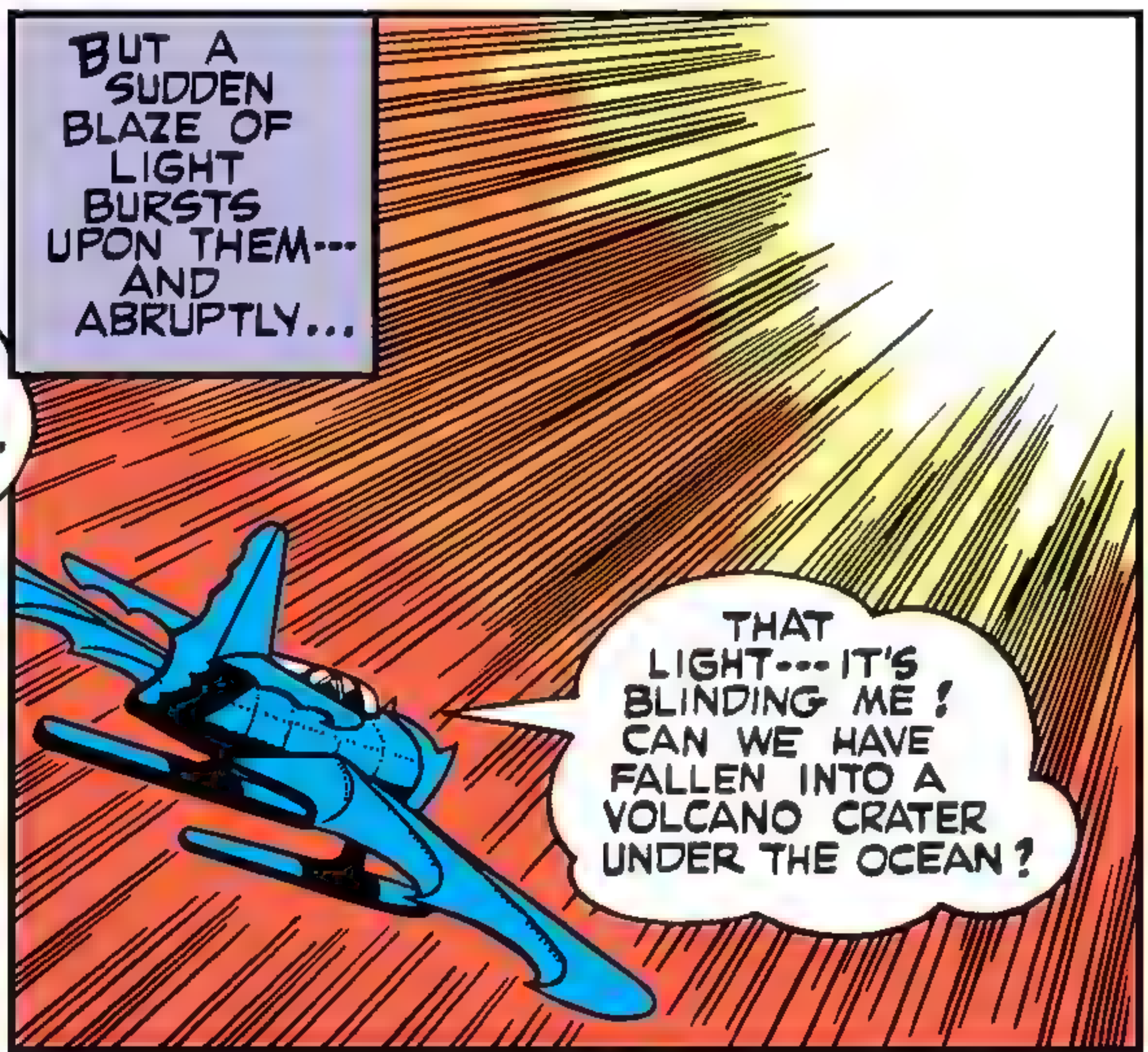


PLUNGING TOWARD THE OCEAN FLOOR, THE BATPLANE AND ITS PASSENGERS SEEM HOPELESSLY DOOMED...

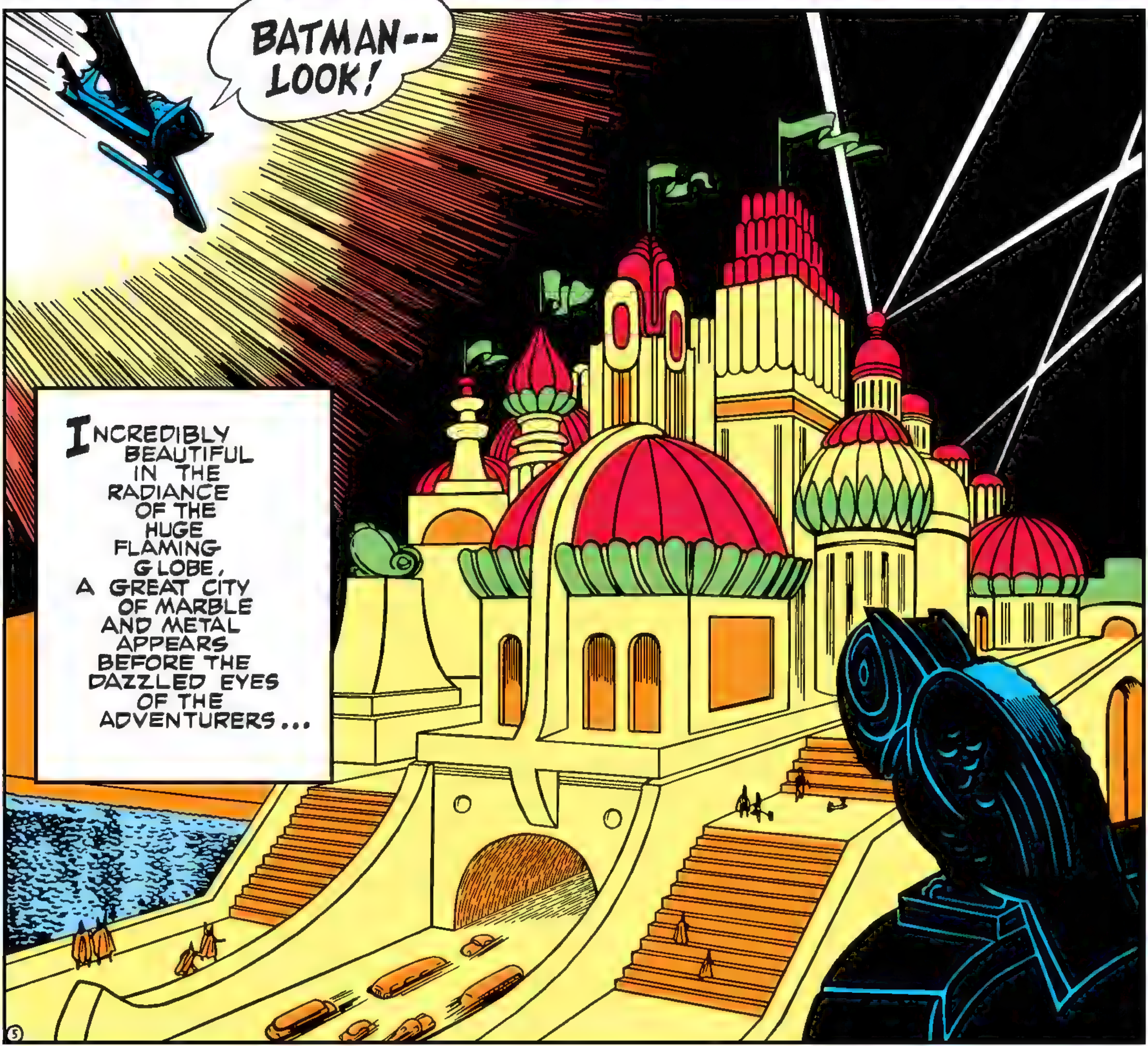


THE WATER WILL CLOSE IN ON US ANY MINUTE... AND THEN...

BUT A SUDDEN BLAZE OF LIGHT BURSTS UPON THEM... AND ABRUPTLY...



THAT LIGHT---IT'S BLINDING ME! CAN WE HAVE FALLEN INTO A VOLCANO CRATER UNDER THE OCEAN?



BATMAN-- LOOK!

INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL IN THE RADIANCE OF THE HUGE FLAMING GLOBE, A GREAT CITY OF MARBLE AND METAL APPEARS BEFORE THE DAZZLED EYES OF THE ADVENTURERS...

ROBIN BRINGS THE BAT-WINGED PLANE UNDER CONTROL...

NICE GOING, FELLA...
SET HER DOWN ON THAT
SHEET OF WATER AHEAD!

A LONG GLIDE, AND THEY APPROACH AN ARTIFICIAL POOL---AND AN UNPLEASANT SURPRISE!

GERMAN SUBS! THIS MUST
BE THEIR
SECRET
BASE!

NO WONDER
OUR PATROLS
COULDN'T
FIND IT!

THE SWABS---
I'LL TEACH
EM TO
SCUTTLE
MY
SHIPMATES!

YOU'VE
GOT THE
SPIRIT,
OLD-TIMER
...
BUT THEY'VE
GOT THE
GUNS!

ADMIRAL VON BURITZ, COMMANDANT OF THE U-BOAT FLEET, IS NO MORE PLEASED TO SEE THE NEW ARRIVALS THAN THEY ARE TO SEE HIS VESSELS OF DESTRUCTION...

HIMMEL---THIS
MUST BE THE
BATMAN, THE MAD
AMERICAN ADVENTURER
WE HAVE HEARD
ABOUT!

JA, HERR ADMIRAL
WE MUST KILL
HIM BEFORE HE
CAN HURT OUR
FRIENDSHIP WITH
THE ATLANTEANS!

LET ME
LAY HANDS
ON THE
BILGE-RATS!

TAKE
IT EASY,
BEN ...

SHOOT
DER
PIGS!

I'LL SOFTEN
THEM UP FOR
YOU FIRST!

KILL DER
SCHWEIN!

THREE STRIKES---
AND YOU'RE
OUT!

MAY
I CUT
IN?



HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING HIT AMIDSHIPS?

KAMERAD!

OLD BEN STUNSEL FIGHTS WITH A FURY THAT BELIES HIS AGE...



YE MURDERIN' PIRATES--- I'LL ROLL YE IN THE SCUPPERS!

NICE GOING, SAILOR!

VALIANT AS THE AMERICAN BATTLERS ARE, THE NAZIS OVERWHELM THEM BY SHEER WEIGHT OF NUMBERS...



I DARE YOU TO TAKE ME ON ONE AT A TIME!

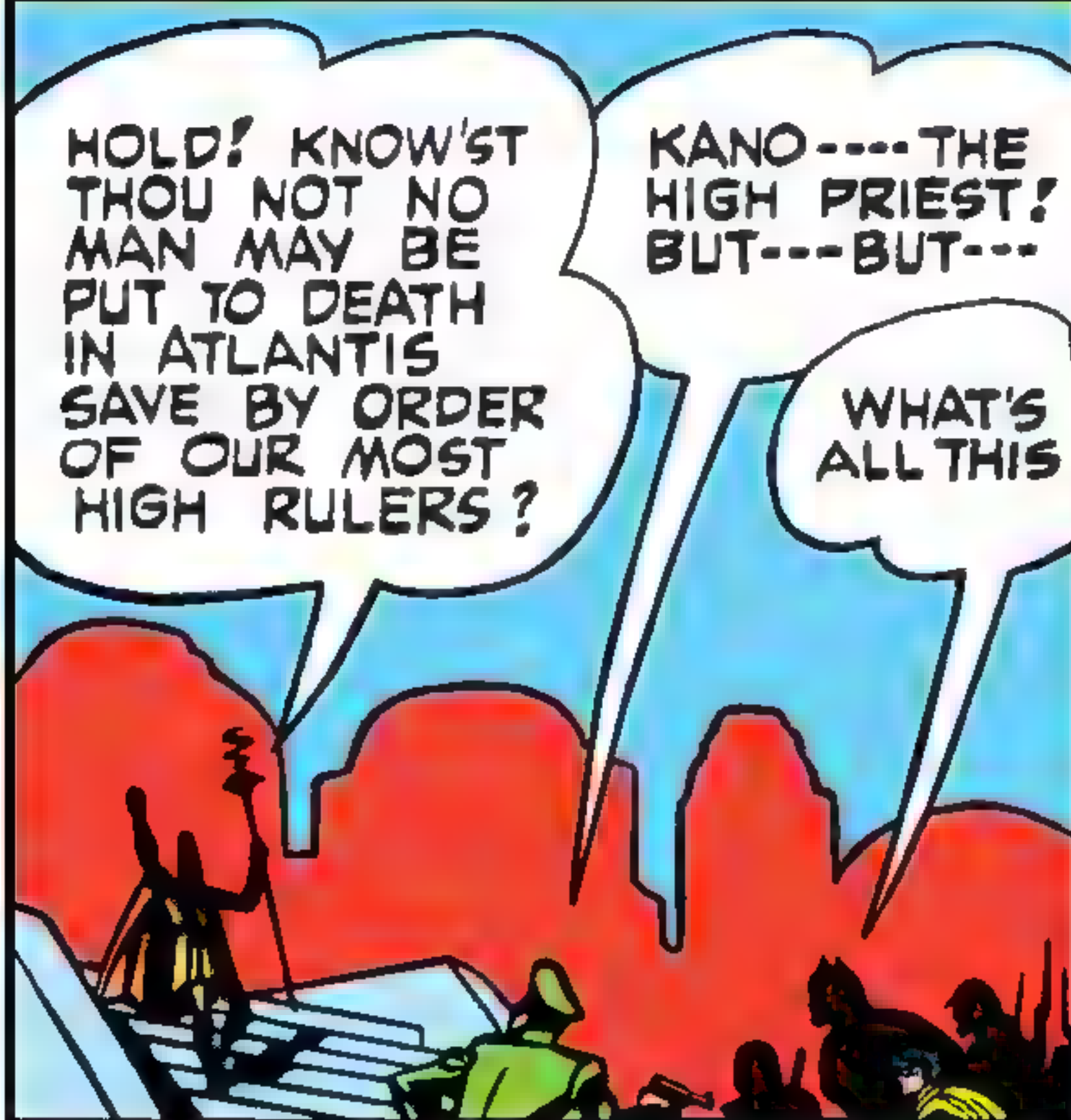
HUH?... THEY GOT ME--- BUT I MUSTN'T PASS OUT...



NOW YOU SHALL DIE LIKE THE DOGS YOU ARE!

IT WOULD BE A PLEASURE IF I COULD SEE YOU DIE FIRST LIKE THE RAT YOU ARE!

BUT A COMMANDING VOICE CRIES OUT IN ARCHAIC ENGLISH--- AND TENSE TRIGGER-FINGERS RELAX...



HOLD! KNOW'ST THOU NOT NO MAN MAY BE PUT TO DEATH IN ATLANTIS SAVE BY ORDER OF OUR MOST HIGH RULERS?

KANO----THE HIGH PRIEST! BUT---BUT---

WHAT'S ALL THIS?

BUT THESE ARE AMERICAN SAVAGES, SUCH AS I HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT! THEY WOULD PLUNDER AND DESTROY THE WORLD!



WERE THEY FIENDS FROM THE PIT, OUR ATLANTEAN JUSTICE WOULD STILL GRANT THEM A TRIAL BEFORE OUR ALL-WISE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS!

COME--- WE SHALL GO TO THE TEMPLE OF JUSTICE!

ATLANTIS--- THE LOST LAND! AM I DREAMING, ROBIN?



PINCH ME, AND I'LL TELL YOU!

STERN BUT KINDLY, KANO, HIGH PRIEST OF ATLANTIS, ENLIGHTENS HIS AMAZED PRISONERS WITH A FANTASTIC TALE...

"... OUR WISE MEN LOOKED INTO THE FUTURE, AND FORESAW NOT ONLY THE TIDAL WAVE AND EARTHQUAKE THAT WOULD ENGULF US, BUT ALSO THE WARS AND PLAGUES THAT WOULD VISIT THE WORLD THEREAFTER...

IS THIS ACTUALLY THE ATLANTIS THAT WAS A PART OF THE ANCIENT WORLD?

AYE--- OUR HISTORY REACHES BACK TEN THOUSAND YEARS AND MORE! AT THAT TIME WE HAD ALREADY HARNESSSED THE POWER OF THE LIGHTNING AND BUILT FLYING SHIPS SUCH AS THINE...

MEN WILL GO MAD, XANO! BETTER THAT ATLANTIS SHOULD PERISH!

WHY PERISH WHEN WE MAY SO EASILY CUT OURSELVES OFF FROM OTHER NATIONS?

"... THE ELDERS AGREED THAT WE SHOULD EXCLUDE OURSELVES FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD... THEY BUILT THE DOME YOU SEE ABOVE US, AND HUNG A FIERY GLOBE TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE SUN...

"... AND WHEN THE SEA ROSE UP AGAINST US, WE WERE READY!

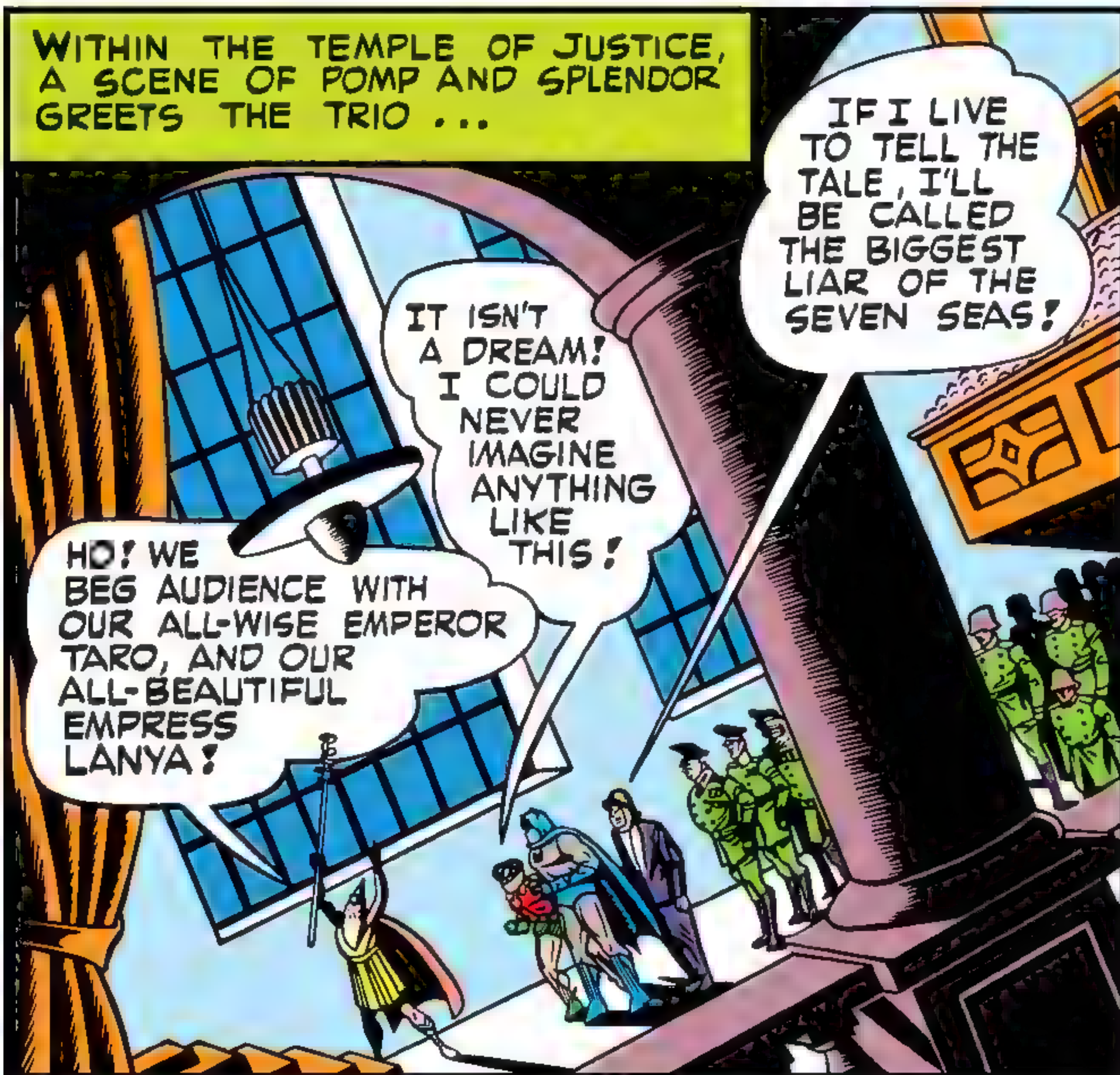
"... TWICE EACH MONTH, MACHINERY CREATES THE WHIRLPOOL WHICH BROUGHT YOU HERE... IT OPENS A PASSAGE FROM THE SURFACE OF THE OCEAN TO THE CITY, WHEREBY WE OBTAIN AIR TO BREATHE...

"... FOUR CENTURIES AGO AN ENGLISH VESSEL WAS CAUGHT IN THE WHIRLPOOL. ABOARD IT WAS A PHILOSOPHER, WHO SURVIVED AND TAUGHT US THIS LANGUAGE WHICH WE SPEAK IN PREFERENCE TO OUR ANCIENT TONGUE...

HE WAS OUR LAST VISITOR, UNTIL OUR NAZI FRIENDS --- WHO LOVE PEACE AND JUSTICE, AS WE DO --- FOUND THE UNDERWATER ENTRANCE TO ATLANTIS BY ACCIDENT!

YOUR NAZI FRIENDS WHO LOVE--- WHAT?

WITHIN THE TEMPLE OF JUSTICE, A SCENE OF POMP AND SPLENDOR GREET'S THE TRIO ...

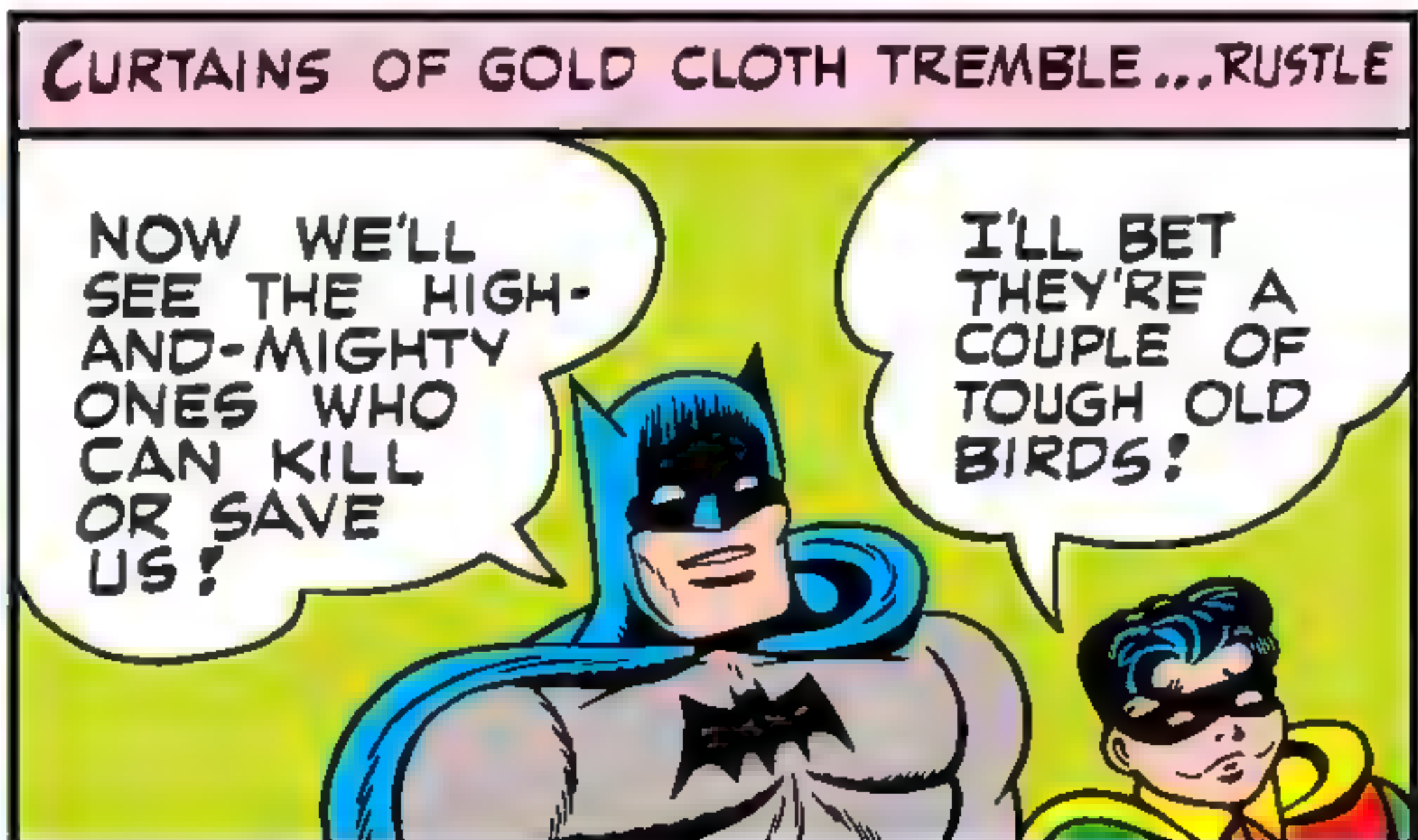


IT ISN'T A DREAM! I COULD NEVER IMAGINE ANYTHING LIKE THIS!

IF I LIVE TO TELL THE TALE, I'LL BE CALLED THE BIGGEST LIAR OF THE SEVEN SEAS!

HO! WE BEG AUDIENCE WITH OUR ALL-WISE EMPEROR TARO, AND OUR ALL-BEAUTIFUL EMPRESS LANYA!

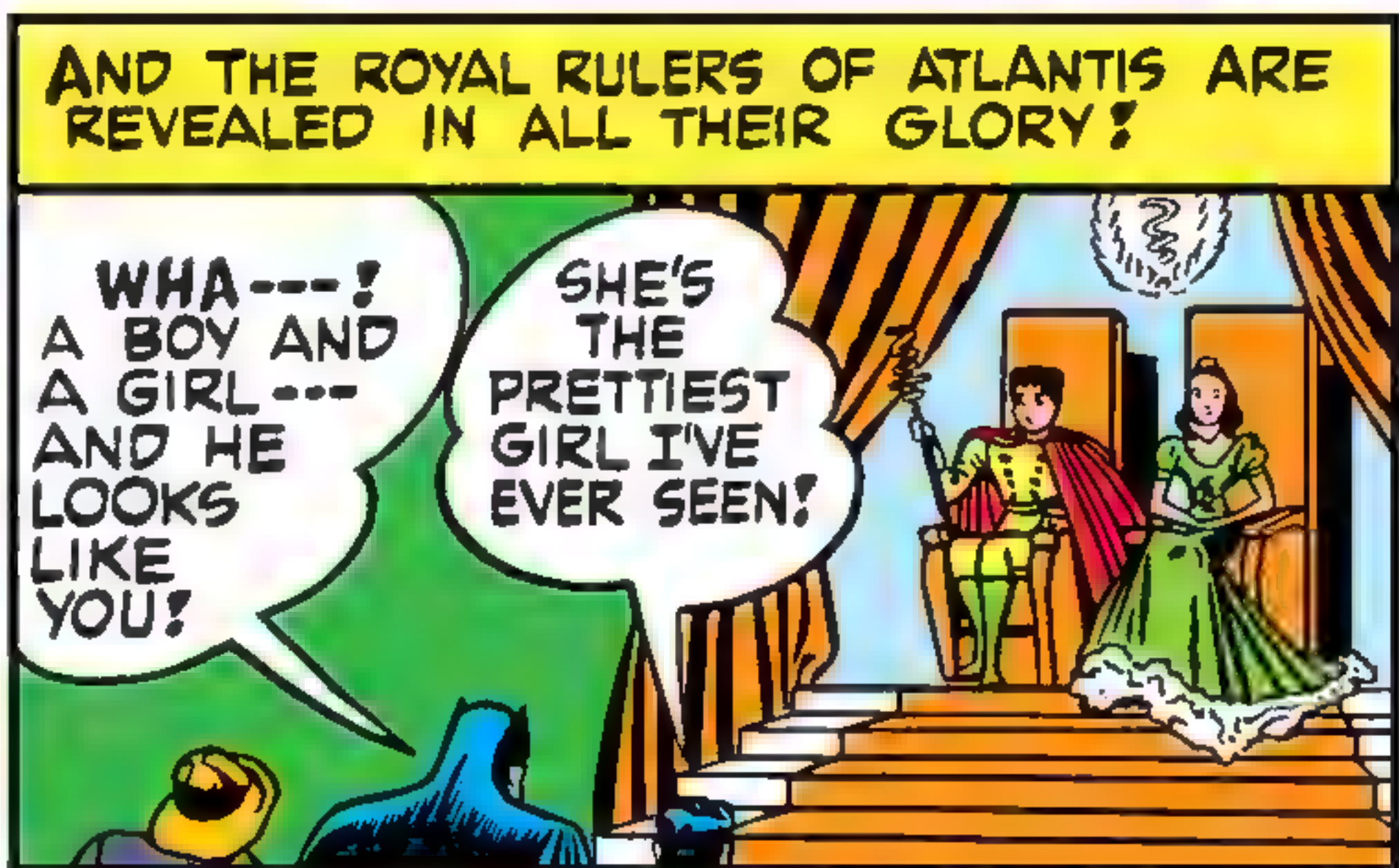
CURTAINS OF GOLD CLOTH TREMBLE...RUSTLE



NOW WE'LL SEE THE HIGH-AND-MIGHTY ONES WHO CAN KILL OR SAVE US!

I'LL BET THEY'RE A COUPLE OF TOUGH OLD BIRDS!

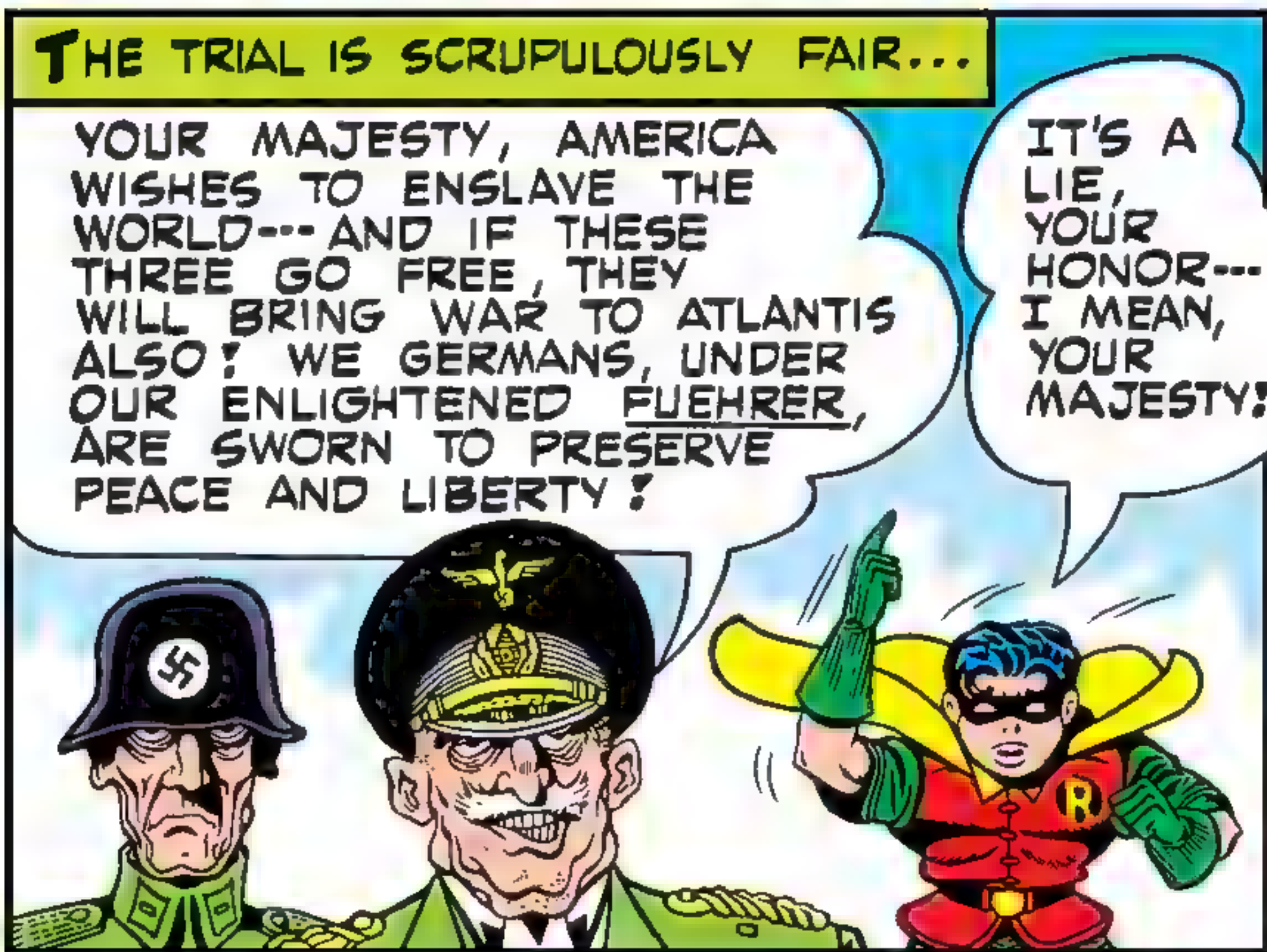
AND THE ROYAL RULERS OF ATLANTIS ARE REVEALED IN ALL THEIR GLORY!



WHA---! A BOY AND A GIRL--- AND HE LOOKS LIKE YOU!

SHE'S THE PRETTIEST GIRL I'VE EVER SEEN!

THE TRIAL IS SCRUPULOUSLY FAIR...



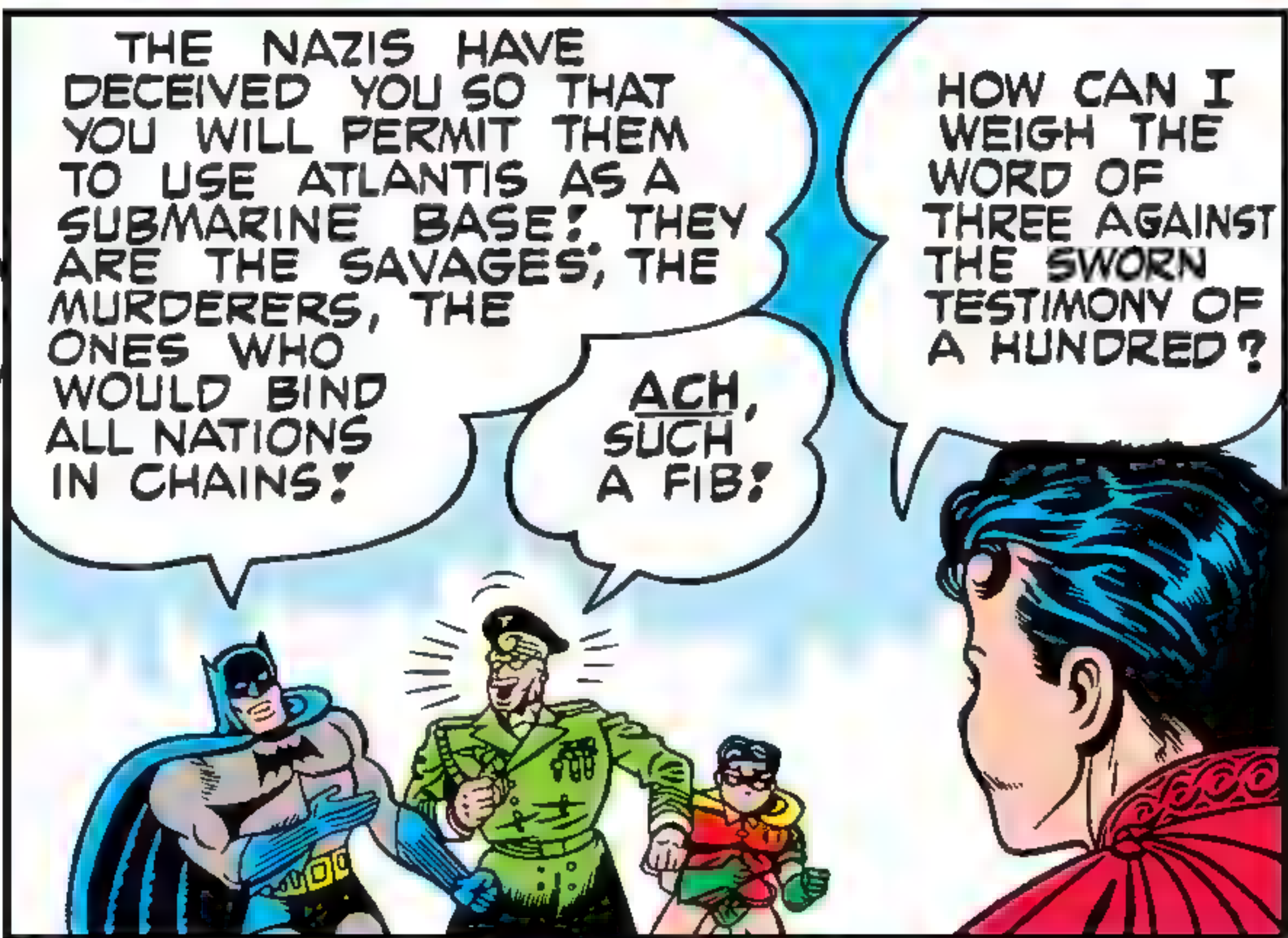
YOUR MAJESTY, AMERICA WISHES TO ENSLAVE THE WORLD---AND IF THESE THREE GO FREE, THEY WILL BRING WAR TO ATLANTIS ALSO! WE GERMANS, UNDER OUR ENLIGHTENED FUEHRER, ARE SWORN TO PRESERVE PEACE AND LIBERTY!

IT'S A LIE, YOUR HONOR--- I MEAN, YOUR MAJESTY!

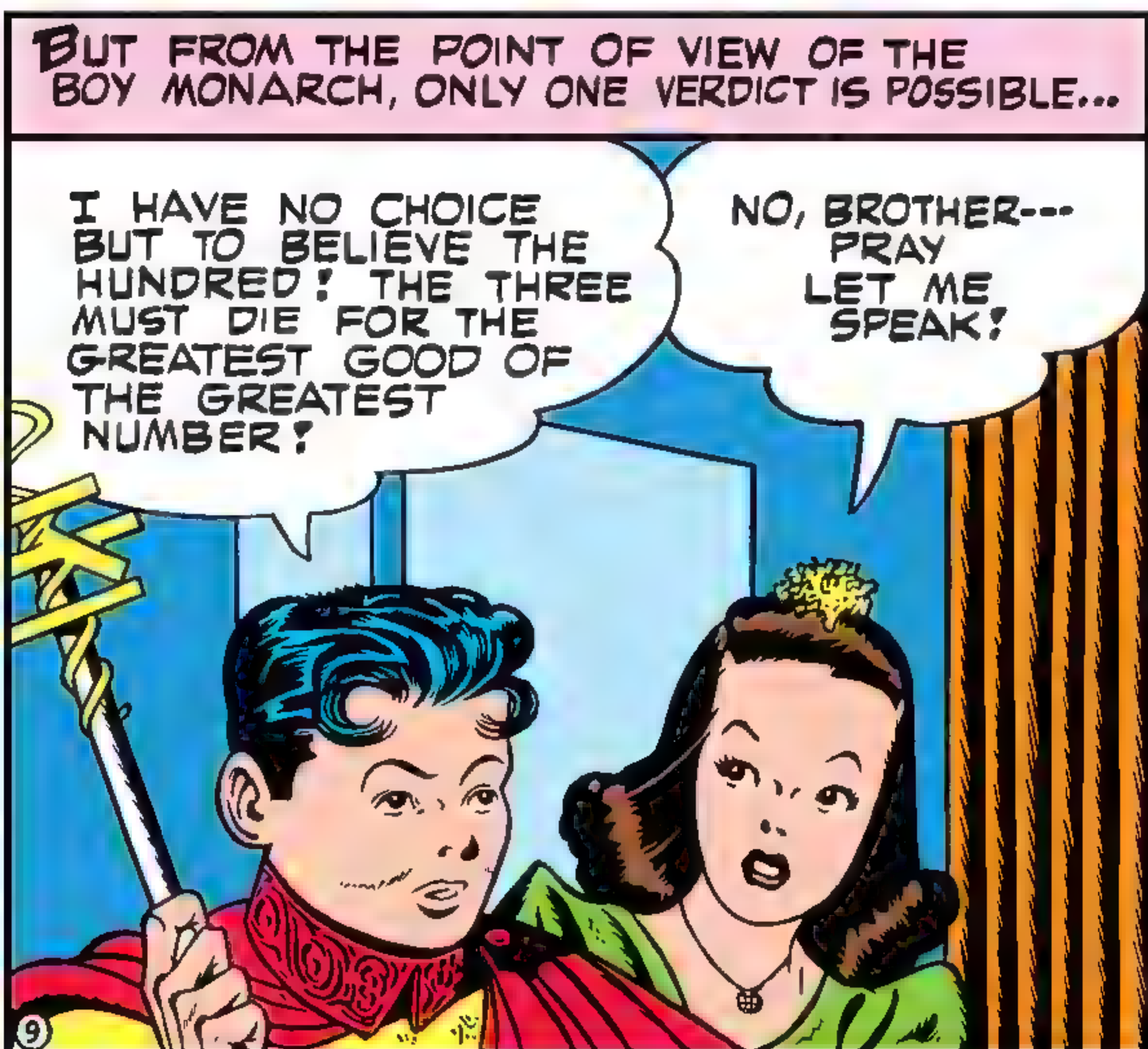
THE NAZIS HAVE DECEIVED YOU SO THAT YOU WILL PERMIT THEM TO USE ATLANTIS AS A SUBMARINE BASE! THEY ARE THE SAVAGES, THE MURDERERS, THE ONES WHO WOULD BIND ALL NATIONS IN CHAINS!

ACH, SUCH A FIB!

HOW CAN I WEIGH THE WORD OF THREE AGAINST THE SWORN TESTIMONY OF A HUNDRED?



BUT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE BOY MONARCH, ONLY ONE VERDICT IS POSSIBLE...



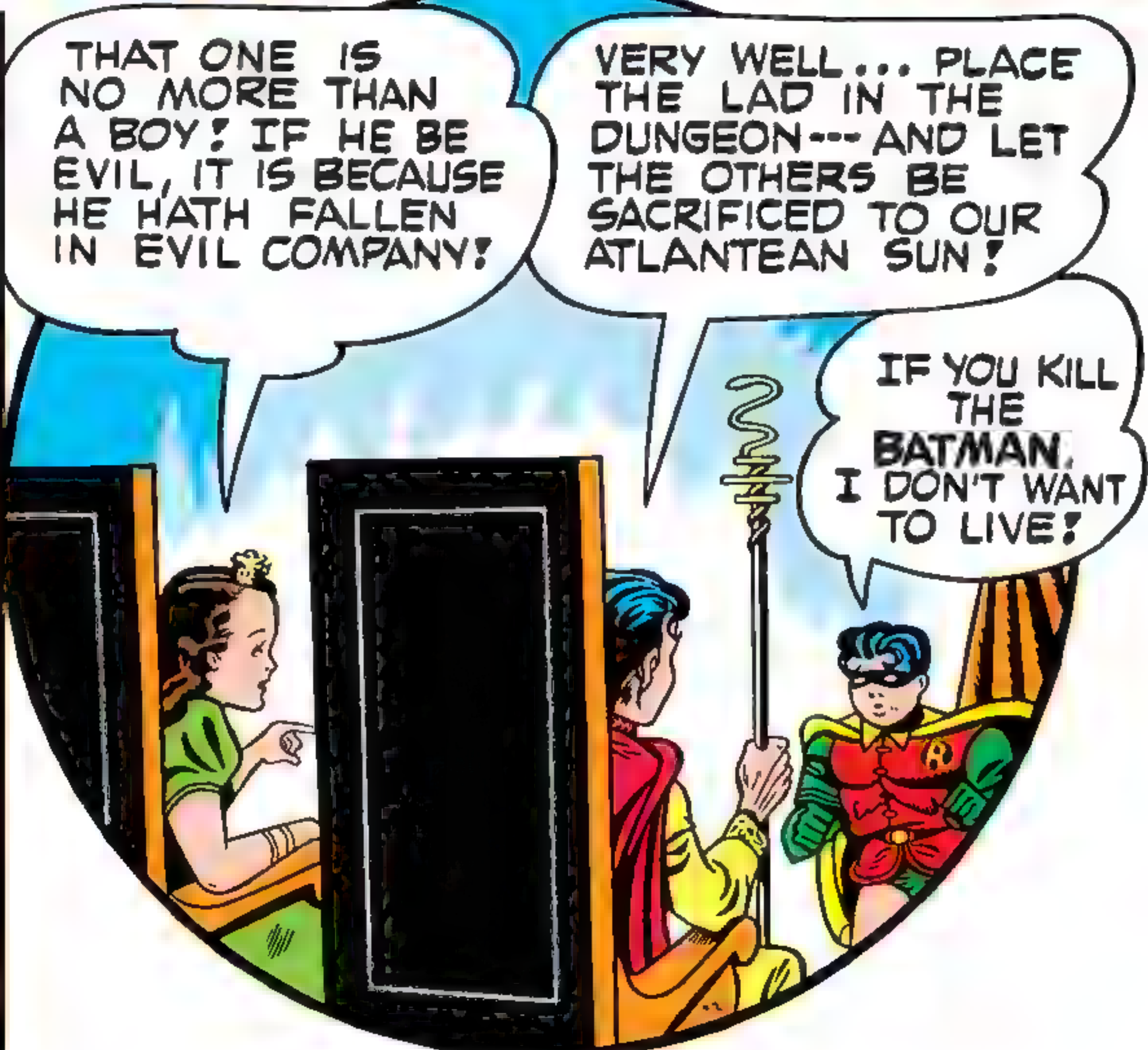
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BELIEVE THE HUNDRED! THE THREE MUST DIE FOR THE GREATEST GOOD OF THE GREATEST NUMBER!

NO, BROTHER--- PRAY LET ME SPEAK!

THAT ONE IS NO MORE THAN A BOY! IF HE BE EVIL, IT IS BECAUSE HE HATH FALLEN IN EVIL COMPANY!

VERY WELL... PLACE THE LAD IN THE DUNGEON---AND LET THE OTHERS BE SACRIFICED TO OUR ATLANTIAN SUN!

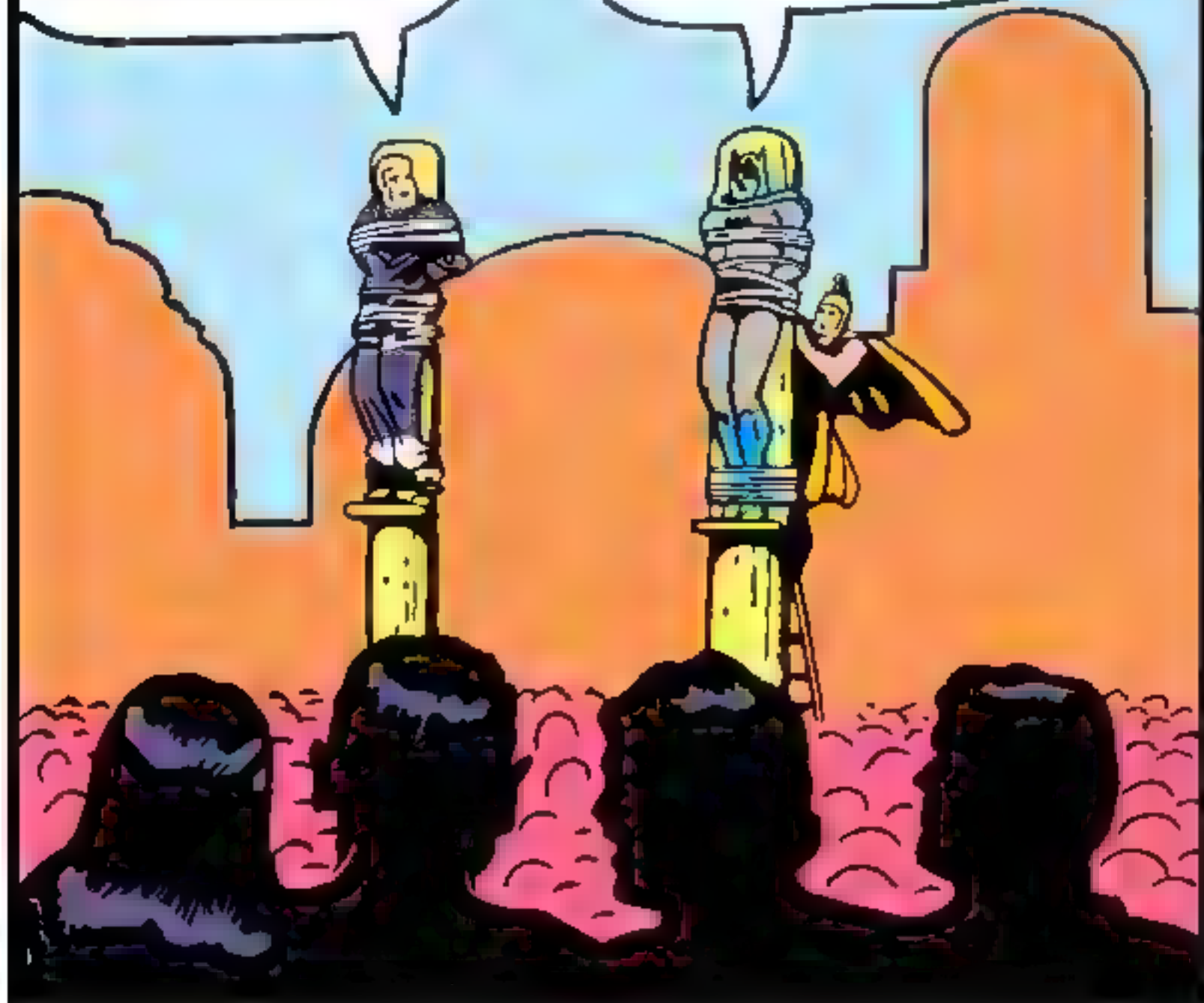
IF YOU KILL THE BATMAN, I DON'T WANT TO LIVE!



IN THE GREAT SQUARE BEFORE THE TEMPLE, THE BATMAN AND BEN STUNSEL ARE BOUND TO THE TOPS OF LOFTY MASTS...

HAVE YE ANY NOTION WHAT THEY'RE UP TO, MATEY?

ALL I'M SURE OF IS, IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE FATAL!



LENSES, MOUNTED ON TALL STANDARDS, ARE WHEELED INTO PLACE---AND THE ATLANTEAN METHOD OF EXECUTION BECOMES HORRIBLY APPARENT...

A CLEVER RACE, THESE ATLANTEANS! TOO BAD THEY ARE NOT ARYAN!

EVEN SO, IT IS TOO FINE A METHOD OF KILLING TO BE OVERLOOKED! I MUST MENTION IT IN MY NEXT REPORT!



FOCUSED BY THE BURNING-GLASSES, THE FIERCE RAYS OF THE ARTIFICIAL SUN BEAT PITILESSLY UPON THE HEADS OF THE CONDEMNED MEN...

WHAT A WAY TO DIE! FIRST THE UNBEARABLE HEAT... THEN MADNESS... AND THEN... ANYWAY, I'M GLAD ROBIN ISN'T HERE TO SEE IT!



AND WHAT OF ROBIN? AT THIS MOMENT GUARDS ARE LEADING HIM DOWN SEEMINGLY ENDLESS FLIGHTS OF STONE STEPS...

SO FAR, LAD, THAT THOU WILT NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO RETURN, IF EVER OUR EMPEROR'S MERCY SETS THEE FREE!

HOW MUCH FARTHER?



SUDDENLY...

WANT TO BET?

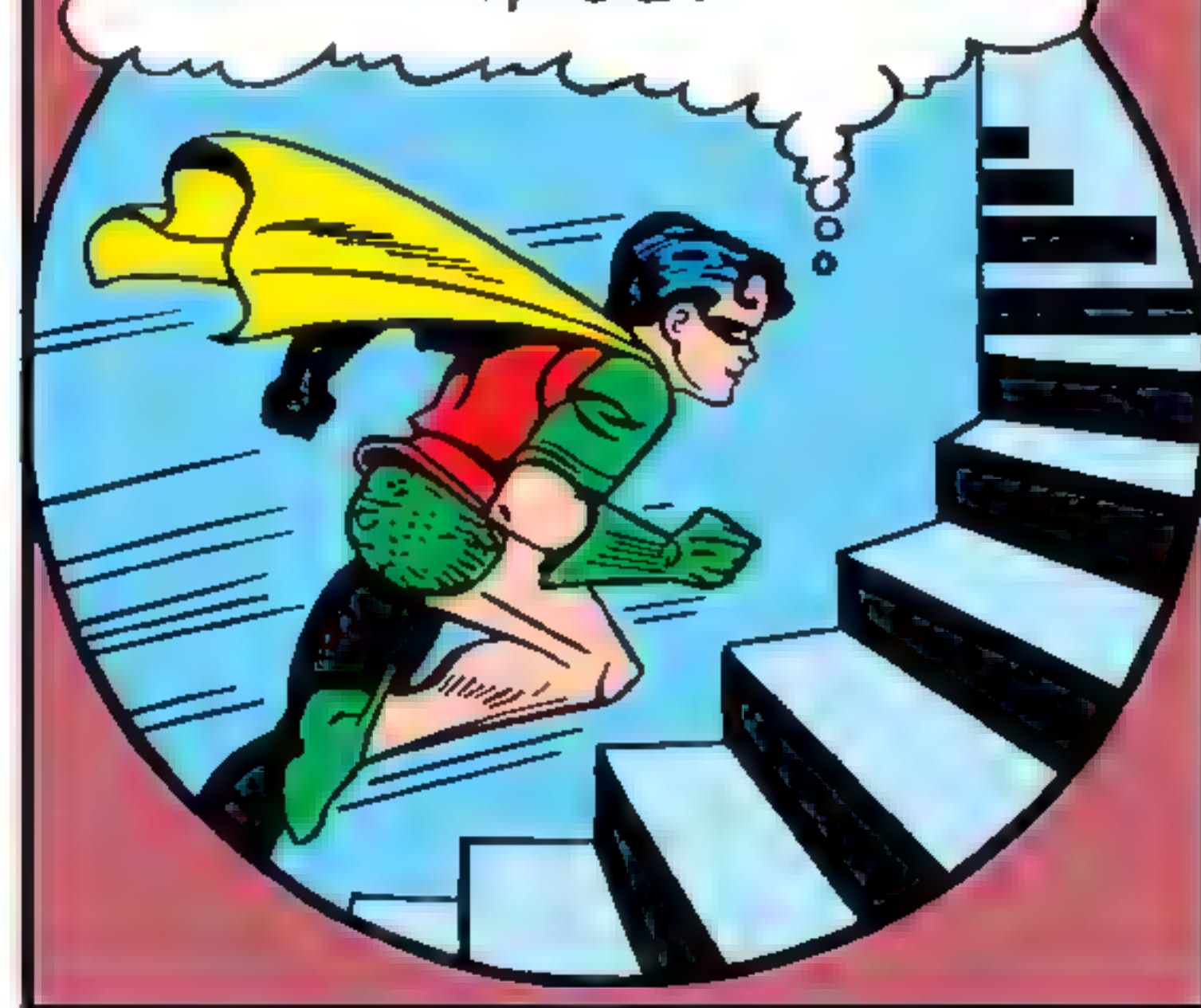
SAVE ME, COMRADE!

NAY, I CANNOT! THE BRAT HATH UNSETTLED ME ALSO!



A TERRIBLE FEAR LENDS STRENGTH TO THE DRIVING MUSCLES THAT HURL THE BOY WONDER UPWARD...

WHAT IF THEY HAVEN'T KILLED THE BATMAN YET?.. I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN HELP HIM, BUT---



WELL, WELL--- JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED!

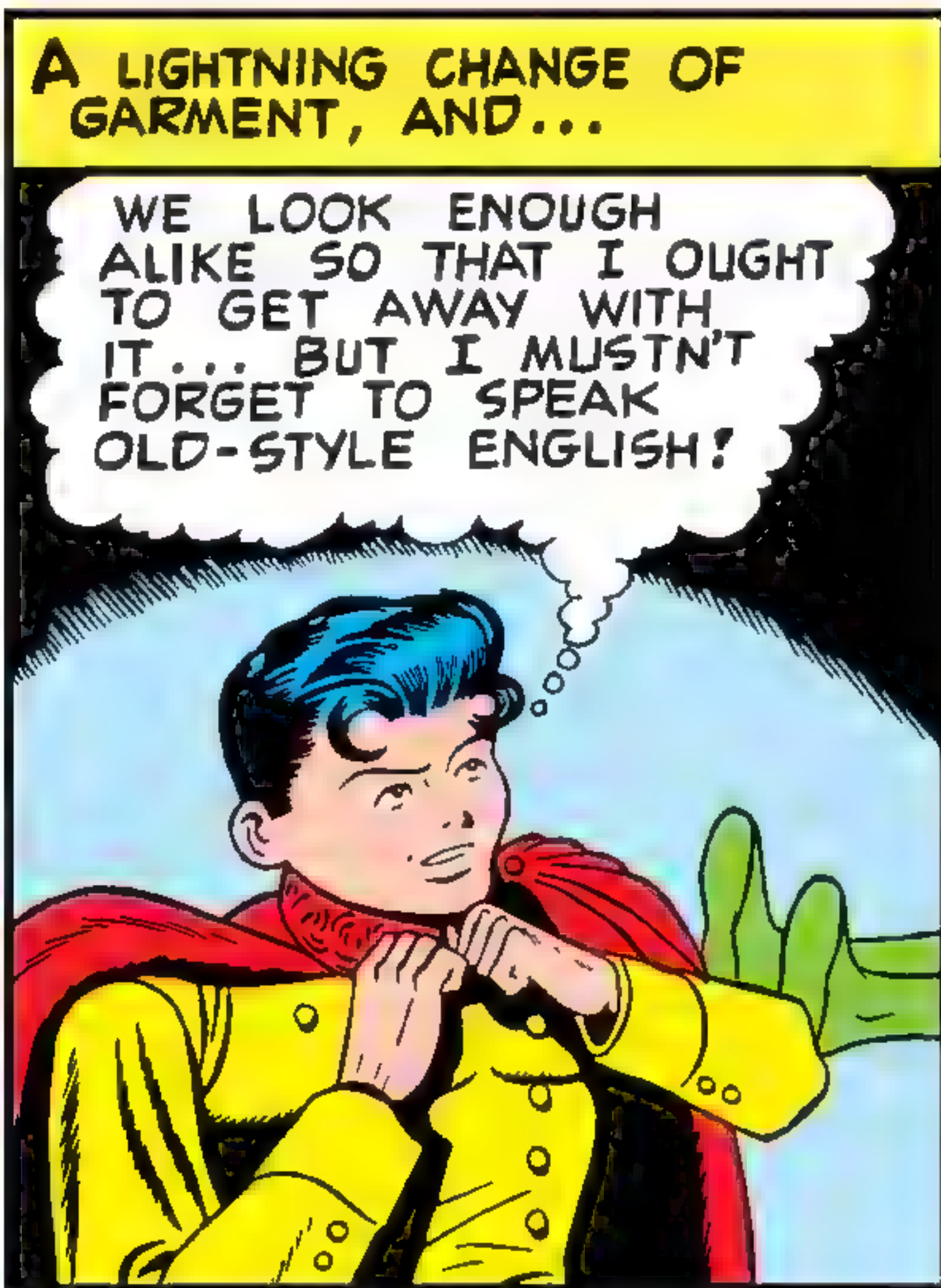
BACK TO THE DUNGEONS, RASH YOUTH!





I HATE TO DO THIS, YOUR MAJESTY--- BUT YOU'VE GOT IT COMING FOR BELIEVING THOSE NAZI LIES!

OH H H!!



A LIGHTNING CHANGE OF GARMENT, AND...

WE LOOK ENOUGH ALIKE SO THAT I OUGHT TO GET AWAY WITH IT... BUT I MUSTN'T FORGET TO SPEAK OLD-STYLE ENGLISH!



A DRAMATIC SCENE IS ENACTED ON THE BALCONY OF THE TEMPLE OF JUSTICE..

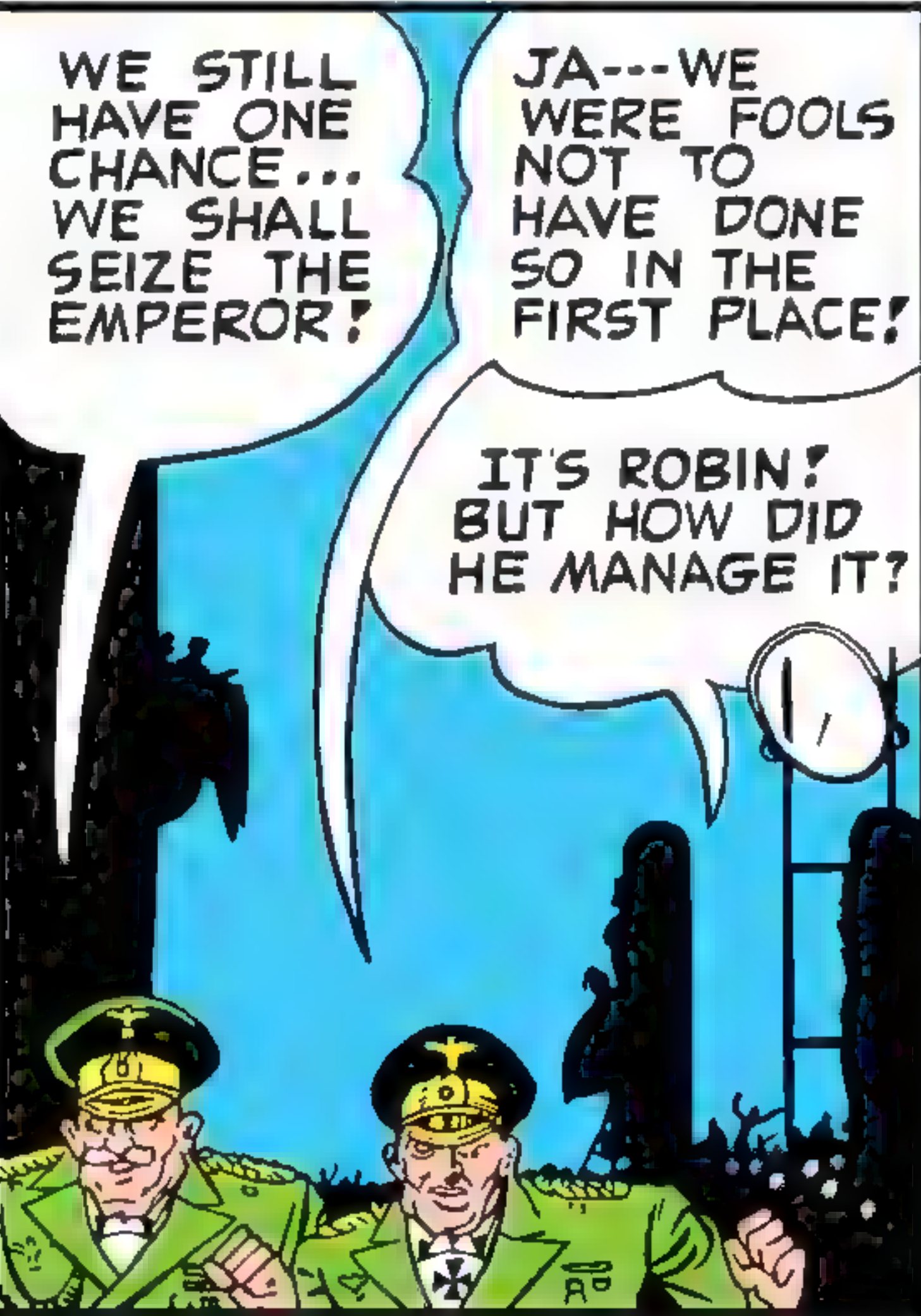
HO, MEN OF ATLANTIS --- YOUR EMPEROR HATH BEEN BLIND! RELEASE THE PRISONERS AT ONCE!

TARO, MY BROTHER- I AM SO GLAD!... WHY---WHY-- YOU ARE NOT TARO! YOU ARE---



PLEASE, EMPRESS--- YOU SAVED MY LIFE--- NOW LET ME SAVE MY FRIEND! WE TOLD THE TRUTH, EVEN IF TARO WOULDN'T BELIEVE US!

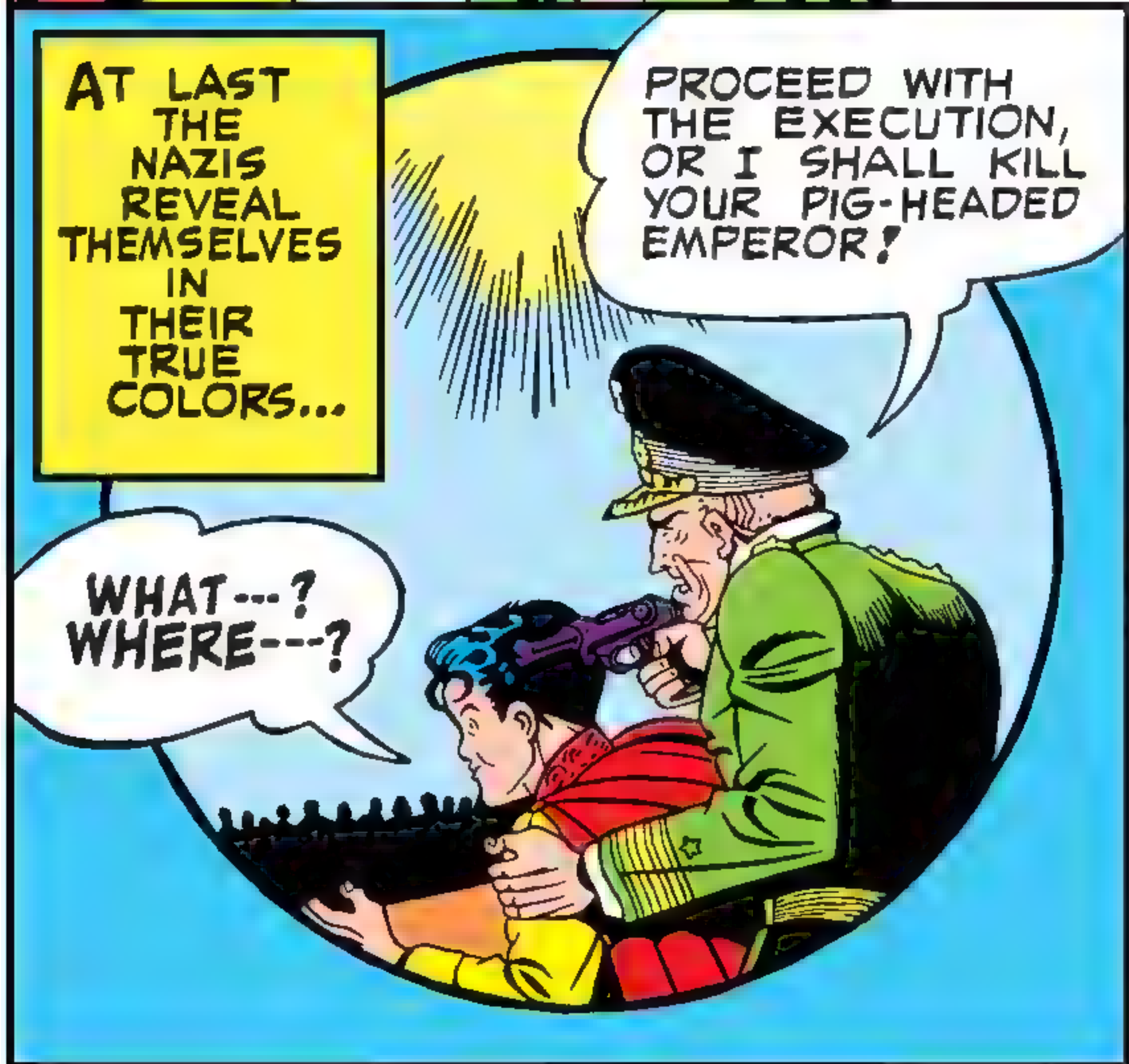
FAITH, LAD, I BELIEVE THEE! MY BROTHER WILL BE ANGRY, BUT DO AS THOU THINKEST RIGHT!



WE STILL HAVE ONE CHANCE... WE SHALL SEIZE THE EMPEROR!

JA---WE WERE FOOLS NOT TO HAVE DONE SO IN THE FIRST PLACE!

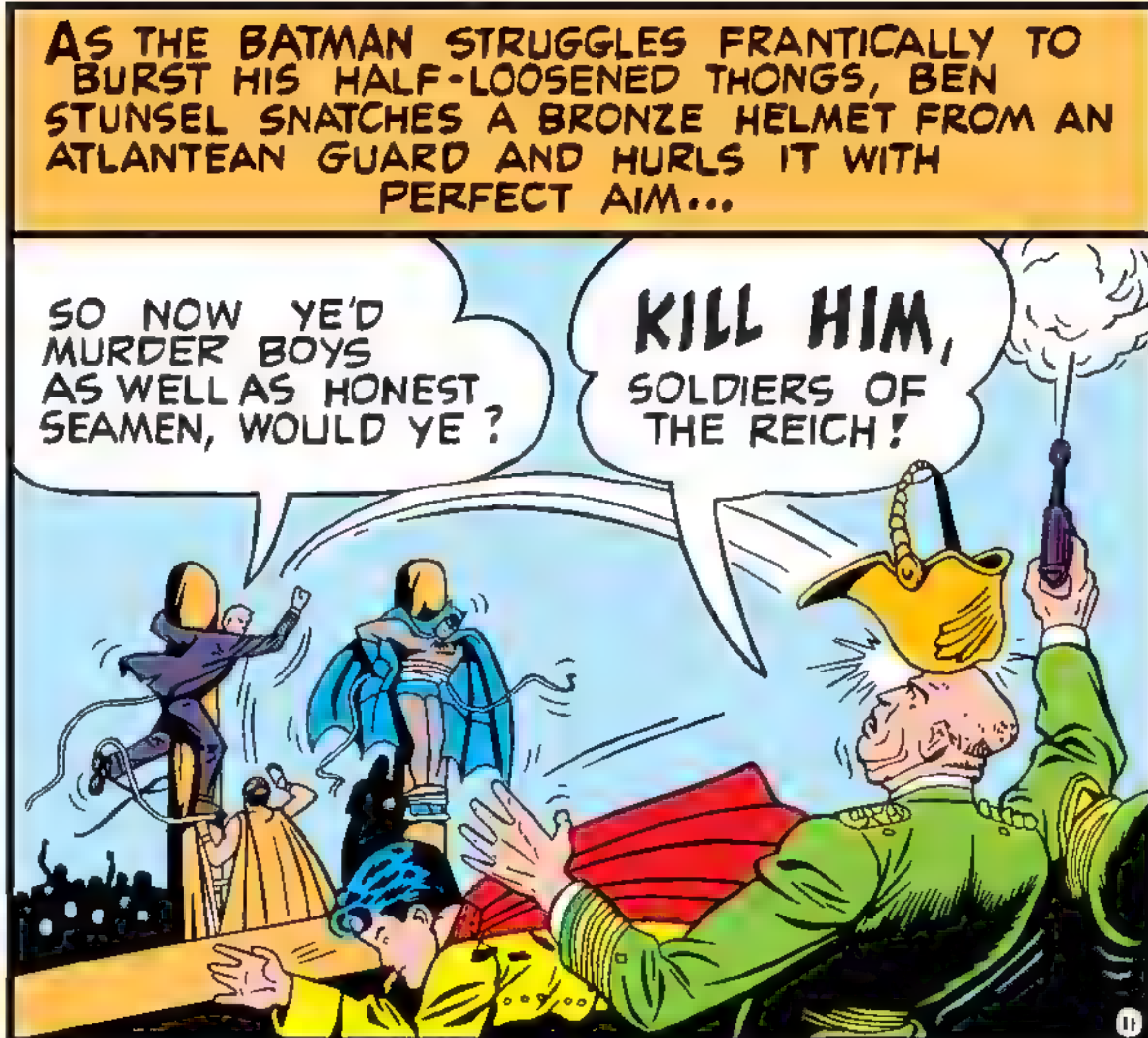
IT'S ROBIN! BUT HOW DID HE MANAGE IT?



AT LAST THE NAZIS REVEAL THEMSELVES IN THEIR TRUE COLORS...

PROCEED WITH THE EXECUTION, OR I SHALL KILL YOUR PIG-HEADED EMPEROR!

WHAT---? WHERE---

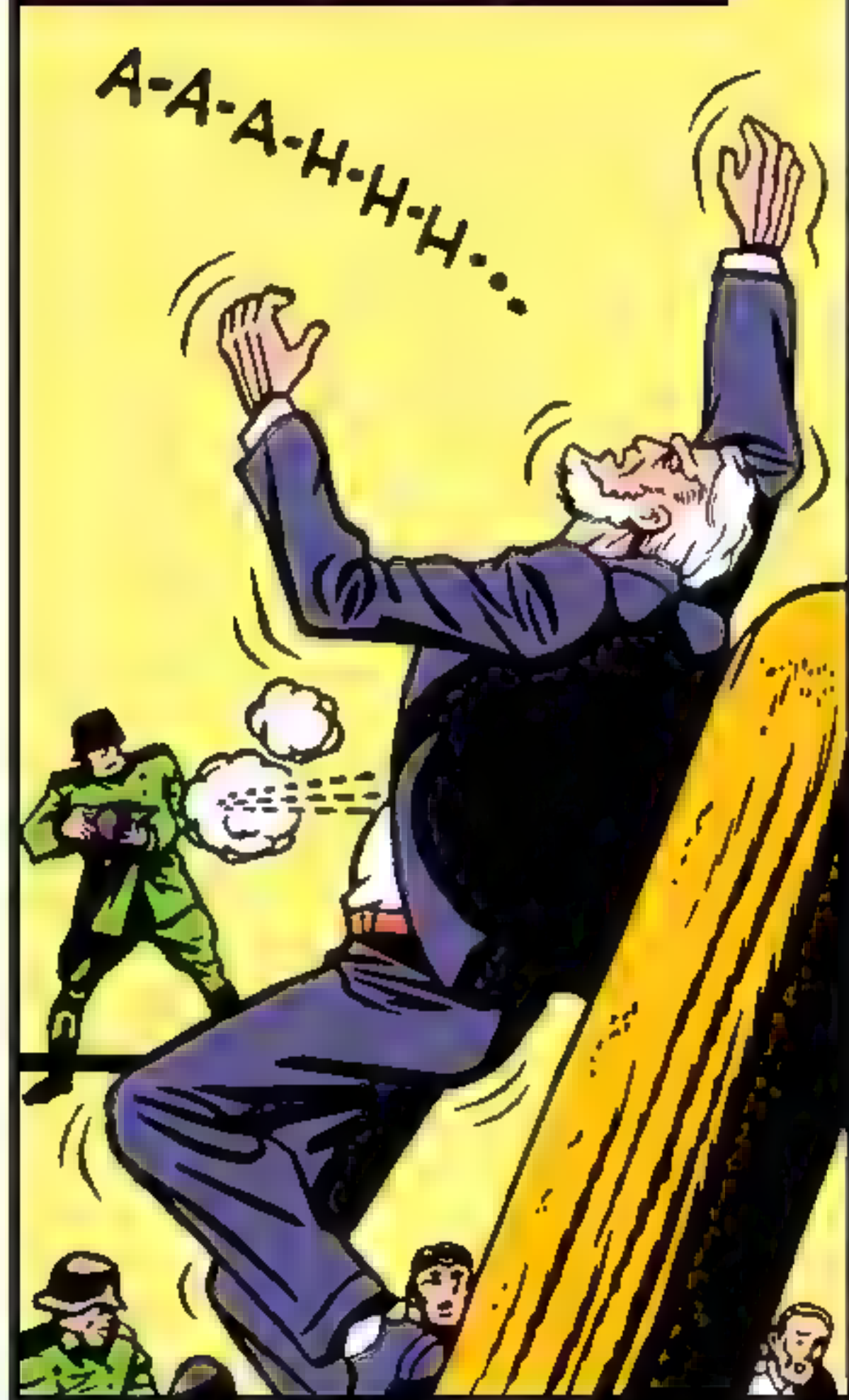


AS THE BATMAN STRUGGLES FRANTICALLY TO BURST HIS HALF-LOOSENED THONGS, BEN STUNSEL SNATCHES A BRONZE HELMET FROM AN ATLANTIAN GUARD AND HURLS IT WITH PERFECT AIM...

SO NOW YE'D MURDER BOYS AS WELL AS HONEST SEAMEN, WOULD YE ?

KILL HIM, SOLDIERS OF THE REICH!

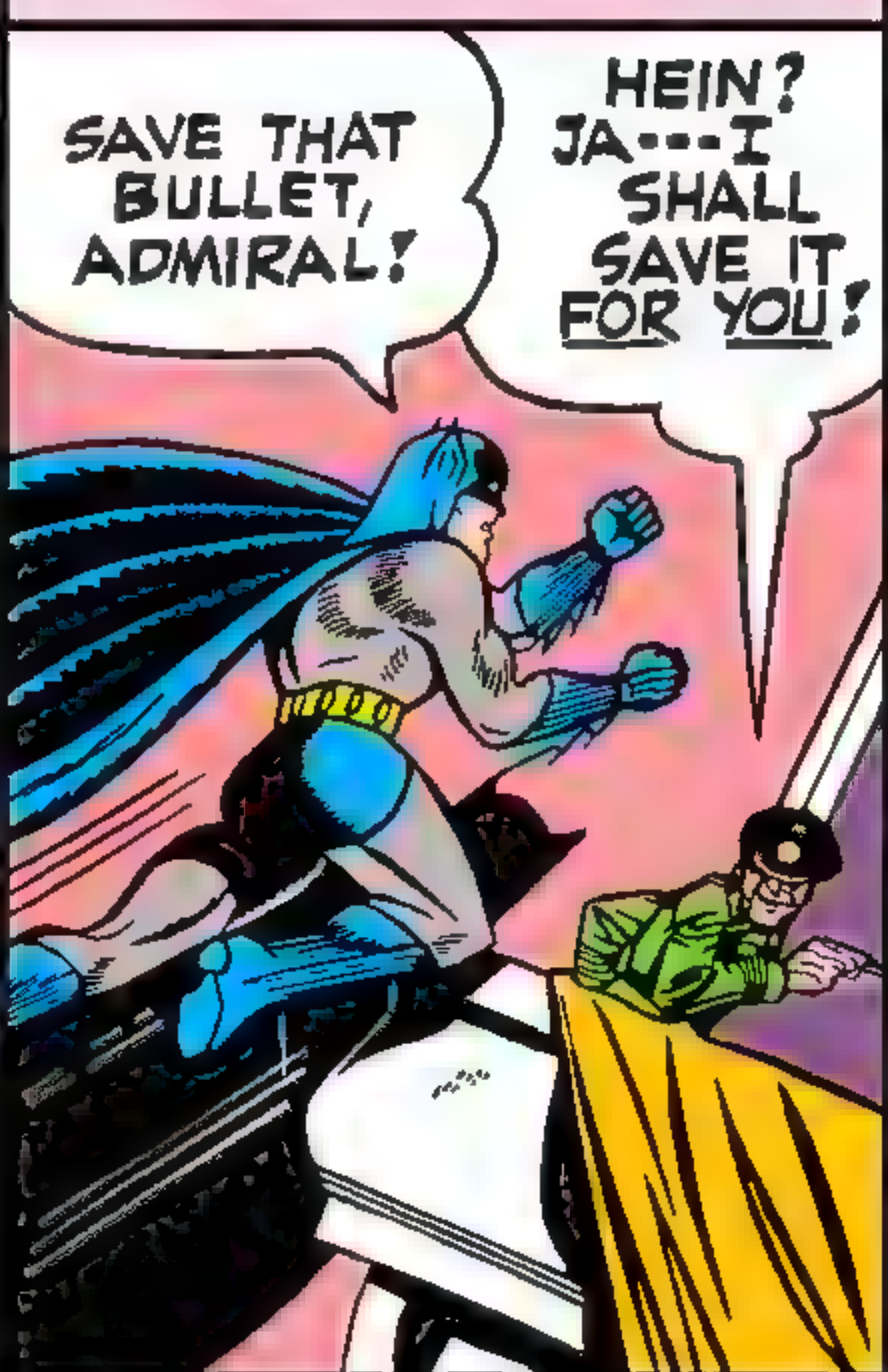
THE NEXT INSTANT...



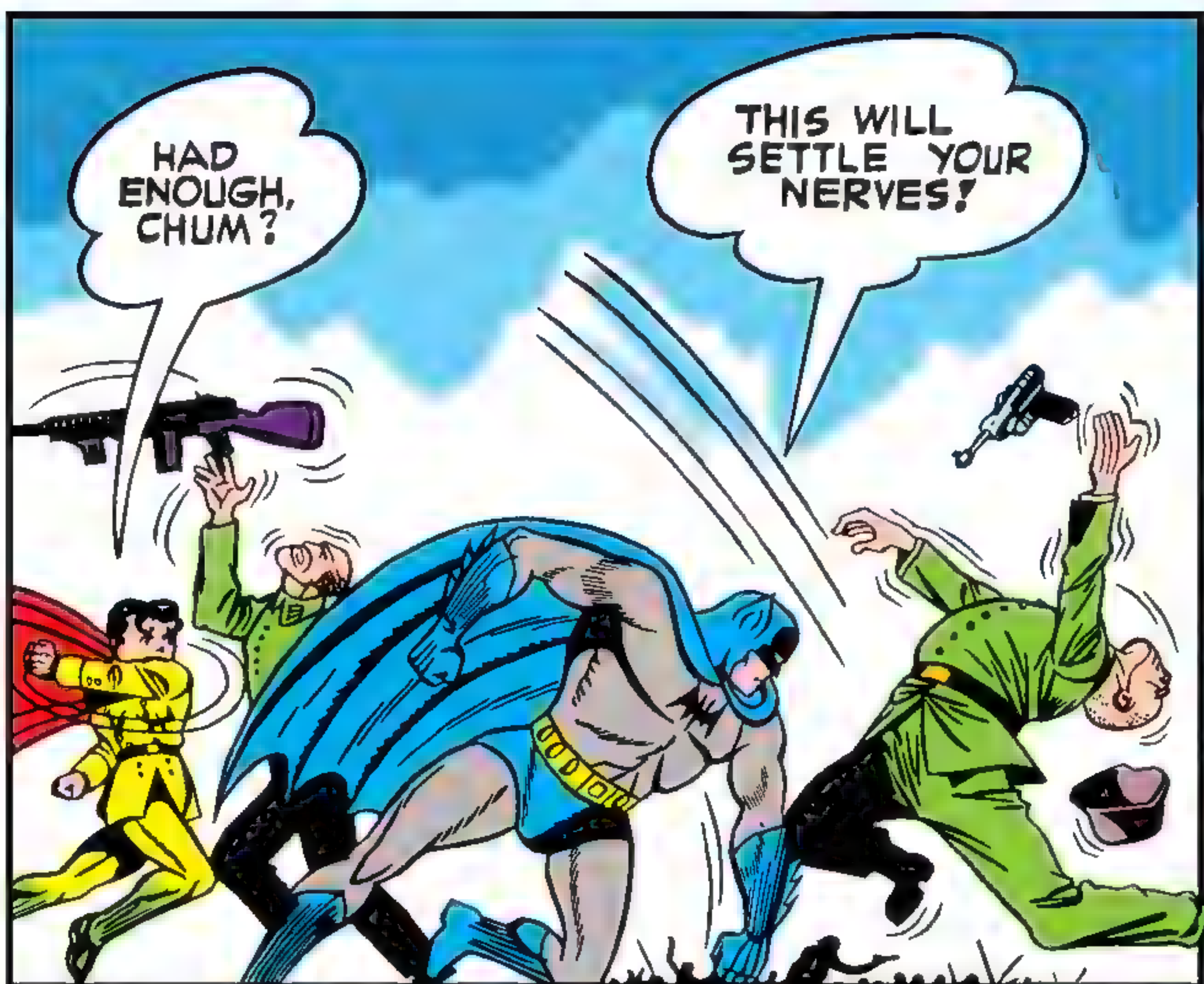
BUT THE HEROIC ACT HAS GIVEN ROBIN ALL THE OPPORTUNITY HE NEEDS...



AND A SPLIT SECOND LATER, A MIGHTY LUNGE SETS THE BATMAN FREE...



ENRAGED BY THE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE BOY THEY BELIEVE TO BE THEIR EMPEROR, THE PEACEFUL ATLANTEANS SWEEP IN A TIDAL WAVE OF HUMANITY OVER THE BEWILDERED GERMANS...



AN AMERICAN HERO SAYS GOODBYE...

SO THEY GOT OLD BEN AT LAST!... BUT I'M MAKIN' MY LAST VOYAGE WITHOUT REGRETS... KNOWIN' I HELPED WIPE 'EM OFF THE FACE O' THE EARTH!... SO LONG, BATMAN... ROBIN...

SO LONG, BEN STUNSEL...

ALL ATLANTIS SHALL DO HIM HONOR!

WHEN EXPLANATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS STRAIGHTENED OUT..

THY BLOW IS FORGIVEN, ROBIN,---FOR IT OPENED MINE EYES TO THE TRUTH! THOU AND THE BATMAN MAY GO IN PEACE--- LEAVING ONLY THY PROMISE TO TELL NO MAN WHERE ATLANTIS LIES!

YOUR SECRET IS SAFE WITH US!

I GUESS--- I GUESS--- THIS IS GOODBYE, LANYA--- YOUR MAJESTY?

GOODBYE--- ROBIN--- AND GOOD FORTUNE GO WITH THEE!

READY, ROBIN?

AUTOGYRO BLADES LIFT THE BATPLANE INTO A GRIMMER, LESS ROMANTIC, GLAMOROUS WORLD, AS THE VAST WHIRLPOOL AGAIN DRILLS A PASSAGE FROM THE TOP TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA...

THAT'S THE END OF THOSE U-BOATS, ROBIN--- AND OF ALL OTHERS THAT MAKE ATLANTIS A PORT OF CALL! A GRAND ADVENTURE, WASN'T IT?

I'LL NEVER FORGET HER---I MEAN IT!

AS SWIRLING WATERS CLOSE OVER THE SHINING CITY OF THE AGES...

YOU MEAN HER, YOU ROMANTIC YOUNG RASCAL! AND HERE'S A LETTER SHE ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU, ONCE ON OUR WAY!

FOR ME?-- QUICK--- LET ME SEE!

Dear Robin:

Fate hath decreed that we shall not meet again, but I would have thee know that my nation shall fight the dignity of the human race --- yet, having foresworn the world, we must fight alone, in our own way...

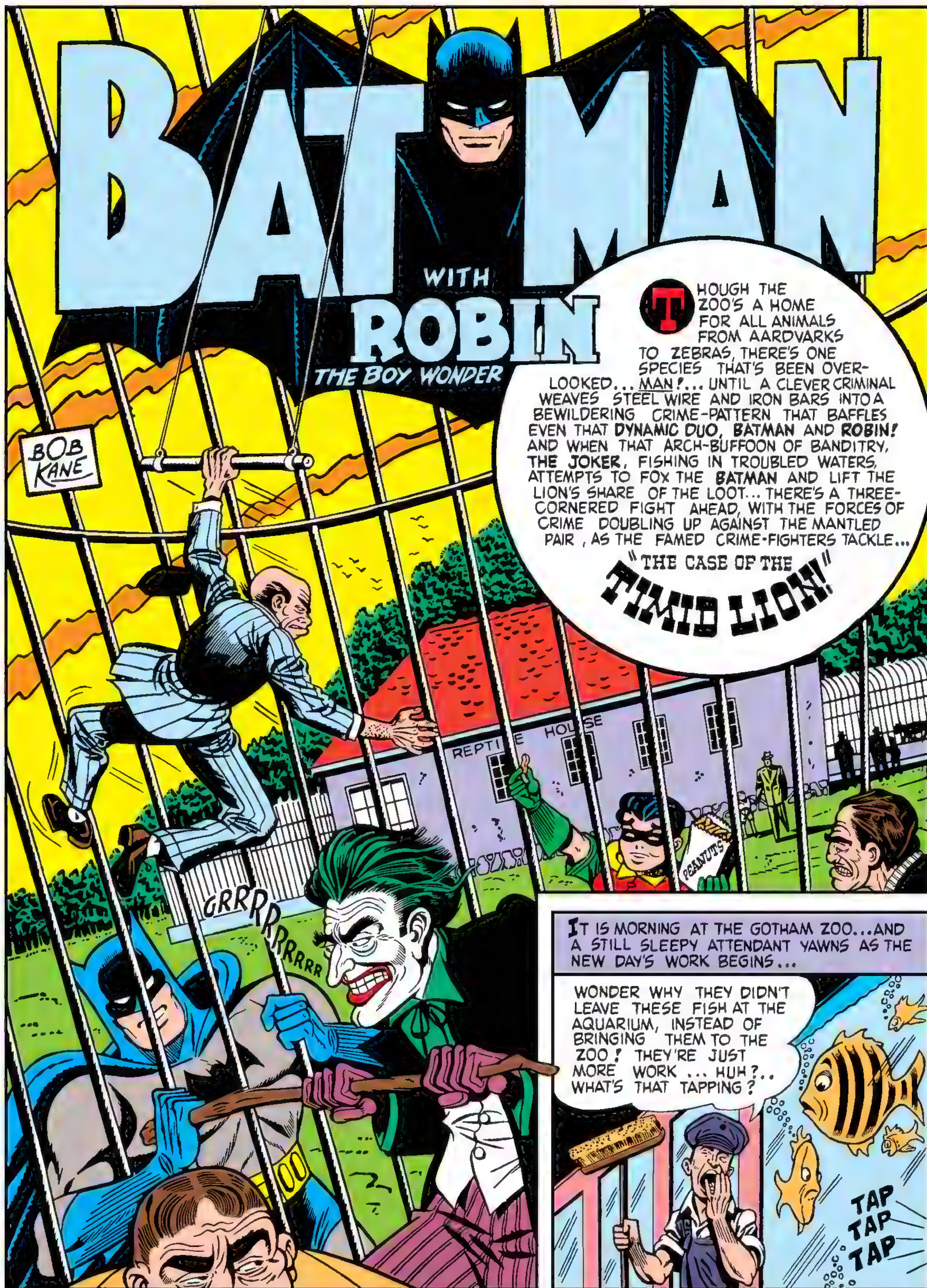
Keep well our secret and think of me sometimes, not as the ruler of a people, but simply as, Thy friend, Lanya

SOME DAYS LATER...

HERE'S SOMETHING, DICK... AN AMERICAN SUBMARINE IN THE CARIBBEAN, NEAR WHERE WE WERE, FOUND THREE NAZI U-BOATS TRAPPED IN A METAL NET FAR BELOW THE SURFACE---AND NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW HOW THE NET GOT THERE!

AND TO THINK I'LL PROBABLY NEVER SEE HER AGAIN!

The End



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

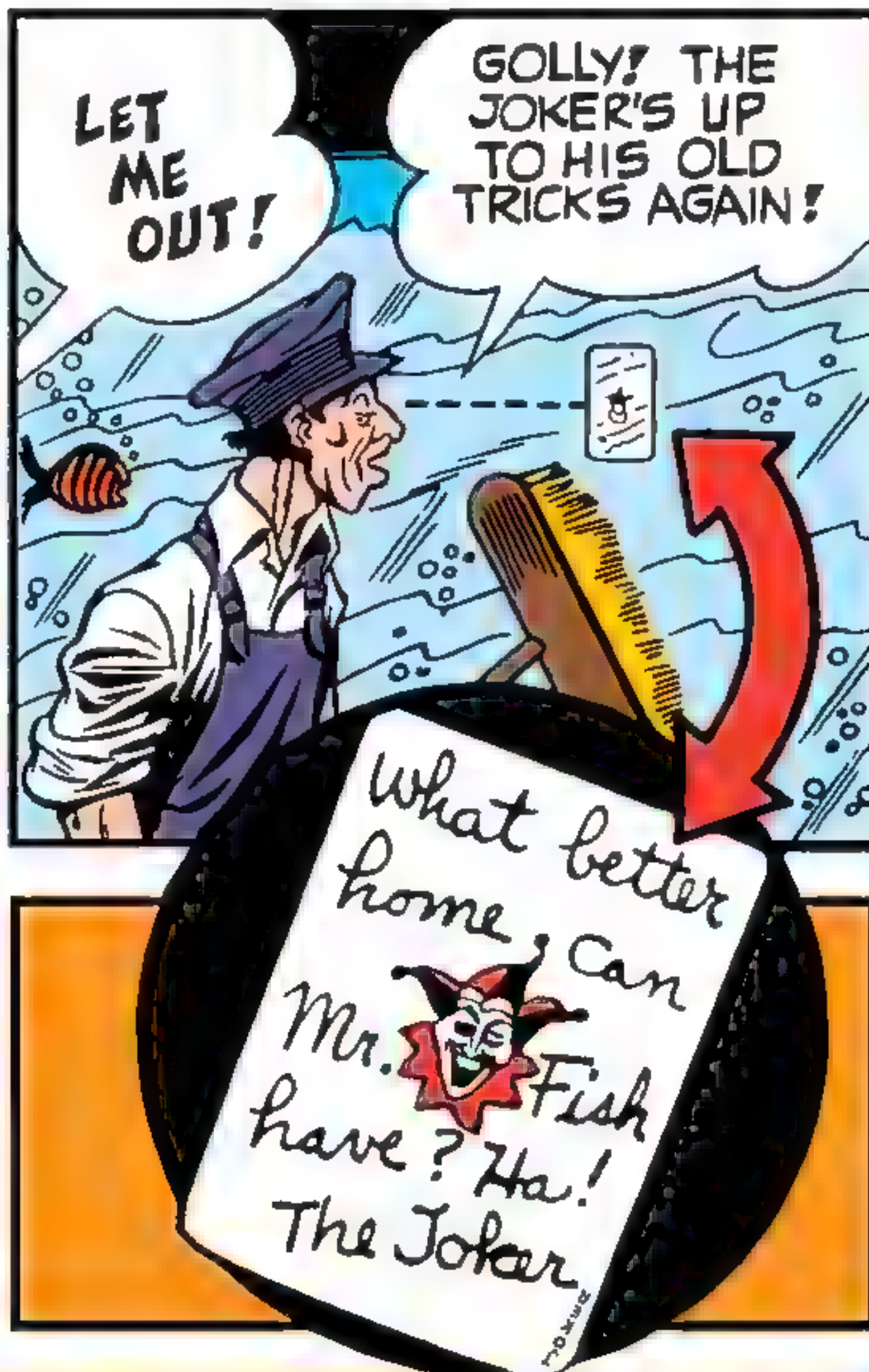
THOUGH THE ZOO'S A HOME FOR ALL ANIMALS FROM AARDVARKS TO ZEBRAS, THERE'S ONE SPECIES THAT'S BEEN OVER-LOOKED... MAN?... UNTIL A CLEVER CRIMINAL WEAVES STEEL WIRE AND IRON BARS INTO A BEWILDERING CRIME-PATTERN THAT BAFFLES EVEN THAT DYNAMIC DUO, BATMAN AND ROBIN! AND WHEN THAT ARCH-BUFFOON OF BANDITRY, THE JOKER, FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS, ATTEMPTS TO FOX THE BATMAN AND LIFT THE LION'S SHARE OF THE LOOT... THERE'S A THREE-CORNERED FIGHT AHEAD, WITH THE FORCES OF CRIME DOUBLING UP AGAINST THE MANTLED PAIR, AS THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTERS TACKLE...

"THE CASE OF THE
TIMID LION!"

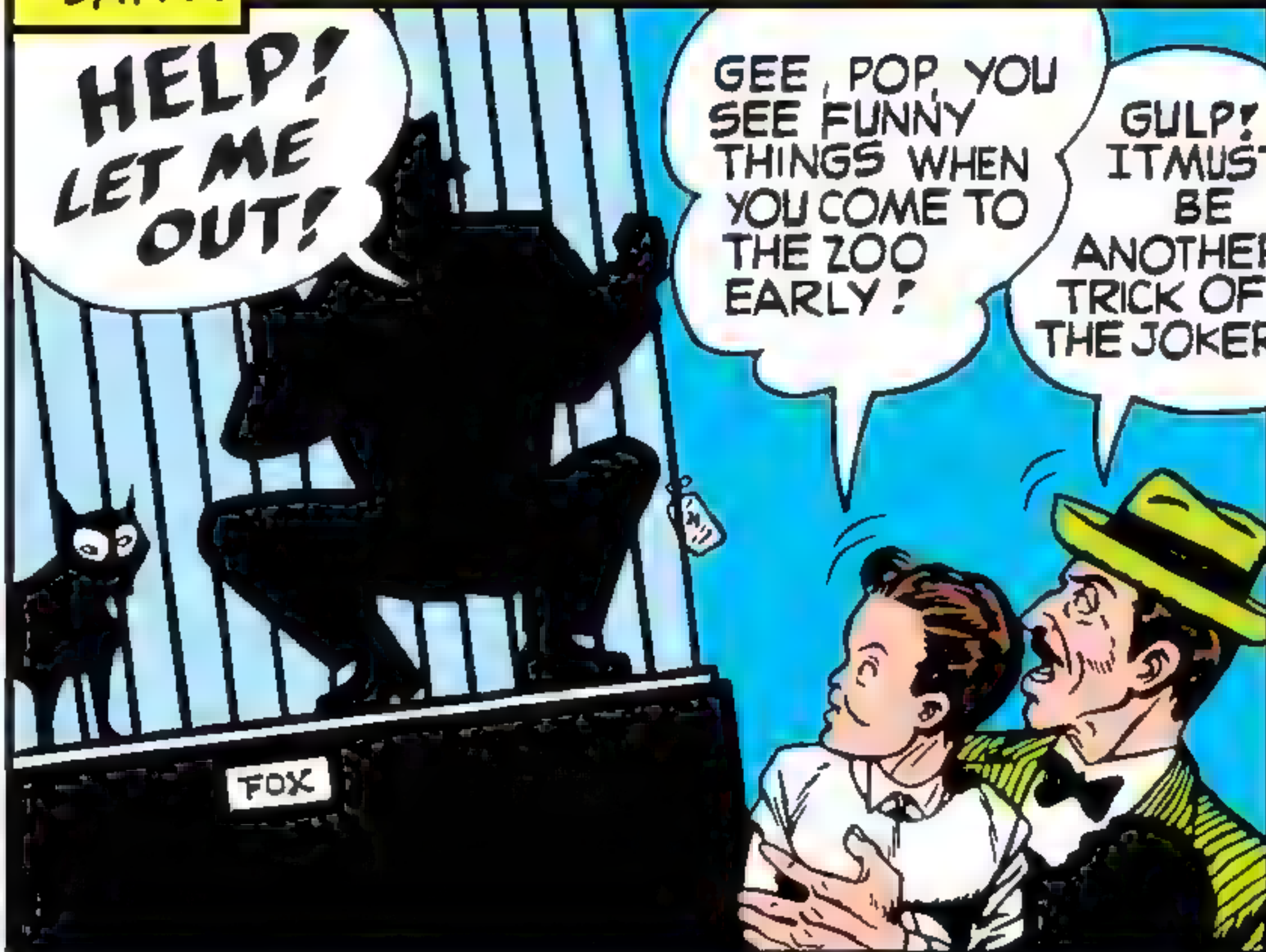
IT IS MORNING AT THE GOTHAM ZOO...AND A STILL SLEEPY ATTENDANT YAWNS AS THE NEW DAY'S WORK BEGINS...

WONDER WHY THEY DIDN'T LEAVE THESE FISH AT THE AQUARIUM, INSTEAD OF BRINGING THEM TO THE ZOO? THEY'RE JUST MORE WORK... HUH?... WHAT'S THAT TAPPING?

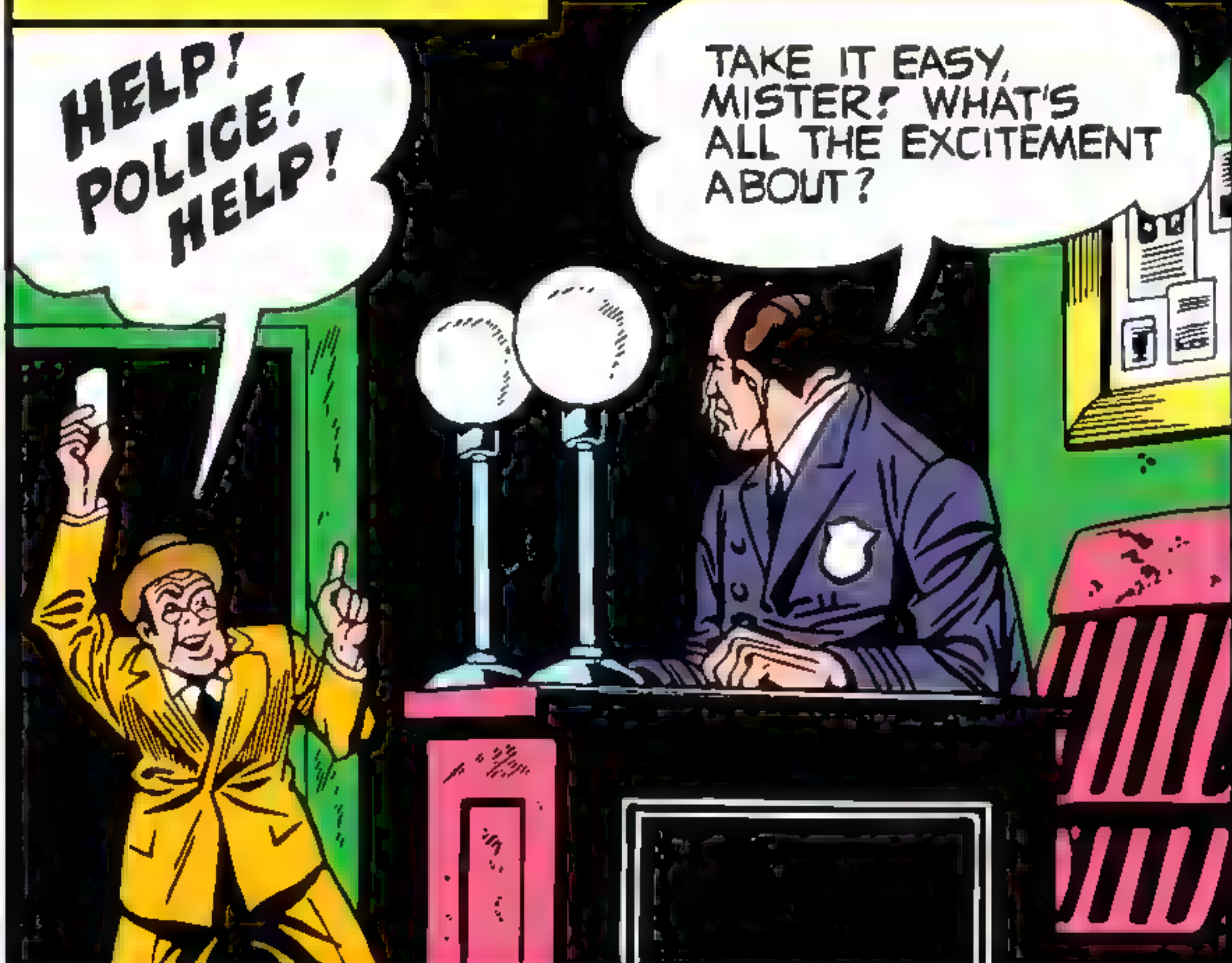
TAP
TAP
TAP



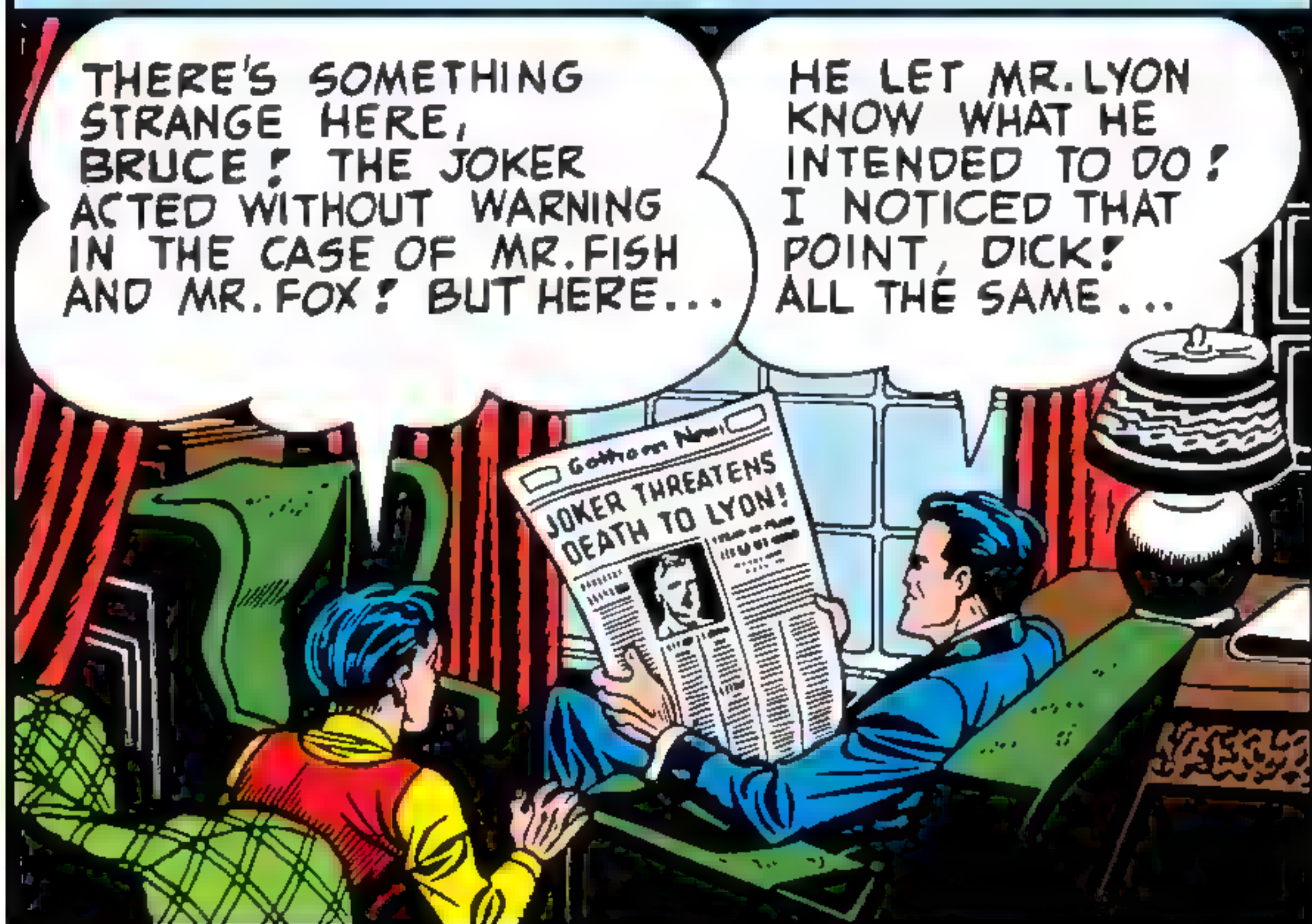
YES, ALL GOTHAM KNOWS AND FEARS THE MASTER MUMMER'S MOCKERY! AND SO, ALMOST NO ONE IS SURPRISED WHEN THE FOLLOWING DAY...



ALAS, NOT EVERYONE CAN BE JONES! THERE ARE EVEN A FEW UNFORTUNATES WHO ARE NAMED...WELL, SEE FOR YOURSELF...



STOP THE JOKER? IT ISN'T AS EASY AS IT SOUNDS... AND YOU CAN TAKE THE WORD OF BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, FOR IT? THAT VERY EVENING...

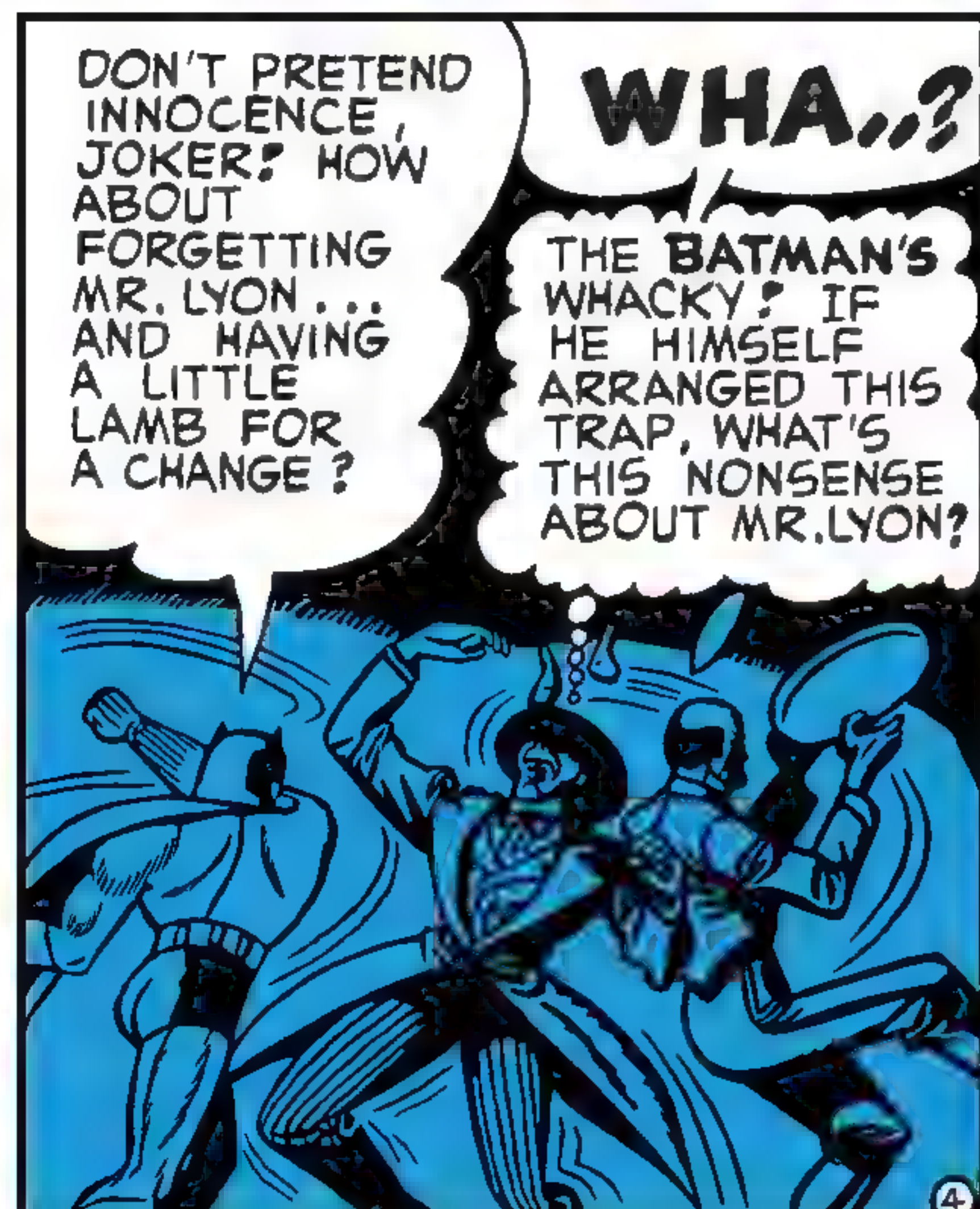
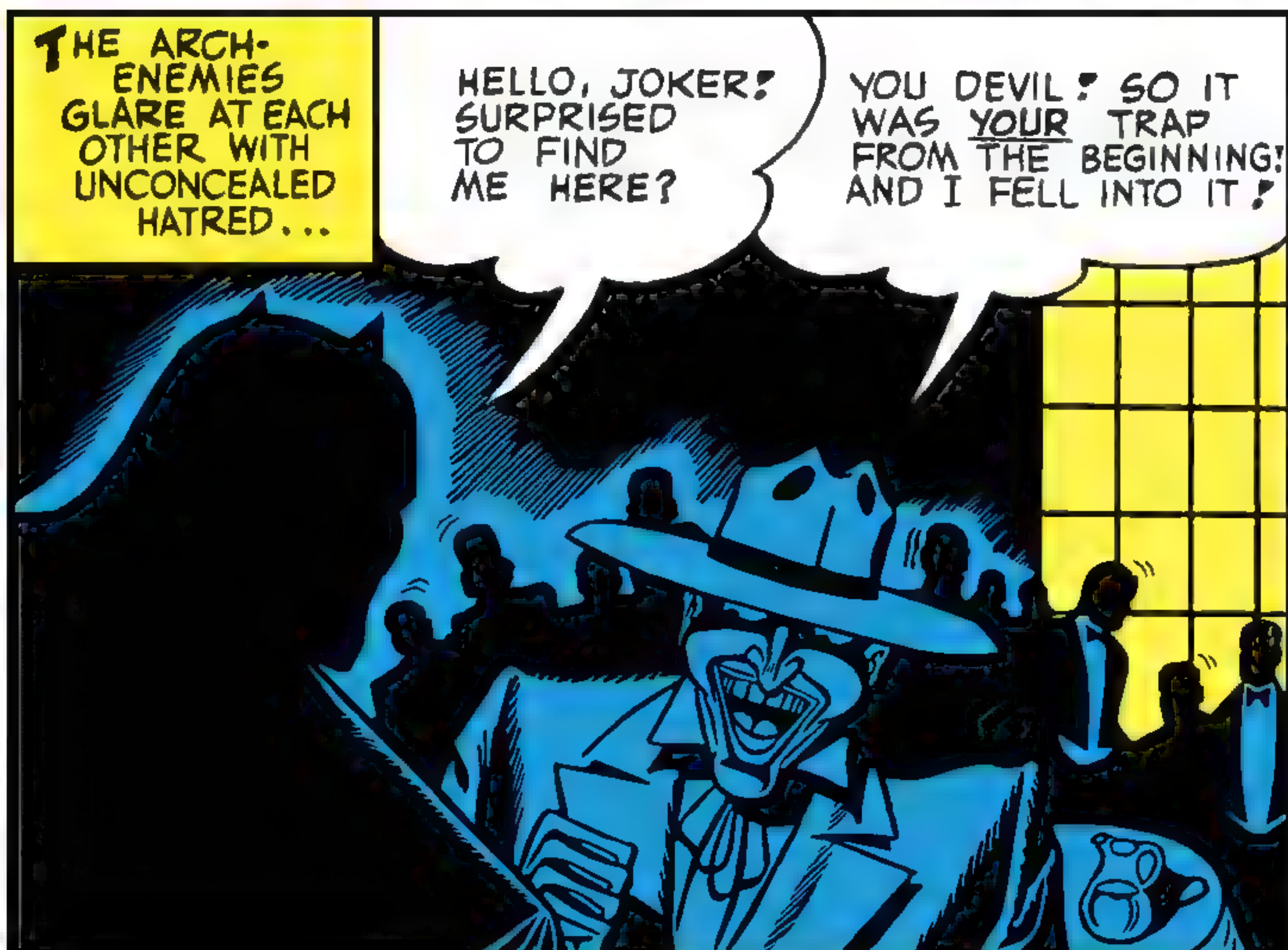
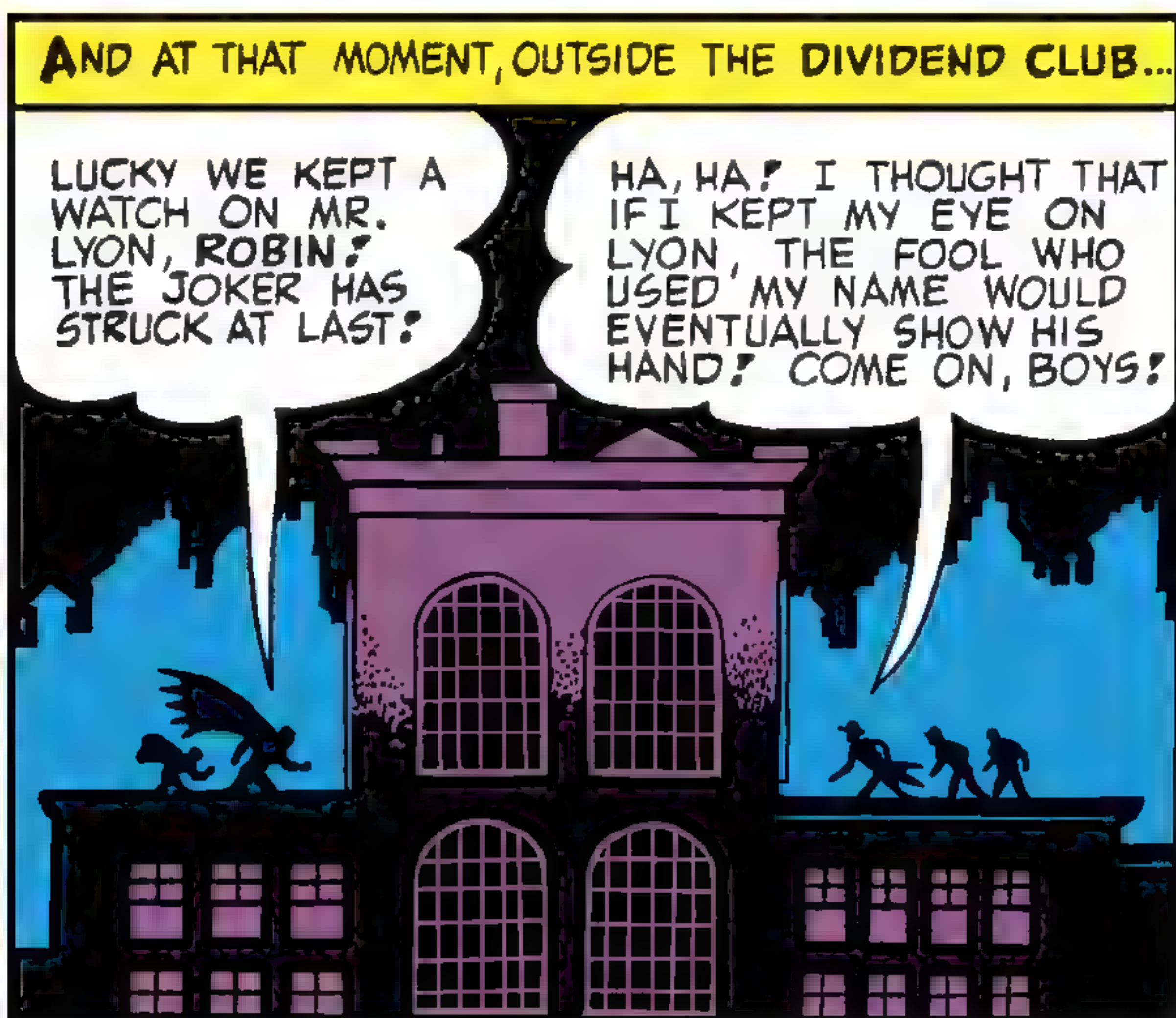
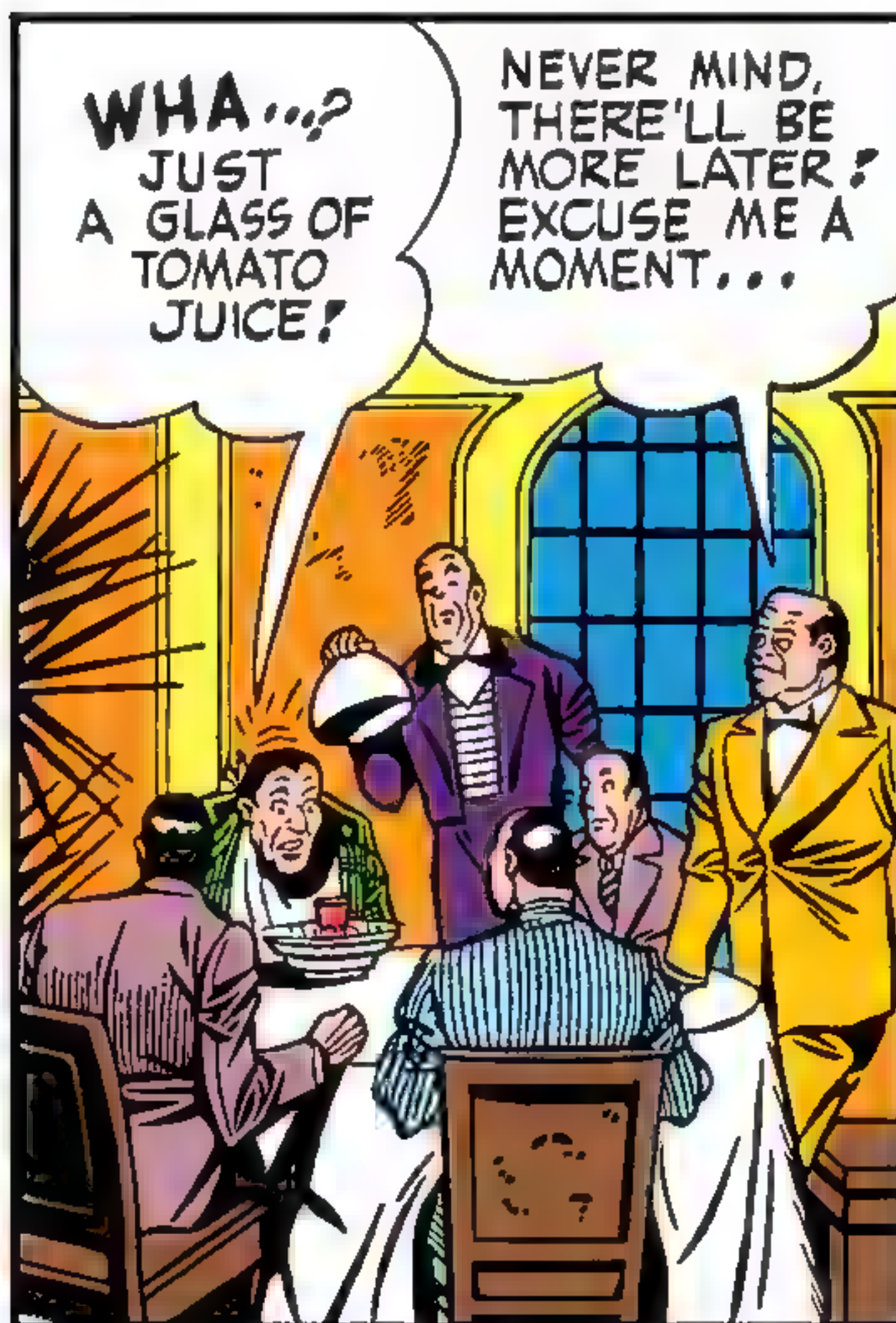


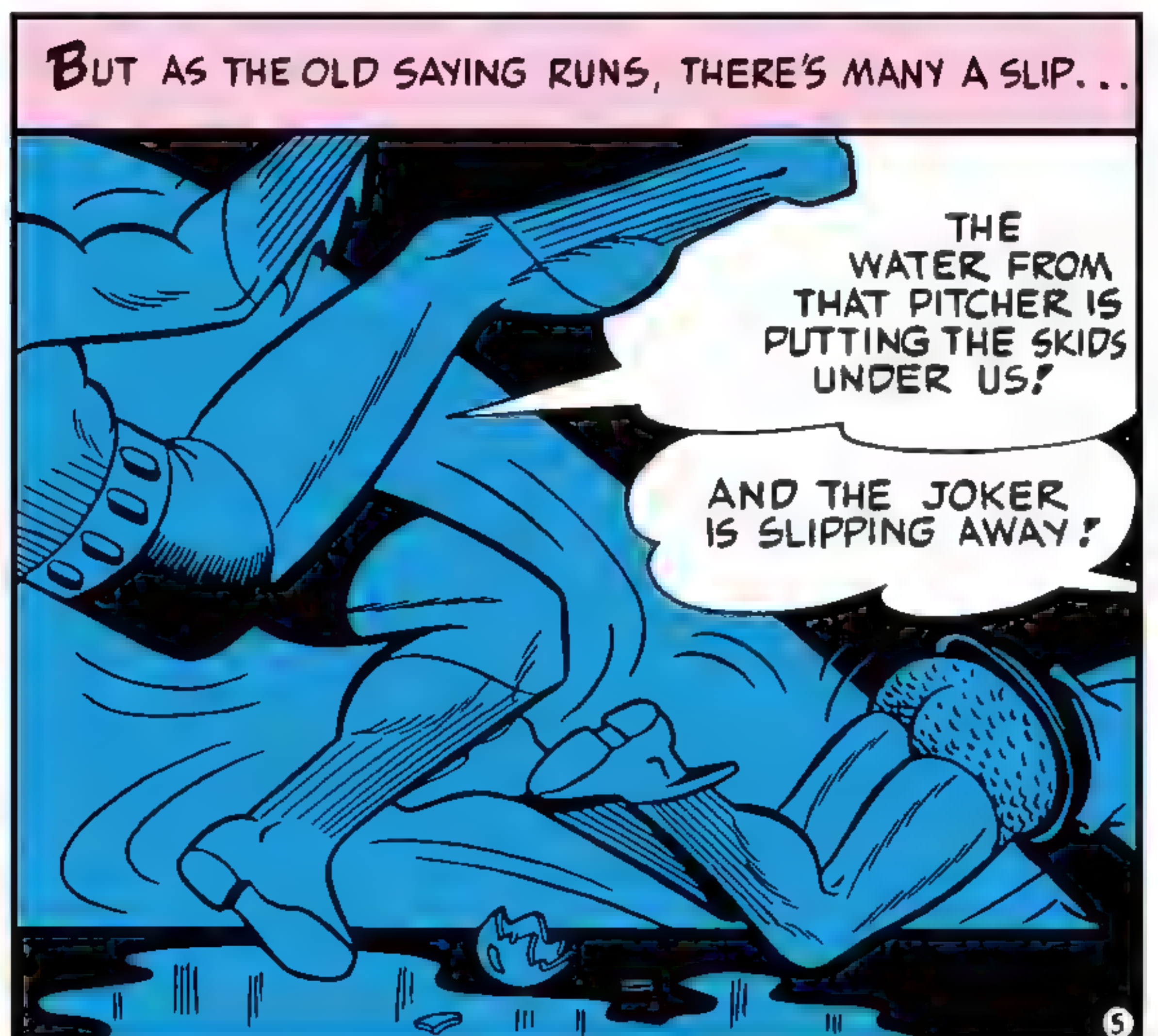
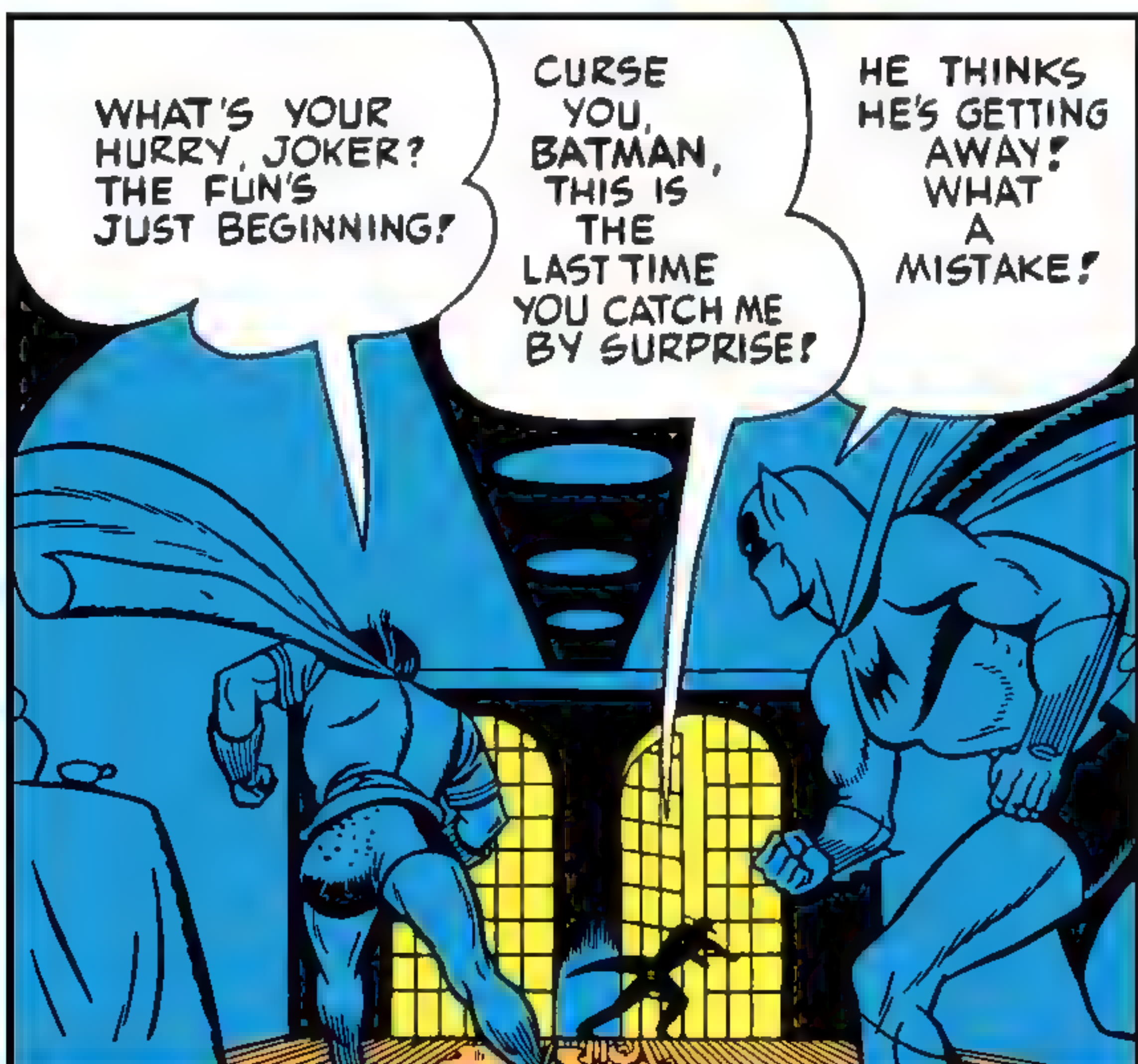
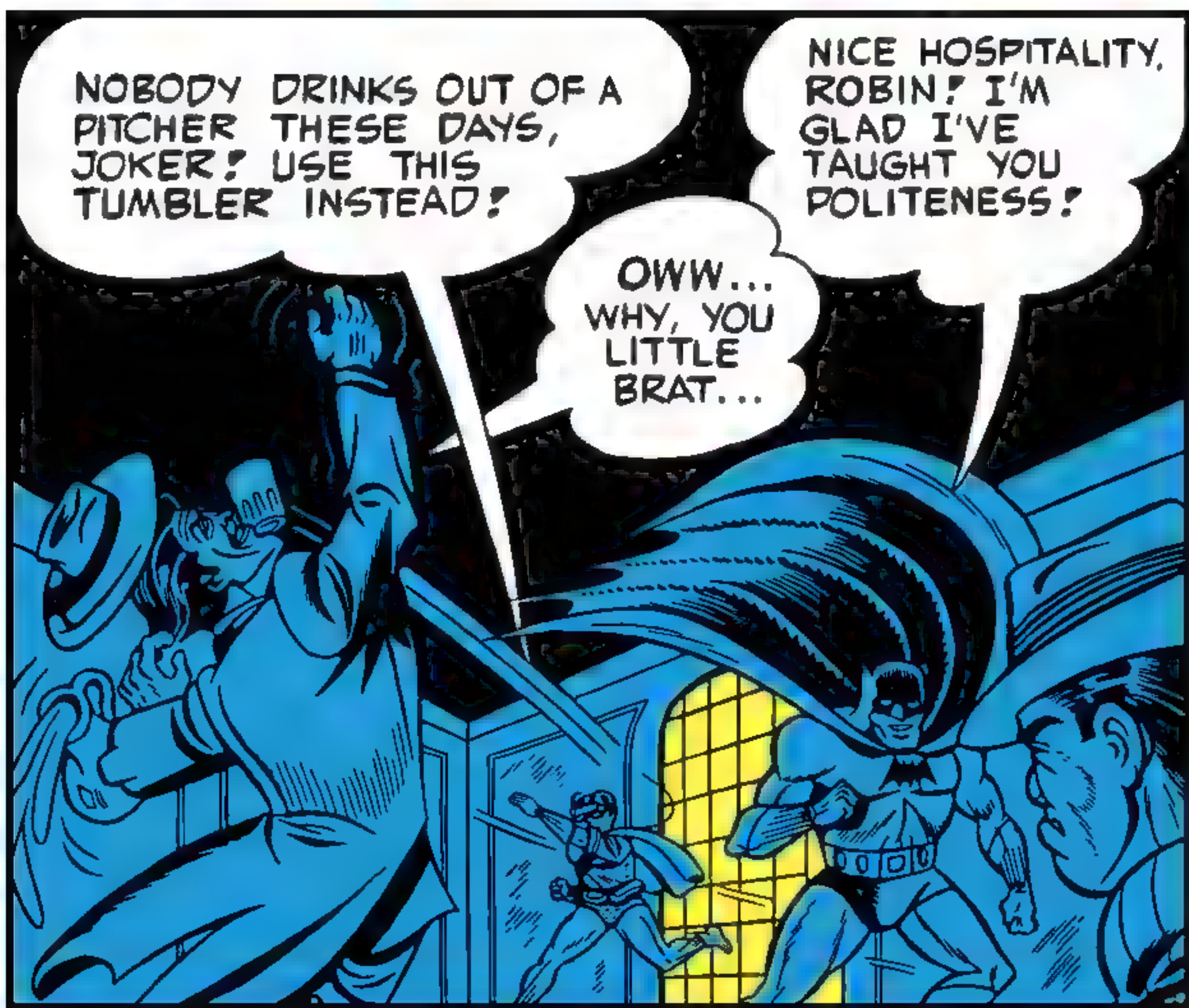
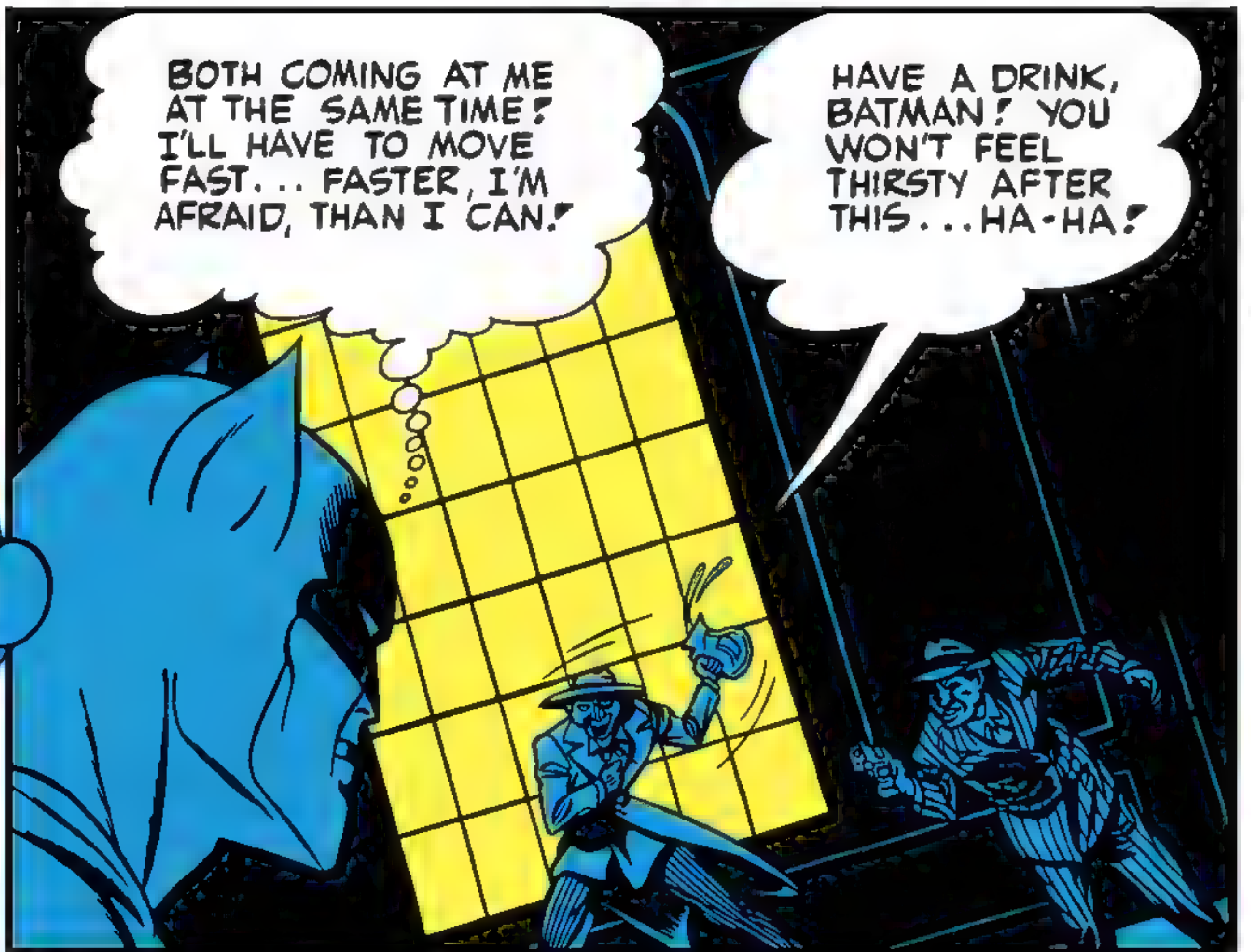
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, DICK! THIS TIME, EVEN THE MASTER OF MOCKERY IS BAFFLED BY THE SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS EVENTS!



HMM...THE EVIL KING OF JESTERS INNOCENT, FOR ONCE? THEN WHAT CUNNING KNAVE IS GUILTY? LET US WATCH TREMBLING MR. LYON, AS, DISSATISFIED WITH POLICE PROTECTION, HE HIRES A BODYGUARD OF HIS OWN...







BUT MEANWHILE, WHAT OF POOR MR. LYON? WELL, AT THE MOMENT, POOR MR. LYON IS... RICH!

HERE'S THE SWAG FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE! AFTER YOU DOUSED THE LIGHTS, WE GRABBED THE DOUGH!

CAREFUL, MULLIGAN, DON'T LET THESE PEOPLE SEE!

WHAT A SHOCK WHEN THEY LEARN I'M THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO FISH AND FOX, NOT THE JOKER! AND THAT I THREATENED MYSELF, MERELY TO HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR HIRING A BODYGUARD!

AND FOR GETTIN' US INTO A PLACE WE COULDN'T HAVE GOT INTO ANY OTHER WAY! DON'T FORGET THAT, BOSS!

BUT LATER...

HUH? THE JOKER IS BEING BLAMED FOR EVERYTHING!

DAILY GLOBE

JOKER

ROBS DIVIDEND CLUB AND ESCAPES

MR. LYON DISAPPEARS, FEARED KIDNAPPED!

NOBODY SUSPECTS ME! I CAN SHOW MYSELF AGAIN, SAY I RAN AWAY TO ESCAPE THE JOKER... AND PULL OFF ANOTHER JOB!

YEAH, BUT NEXT TIME, BOSS, EVERYBODY WILL KNOW! YOU CAN'T BE THIS LUCKY TWICE!

SO NOBODY SUSPECTS, EH? YOU'RE FORGETTING SOME ONE, MR. LYON... THE CLOWN-KING OF CRIME HIMSELF!

I GET THE BLAME... AND LYON GETS THE LOOT! HA, HA, THE JOKE'S ON ME!

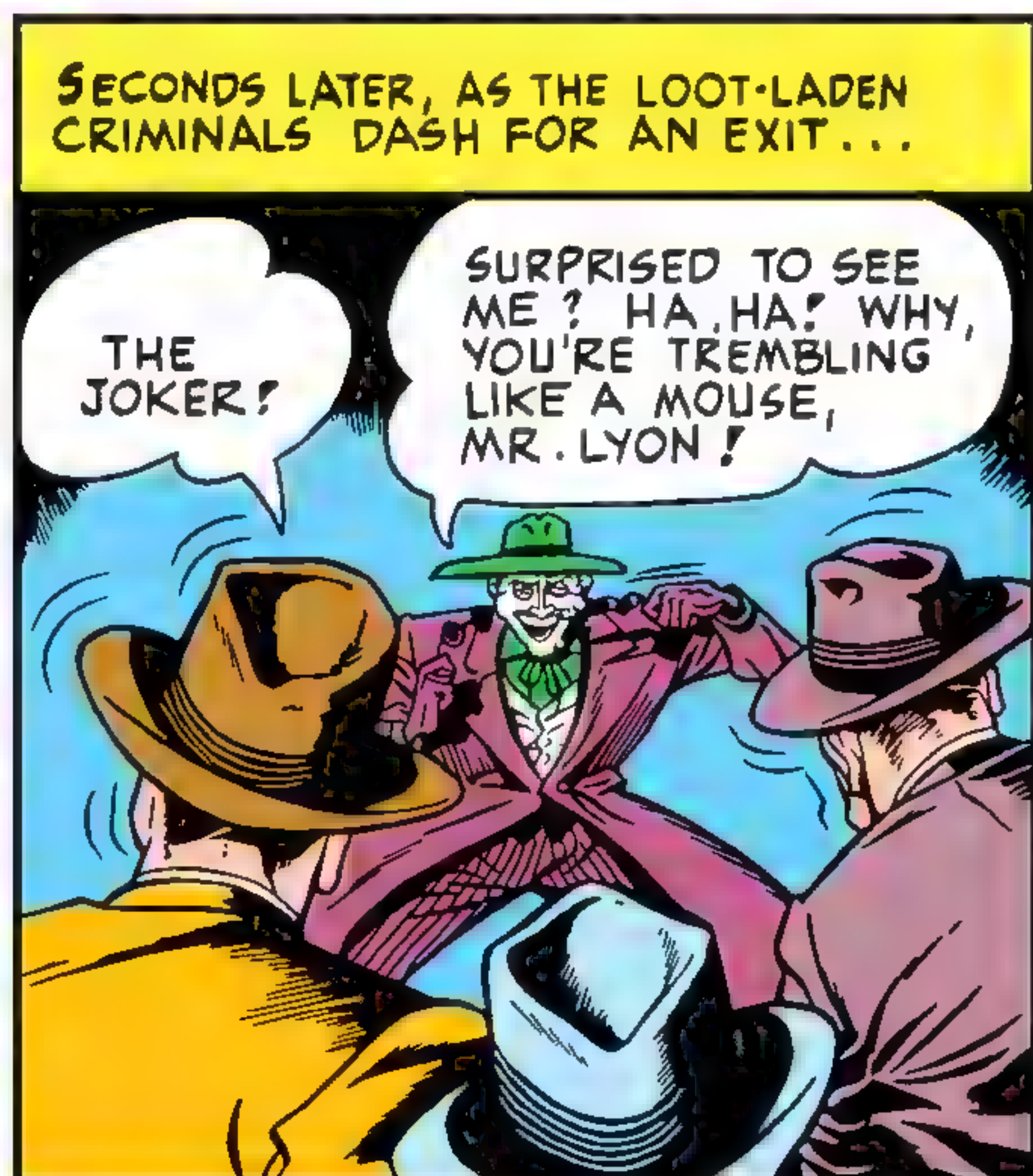
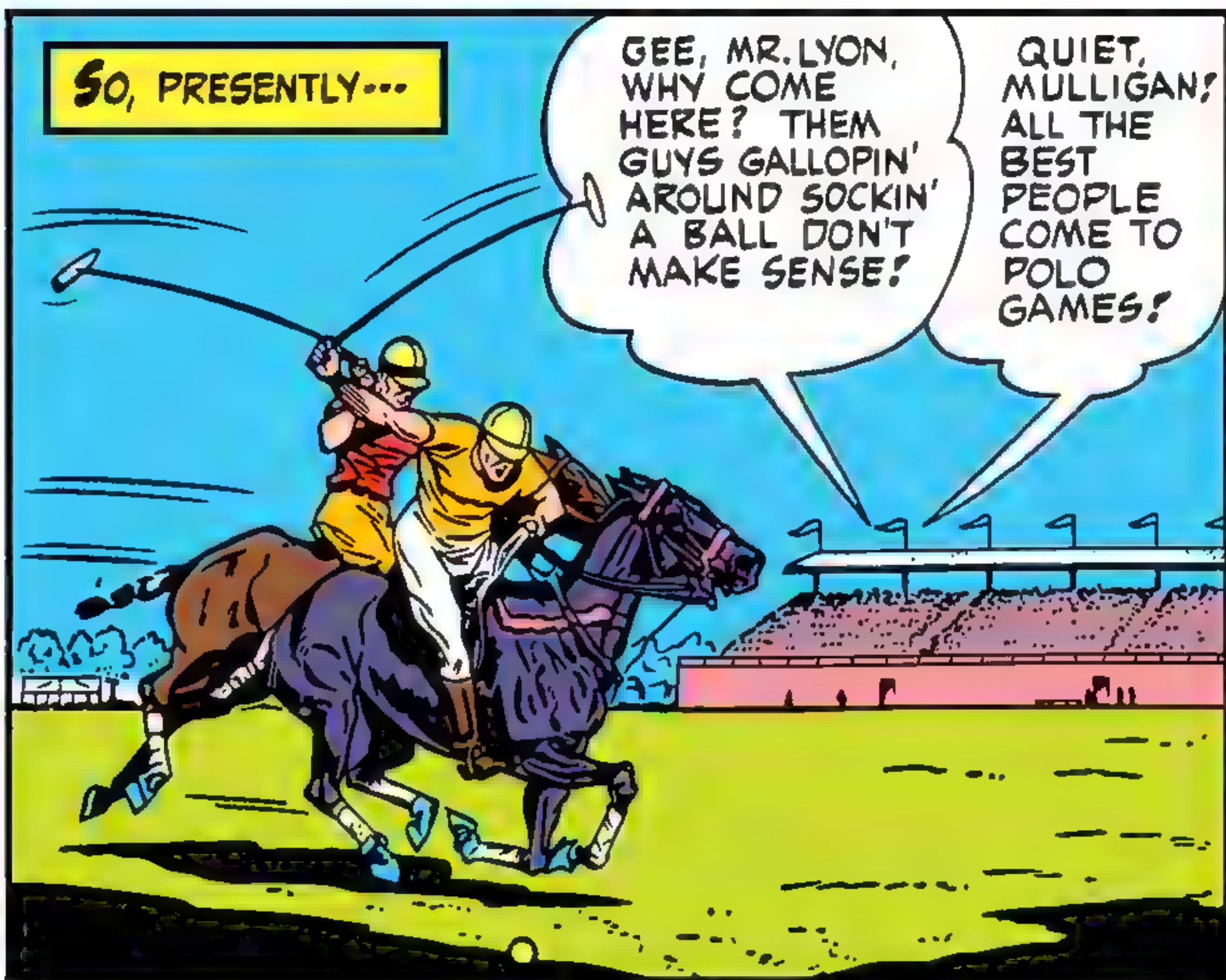
GEE, I NEVER SUSPECTED HE WAS THE ONE UNTIL WE READ THE DOUGH WAS GONE!

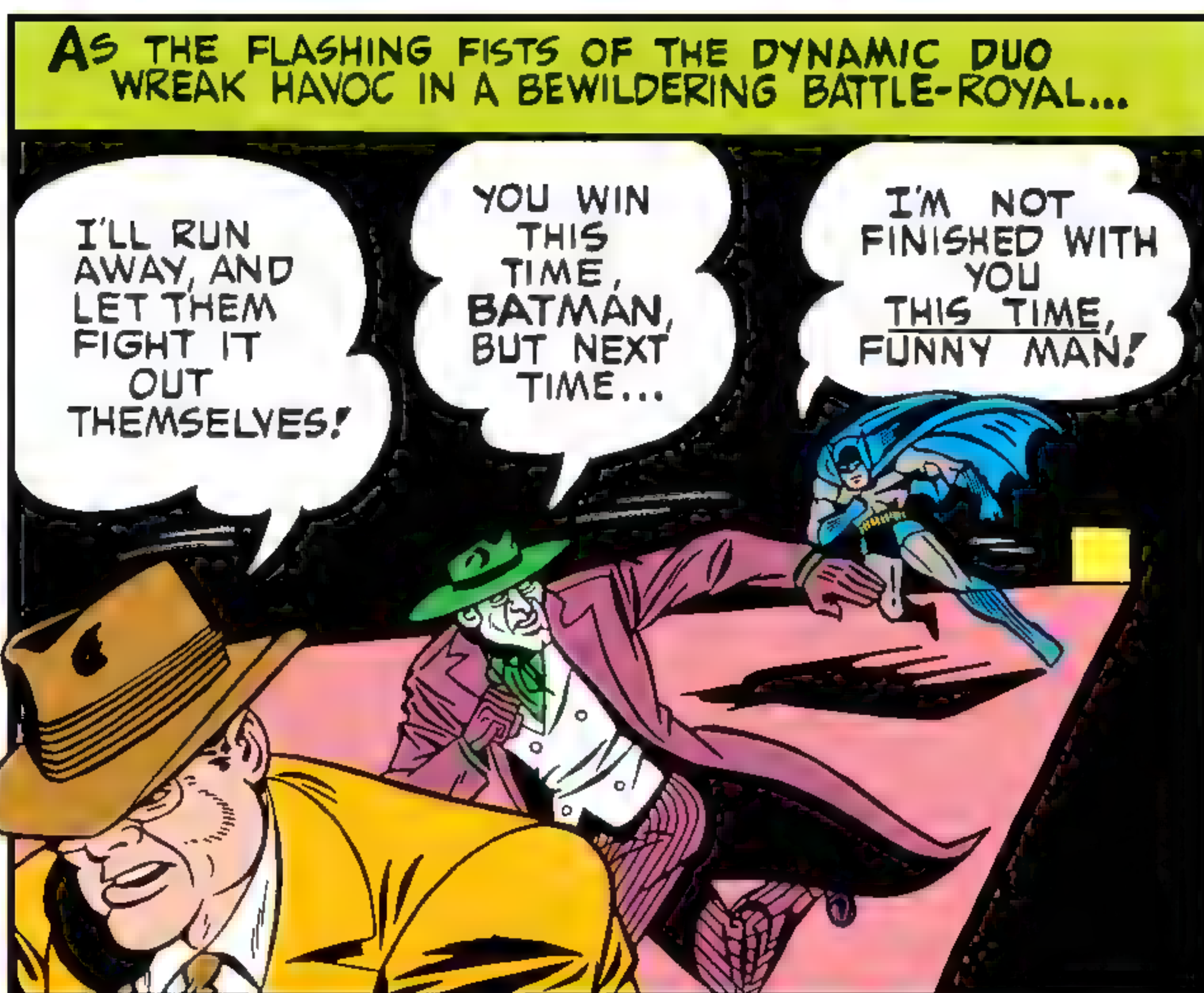
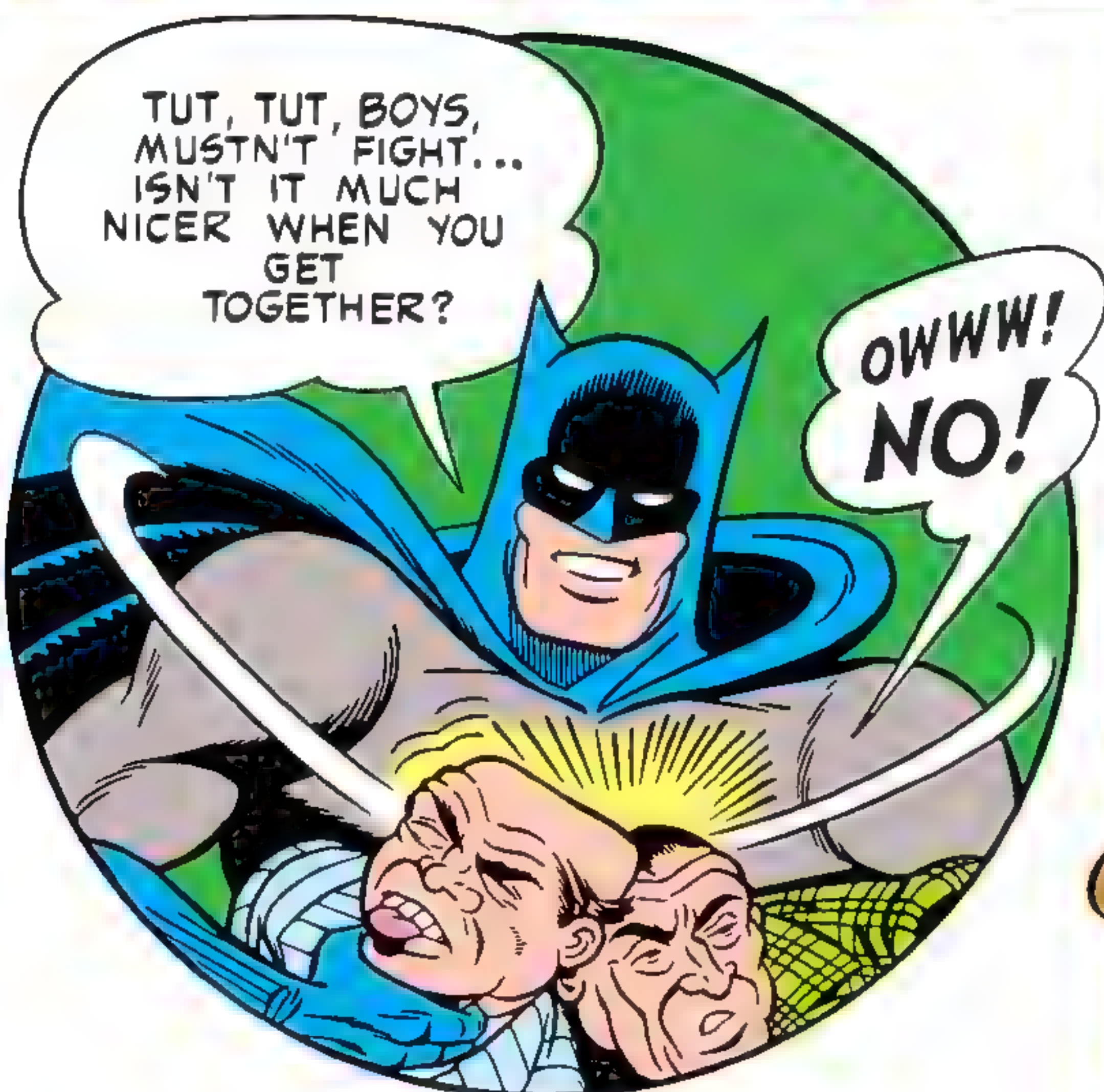
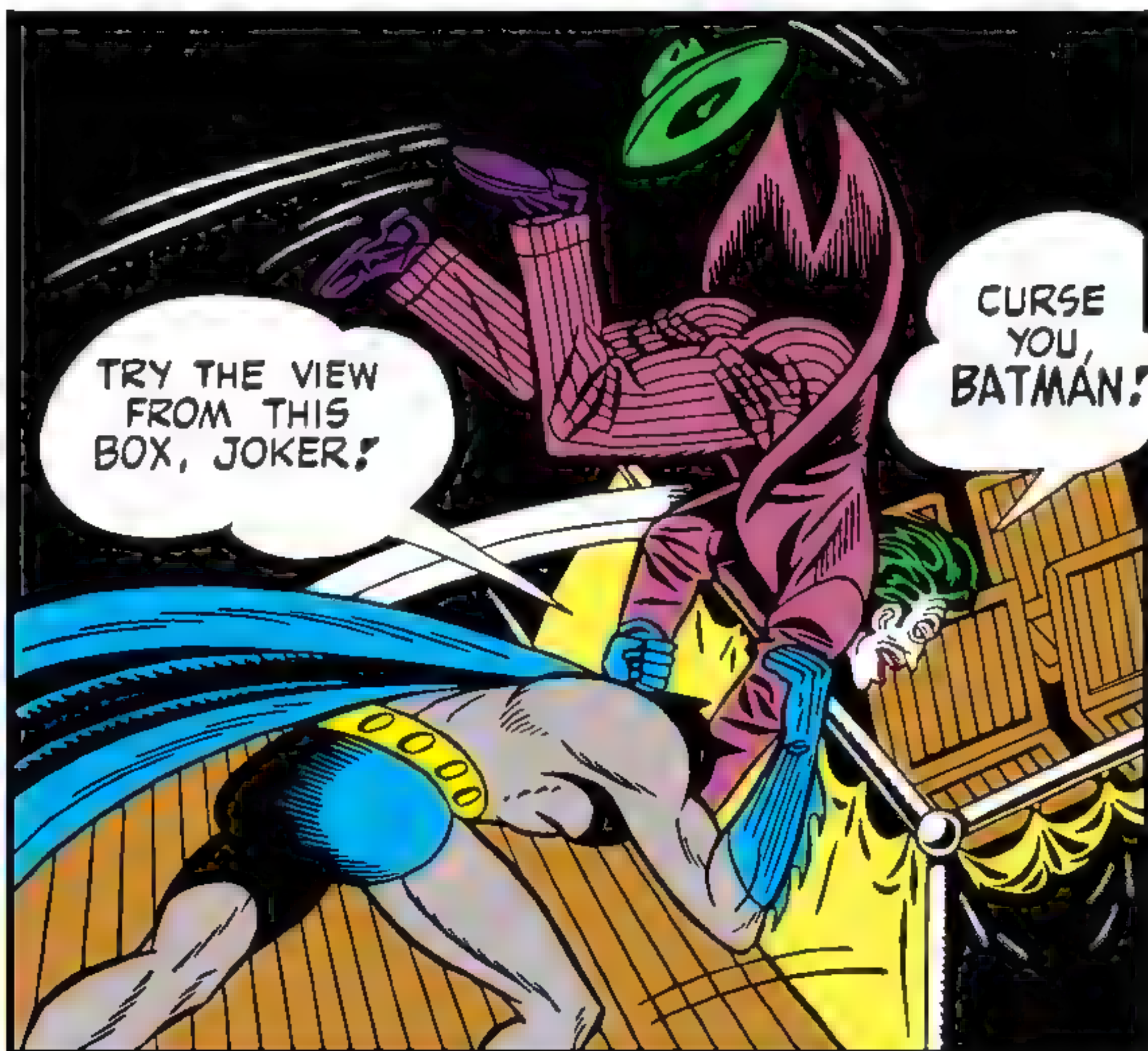
CLEVER SENSE OF HUMOR MR. LYON HAS! I WONDER IF HE'LL LAUGH AFTER THE NEXT TIME HE TANGLES WITH ME! HA, HA!

AND THEN AGAIN, MR. LYON, BATMAN AND ROBIN DON'T NEED MUCH OF A HINT EITHER...

WE KEPT THE JOKER TOO BUSY TO STEAL THAT MONEY... AND BESIDES, HE THOUGHT WE HAD LURED HIM INTO A TRAP! BUT WE'LL KEEP OUR SUSPICIONS TO OURSELVES!

AND OUR EYES ON MR. LYON!





I THINK I'M GOING TO ENJOY THIS GAME! HA, HA!!

AS THE BATMAN'S BACK IS TURNED, THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE SNATCHES A HARD-HIT POLO BALL...

...AND HURLS IT SWIFTLY AT THE UN-SUSPECTING BATMAN...

THIS WILL KNOCK YOU FOR A GOAL, BATMAN!

BUT THE MOCKING MURDERER HAS RECKONED WITHOUT THE BATMAN'S FAITHFUL YOUNG COMPANION!

YOU'VE DONE AS MUCH FOR ME PLENTY OF TIMES, BATMAN!

CRACK!

WHA...? THANKS, ROBIN!

OOOOFFF!

SCORE ONE FOR OUR SIDE!

THIS KID IS TOO SMART!

AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN ROBIN'S FAVOR.. BUT I'D BETTER HURRY!

RING UP ANOTHER GOAL FOR YOURSELF, ROBIN!

CLOP!

HUH...? YOU'RE TAKING THIS GAME SERIOUSLY, BATMAN?

AND NOW, AS THE DYNAMIC DUO POUNDS ITS FALTERING FOES, ENTER FATE, IN THE PERSON OF THE FRIGHTENED MR. LYON!

BATMAN AND ROBIN AFTER ME, THE JOKER WANTING TO STEAL MY LOOT, THE HORSES TRYING TO RUN ME DOWN... I'M SORRY - I... OH...

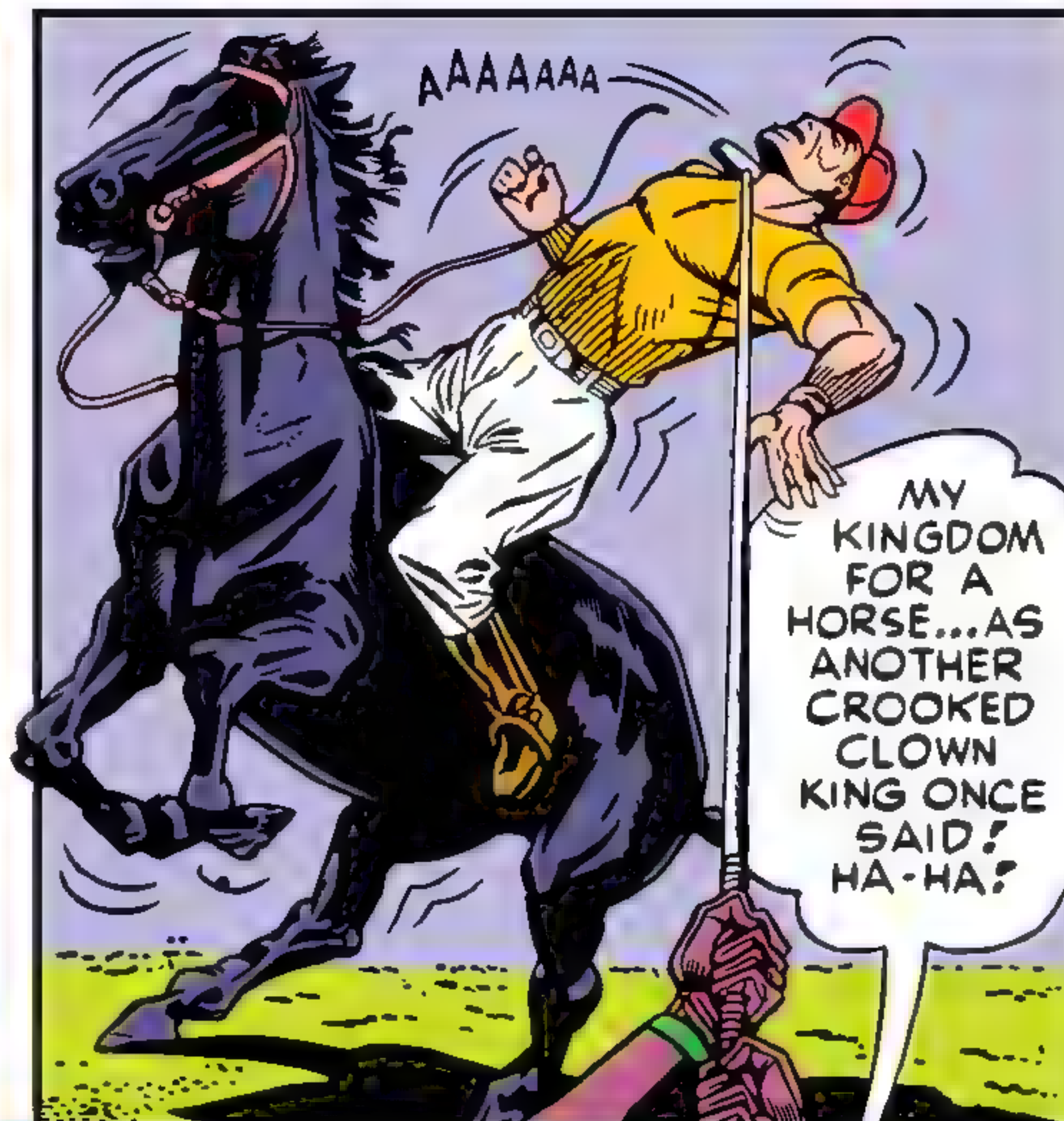
OOOFFFF!

THE MALEVOLENT MIME IS QUICK TO GRASP HIS OPPORTUNITY...

I'VE BEEN WAITING TO CATCH YOU OFF GUARD, BATMAN! NOW I'LL FINISH OFF THAT BRAT OF YOURS, AND THE INTERFERING MR. LYON...

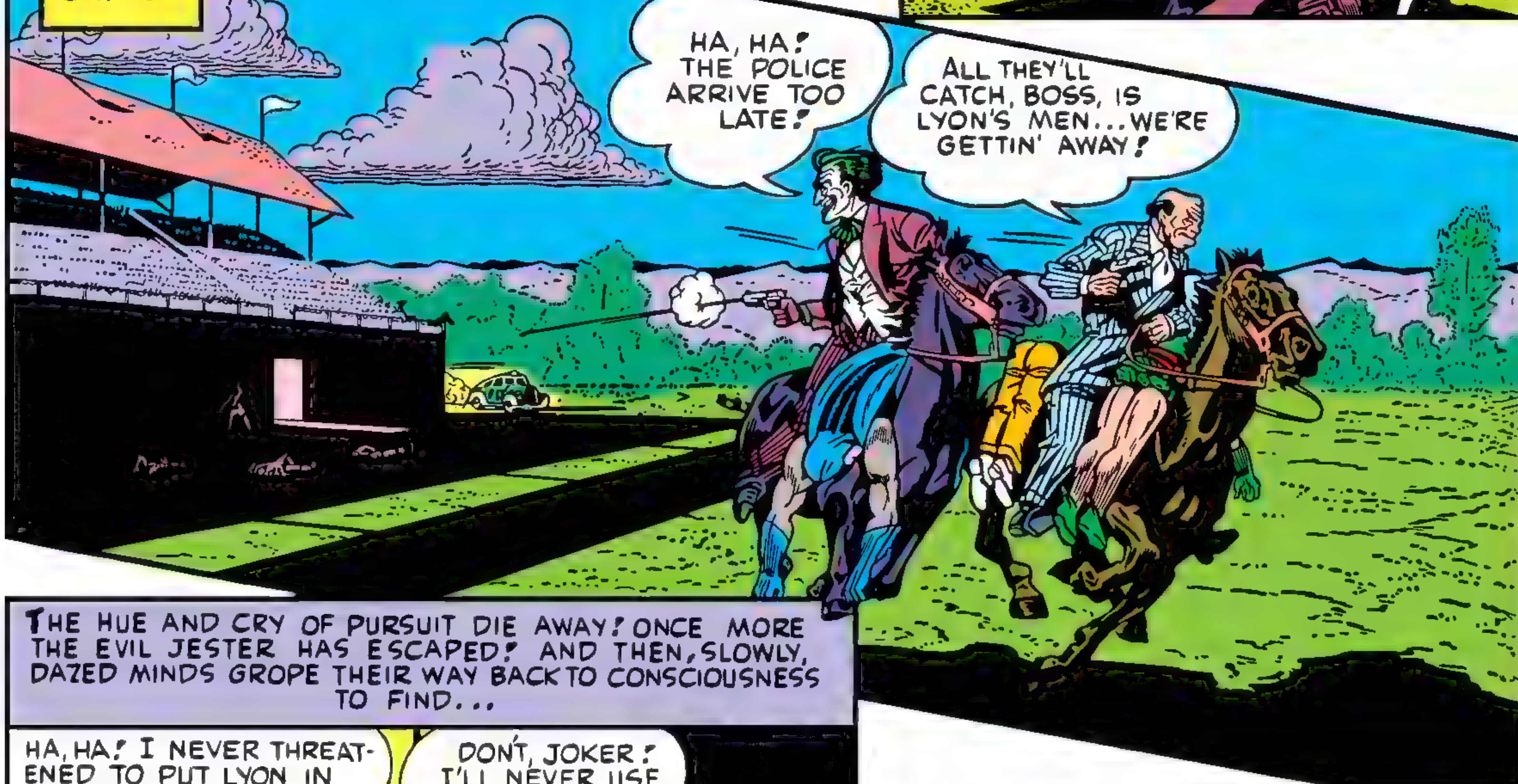


AS THE CONNIVING COMEDIAN'S HENCHMEN DISPOSE OF THEIR REMAINING FOES...



MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE...AS ANOTHER CROOKED CLOWN KING ONCE SAID! HA-HA!

SECONDS LATER..



HA, HA! THE POLICE ARRIVE TOO LATE!

ALL THEY'LL CATCH, BOSS, IS LYON'S MEN...WE'RE GETTIN' AWAY!

THE HUE AND CRY OF PURSUIT DIE AWAY! ONCE MORE THE EVIL JESTER HAS ESCAPED! AND THEN, SLOWLY, DAZED MINDS GROPE THEIR WAY BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS TO FIND...

HA, HA! I NEVER THREATENED TO PUT LYON IN THE LION'S CAGE... BUT I DON'T OVERLOOK GOOD IDEAS, BATMAN! I'LL LOCK YOU IN, THEN THROW THE KEYS JUST OUT OF YOUR REACH!

DON'T, JOKER! I'LL NEVER USE YOUR NAME AGAIN!



YOU FIEND!

GGGRRRRRR!

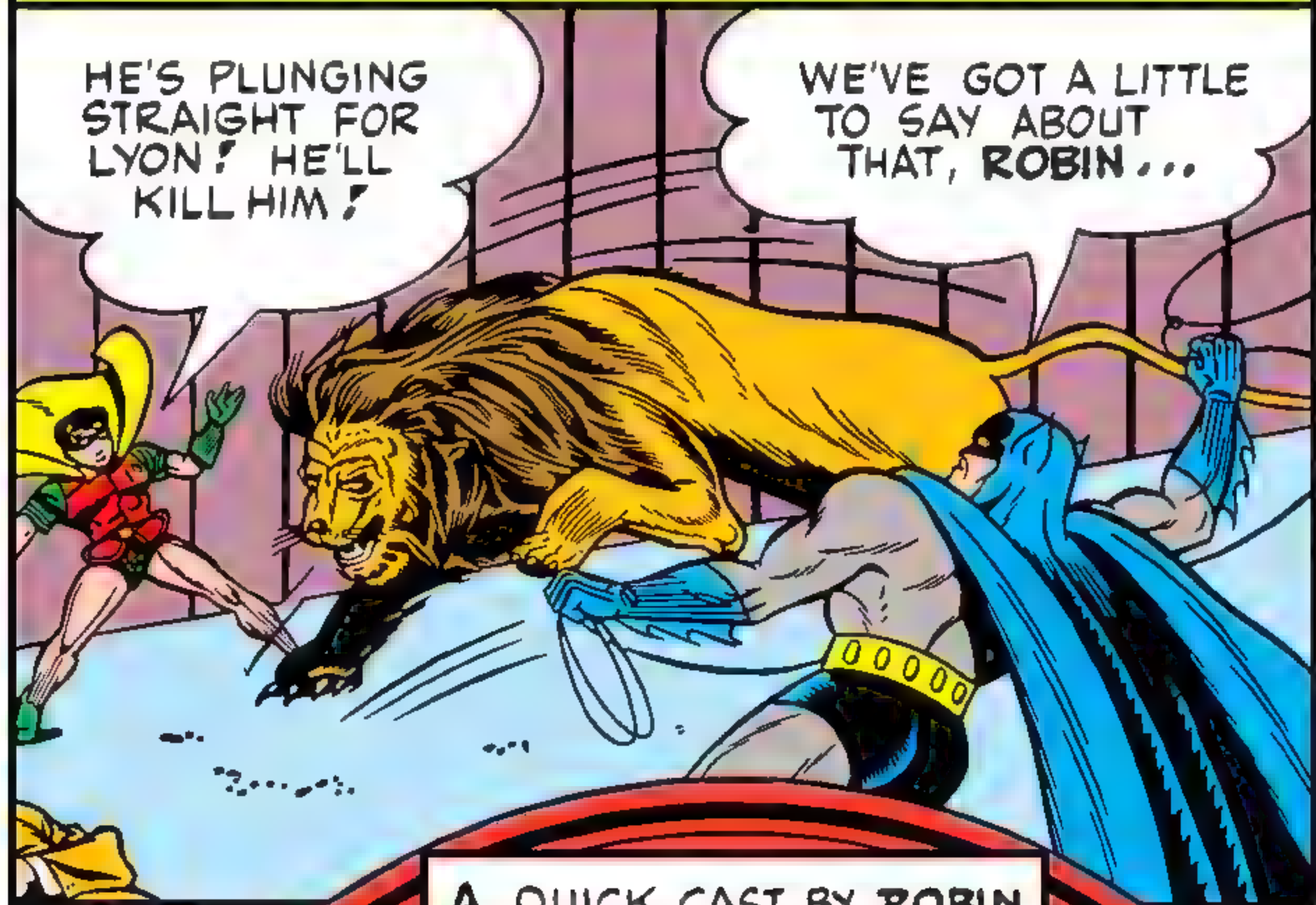


I'LL TAKE THE OTHER LION'S WORD FOR IT... HA, HA!

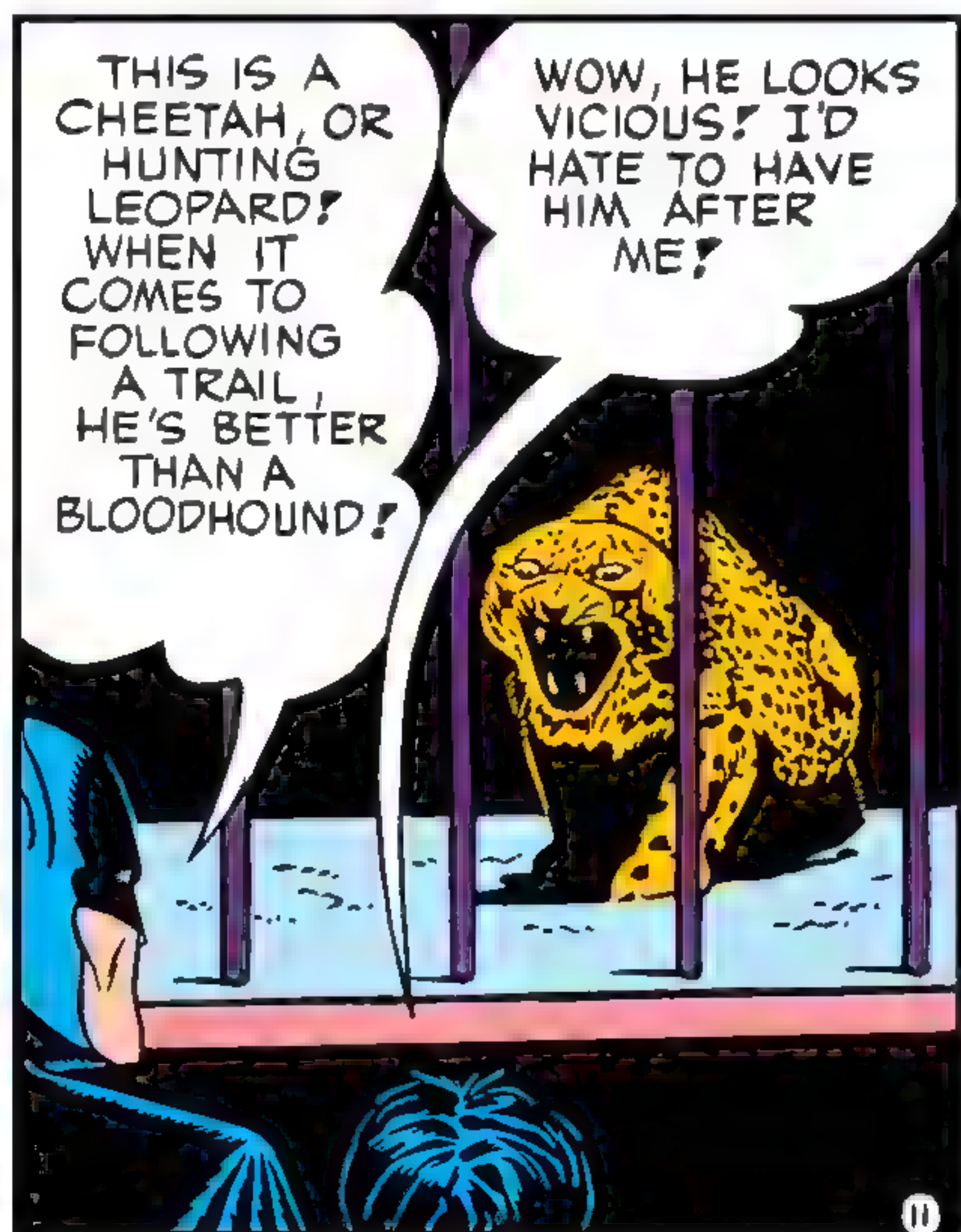
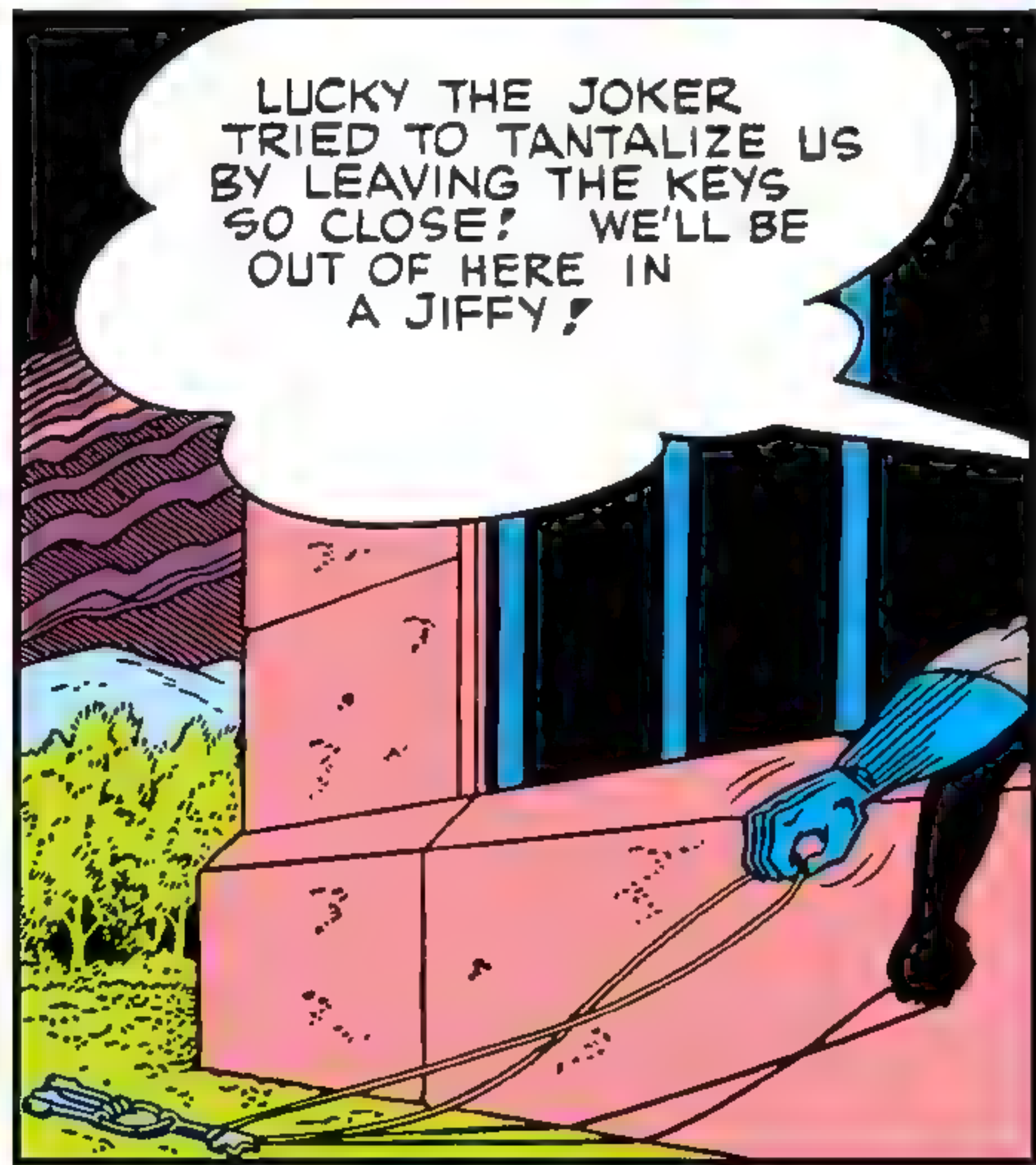
HE'S FAINTED! I'LL TRY TO ATTRACT THE LION'S ATTENTION, ROBIN - YOU SLIP TO ONE SIDE!

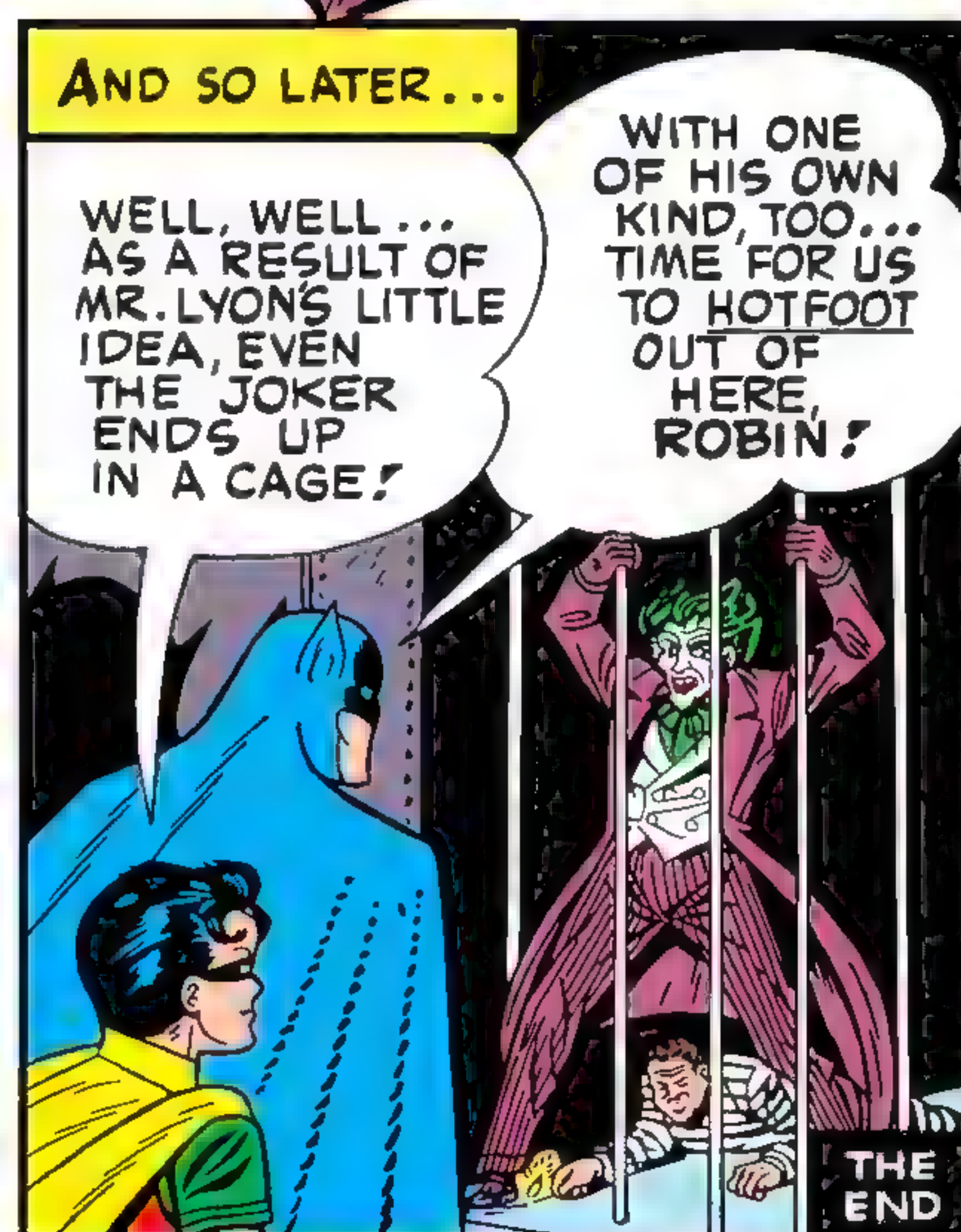
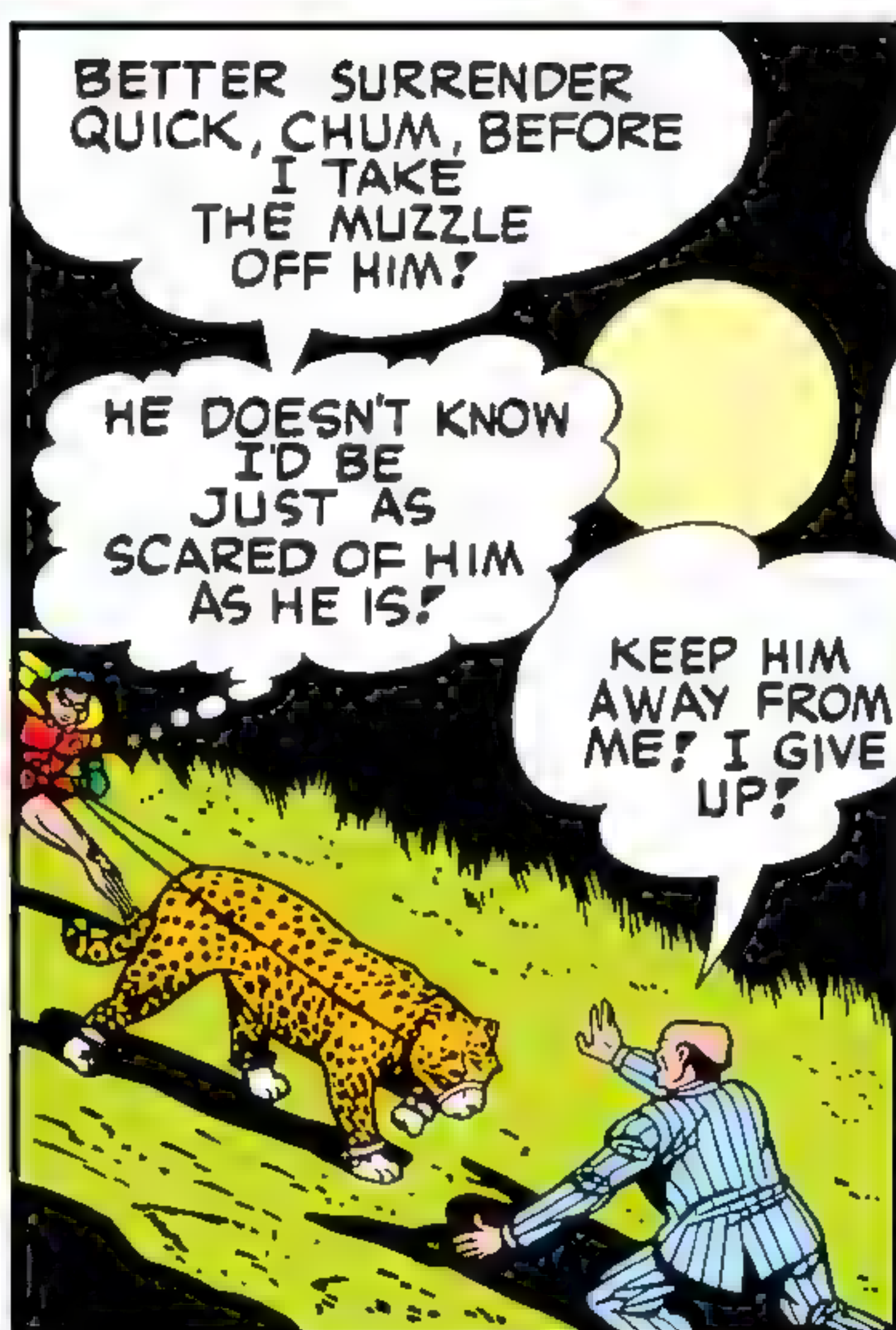
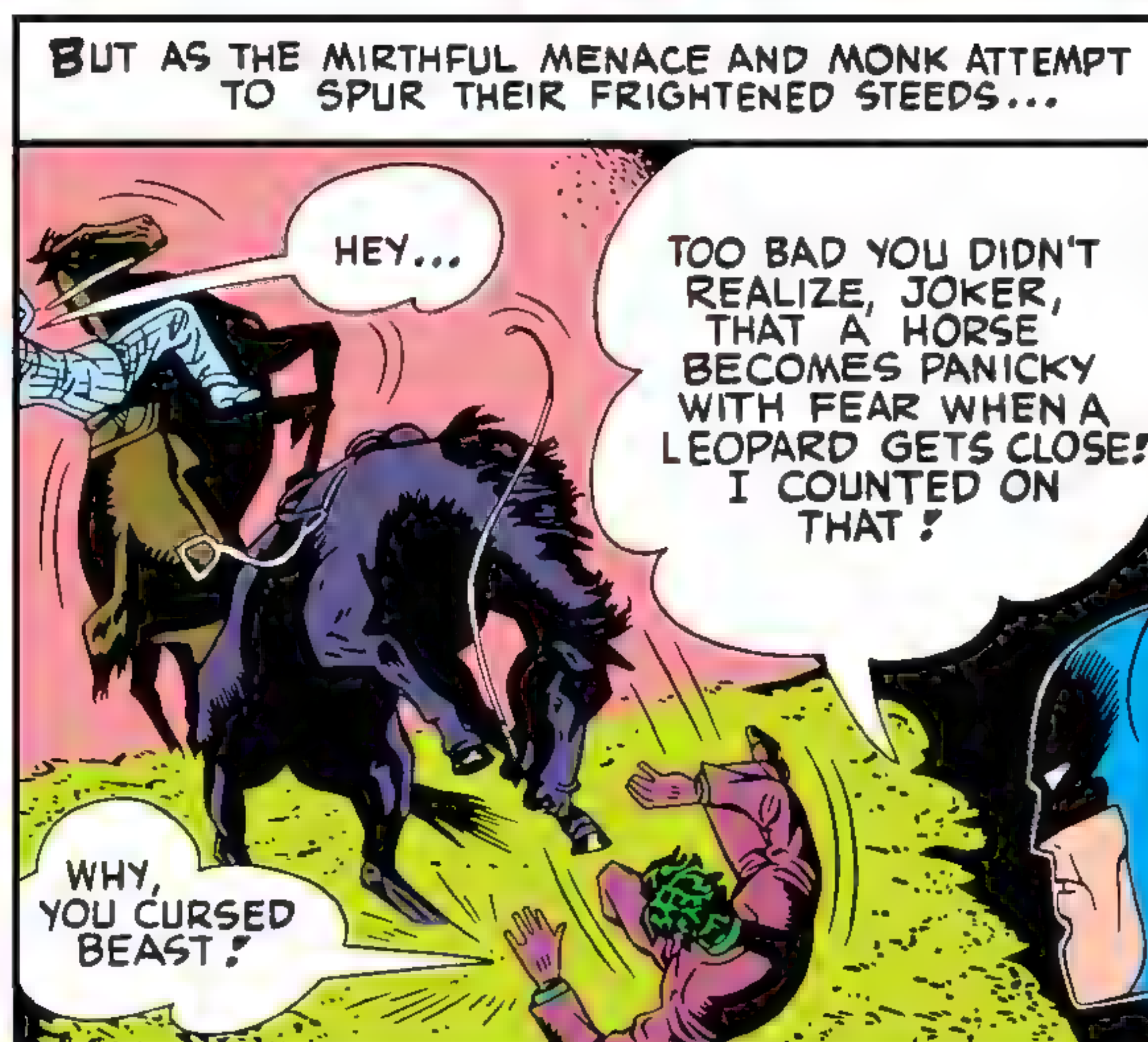
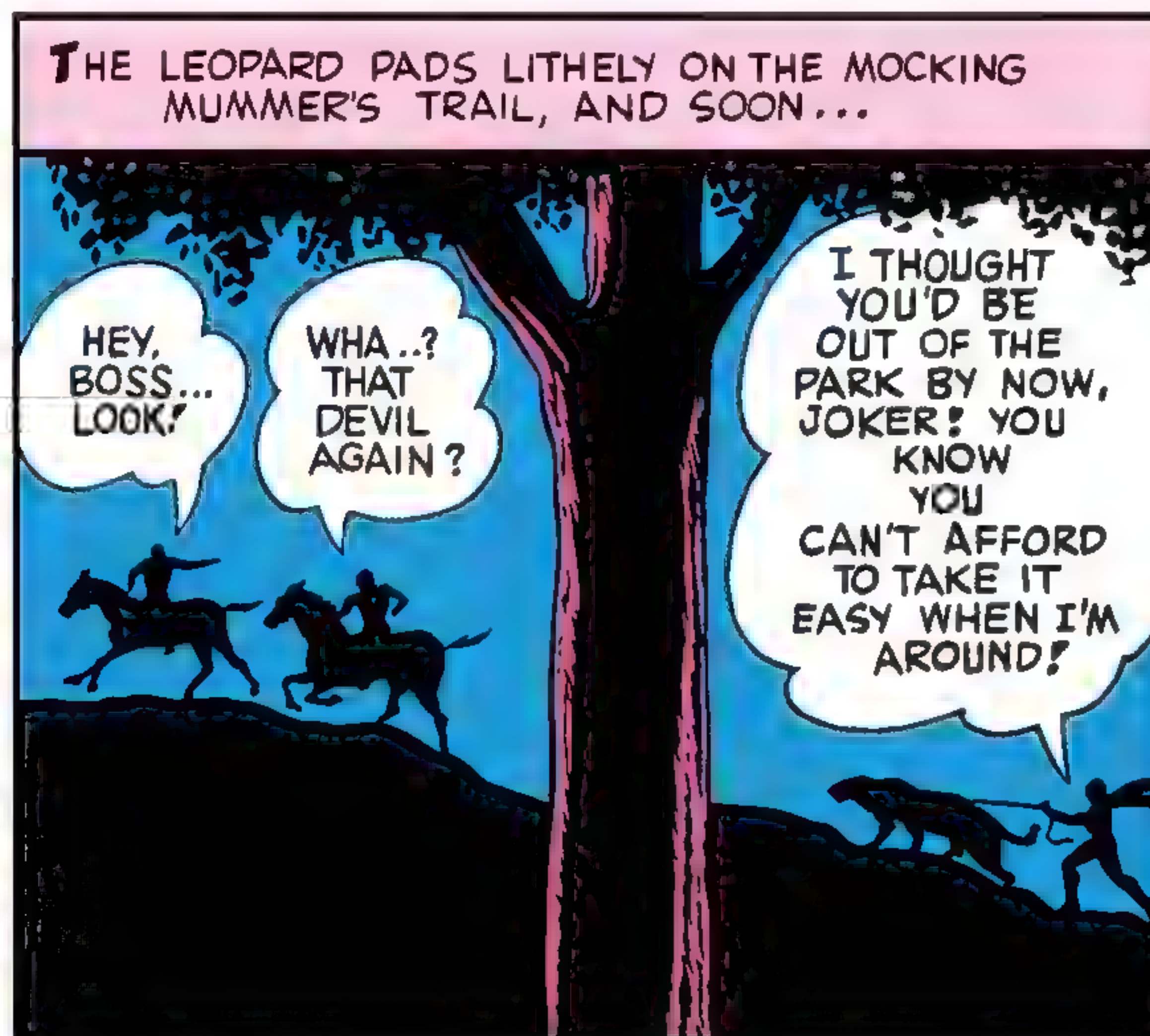
OH MY!

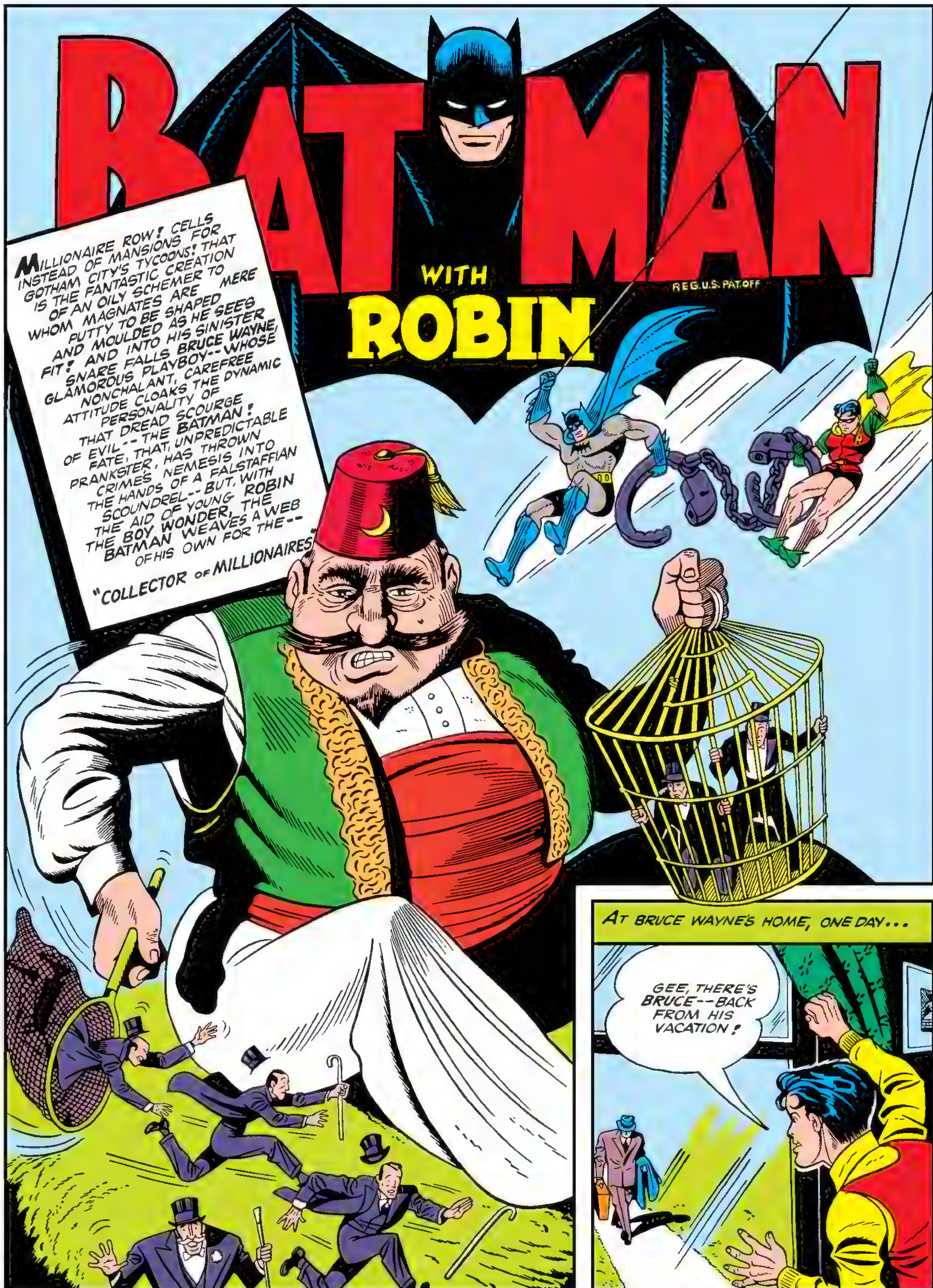
BUT THE AROUSED KING OF BEASTS DISREGARDS THE MANTLED FIGURE OF THE BATMAN! AS THE MOCKING LAUGHTER OF THE CLOWN KILLER DIES AWAY...

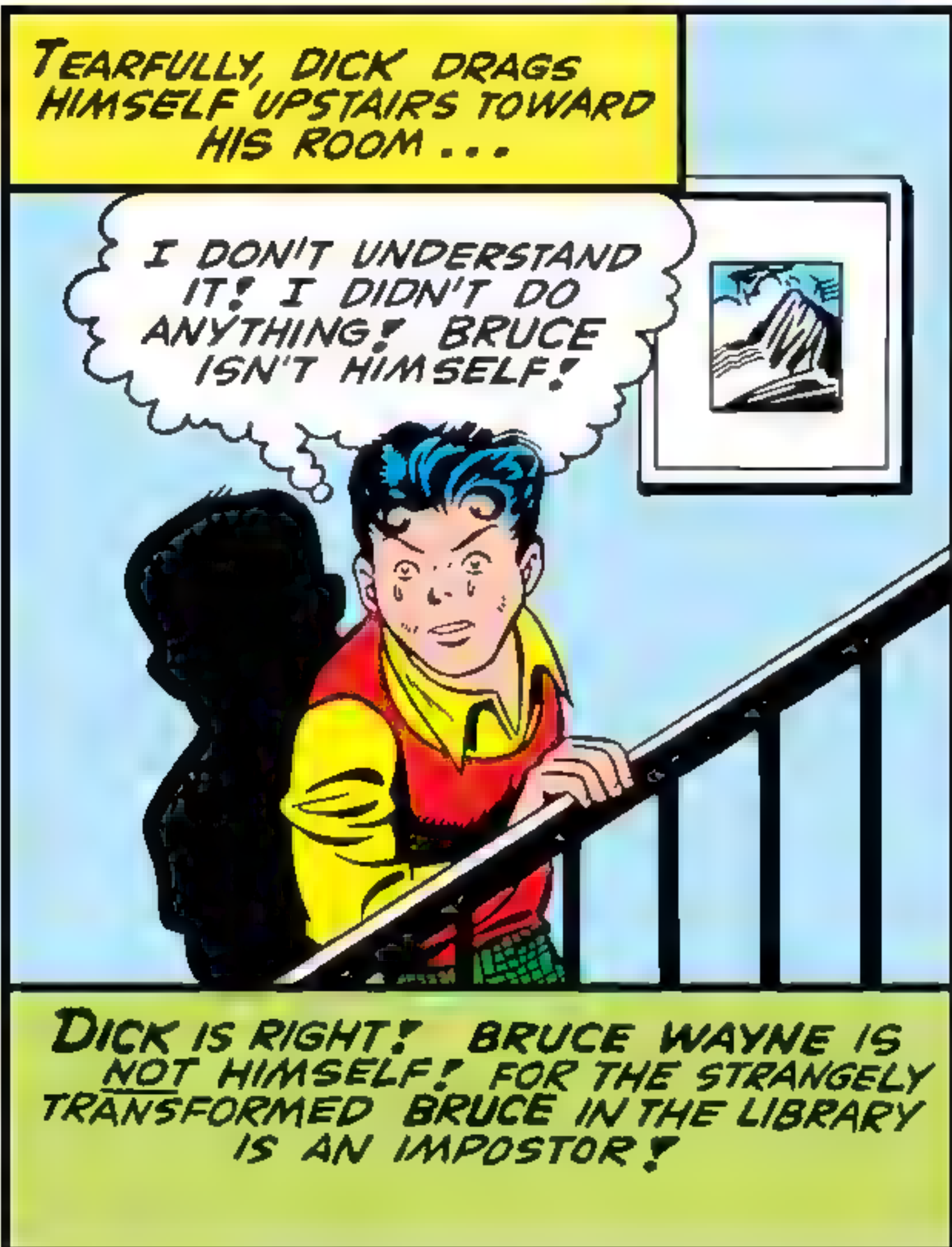


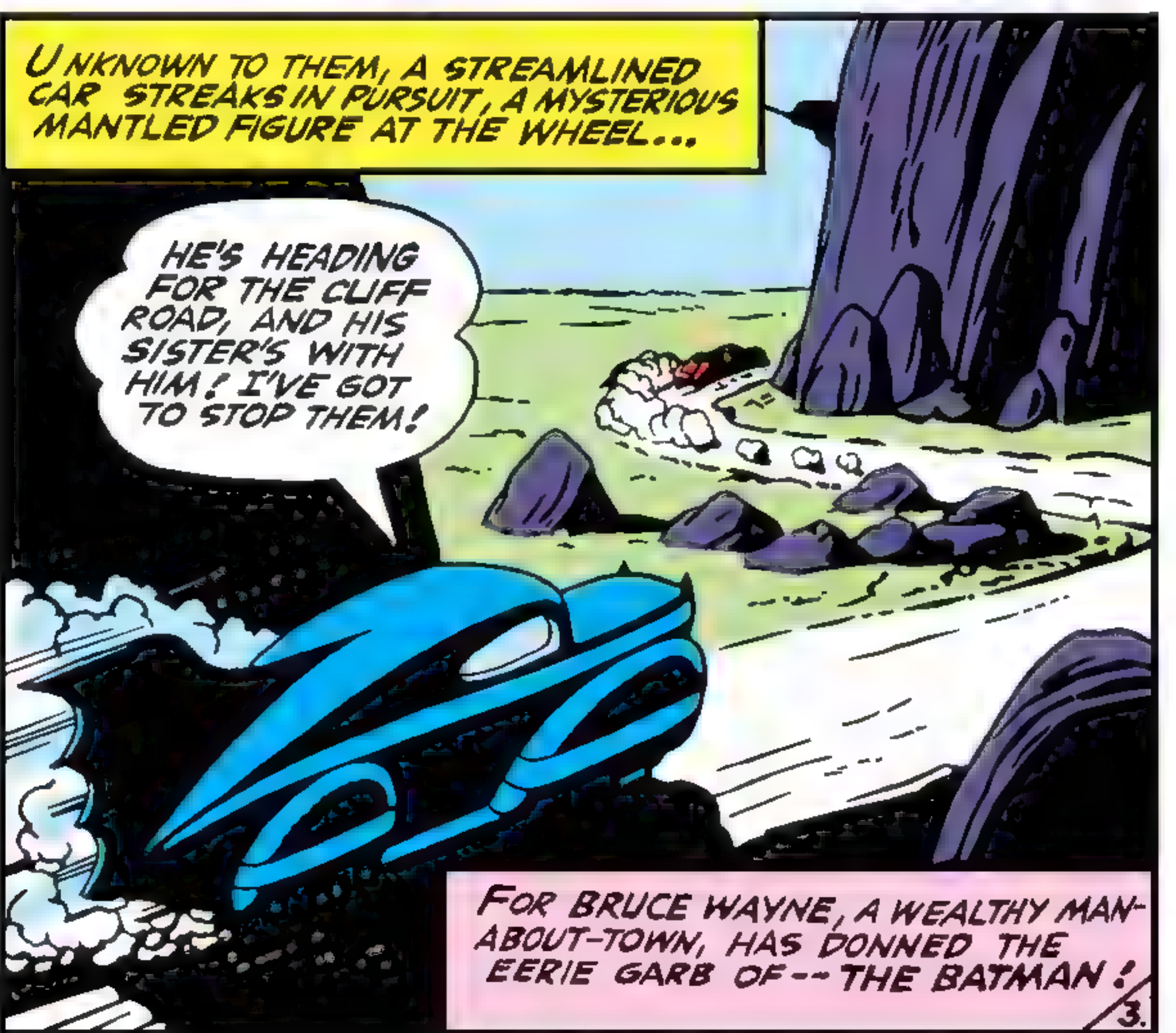
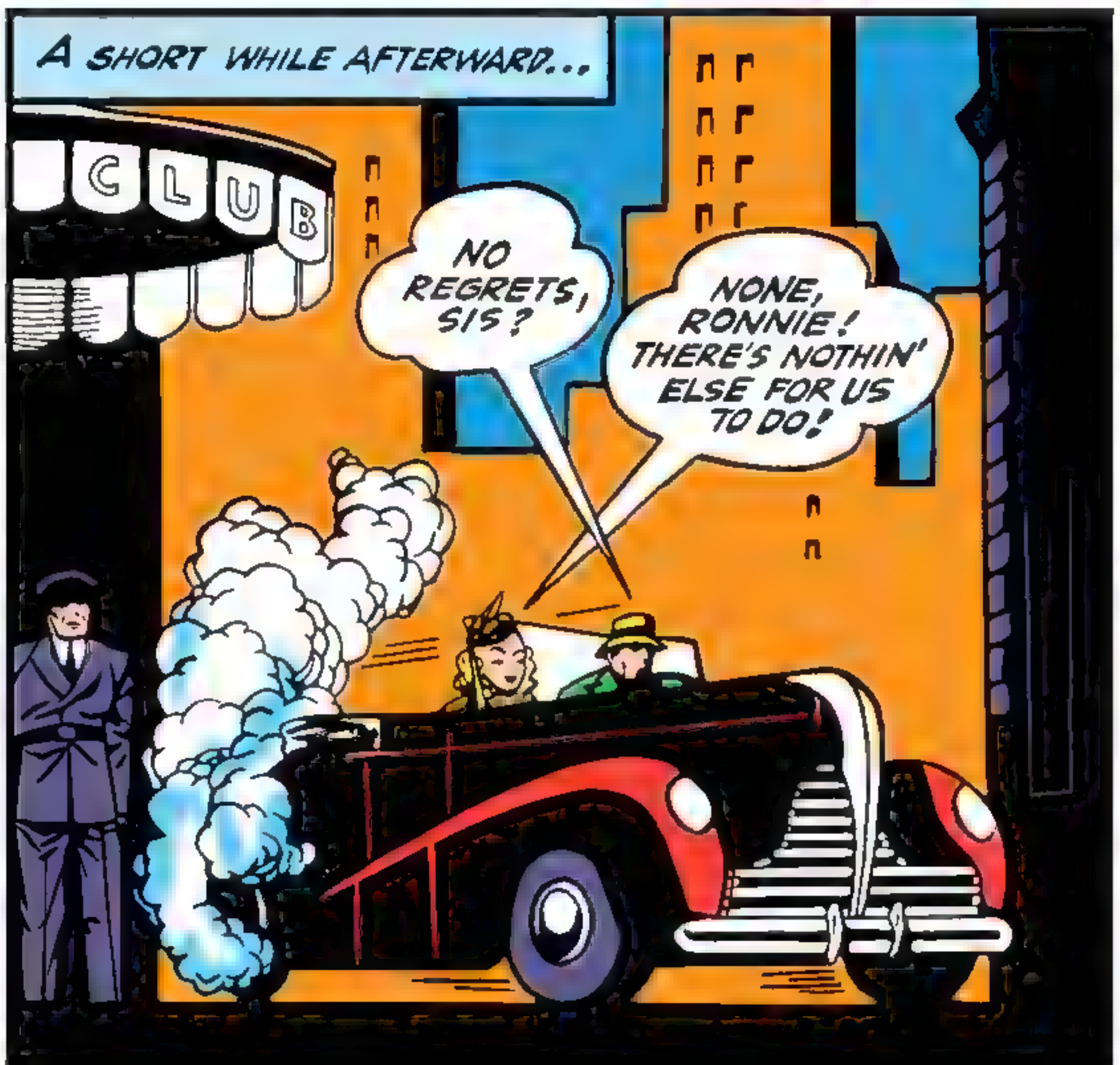
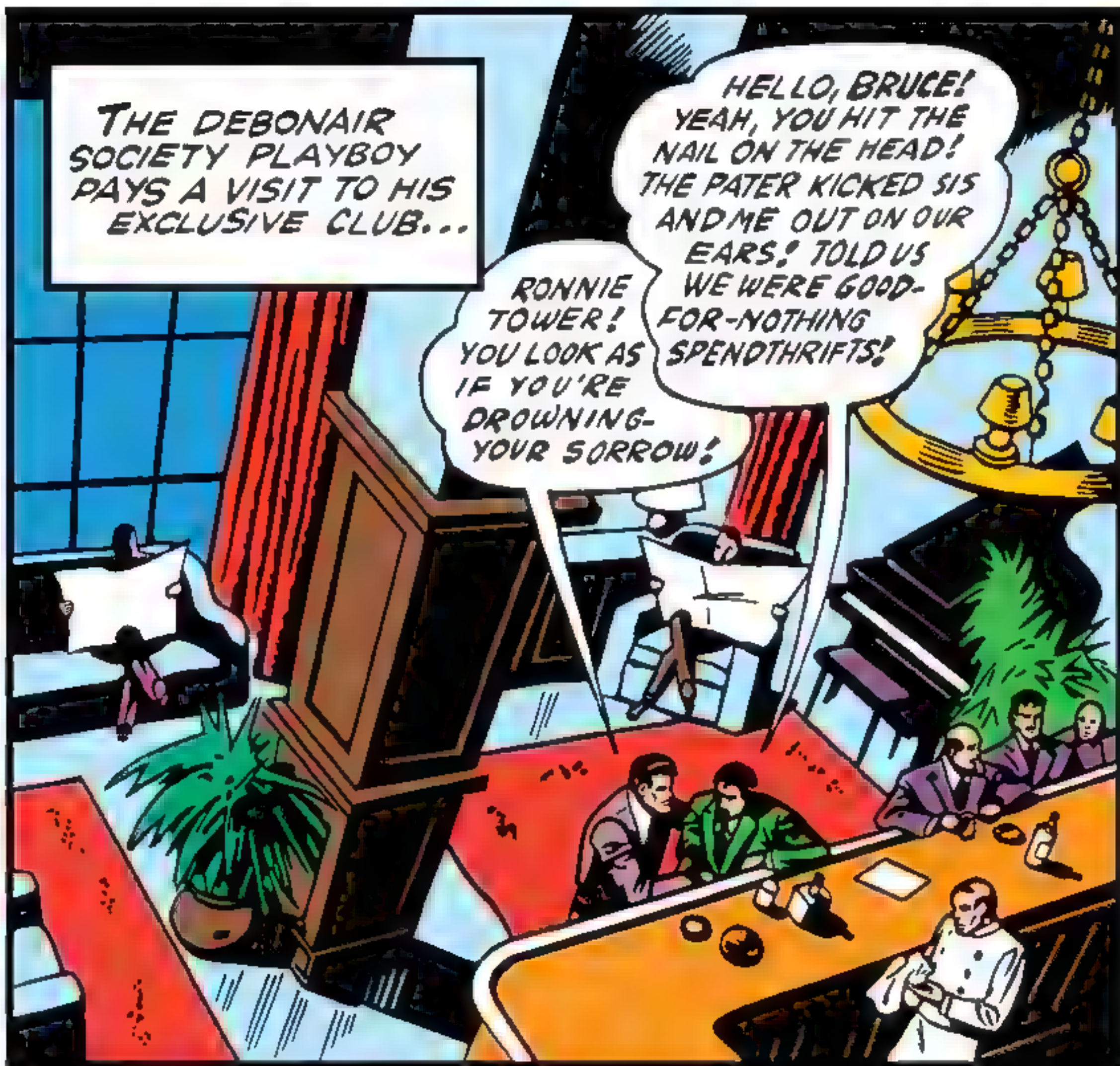
STEEL-STRONG SILKEN STRANDS LOOP ABOUT THE LION'S PAW... AND THE HUGE CAT COMES TO A STARTLED HALT...







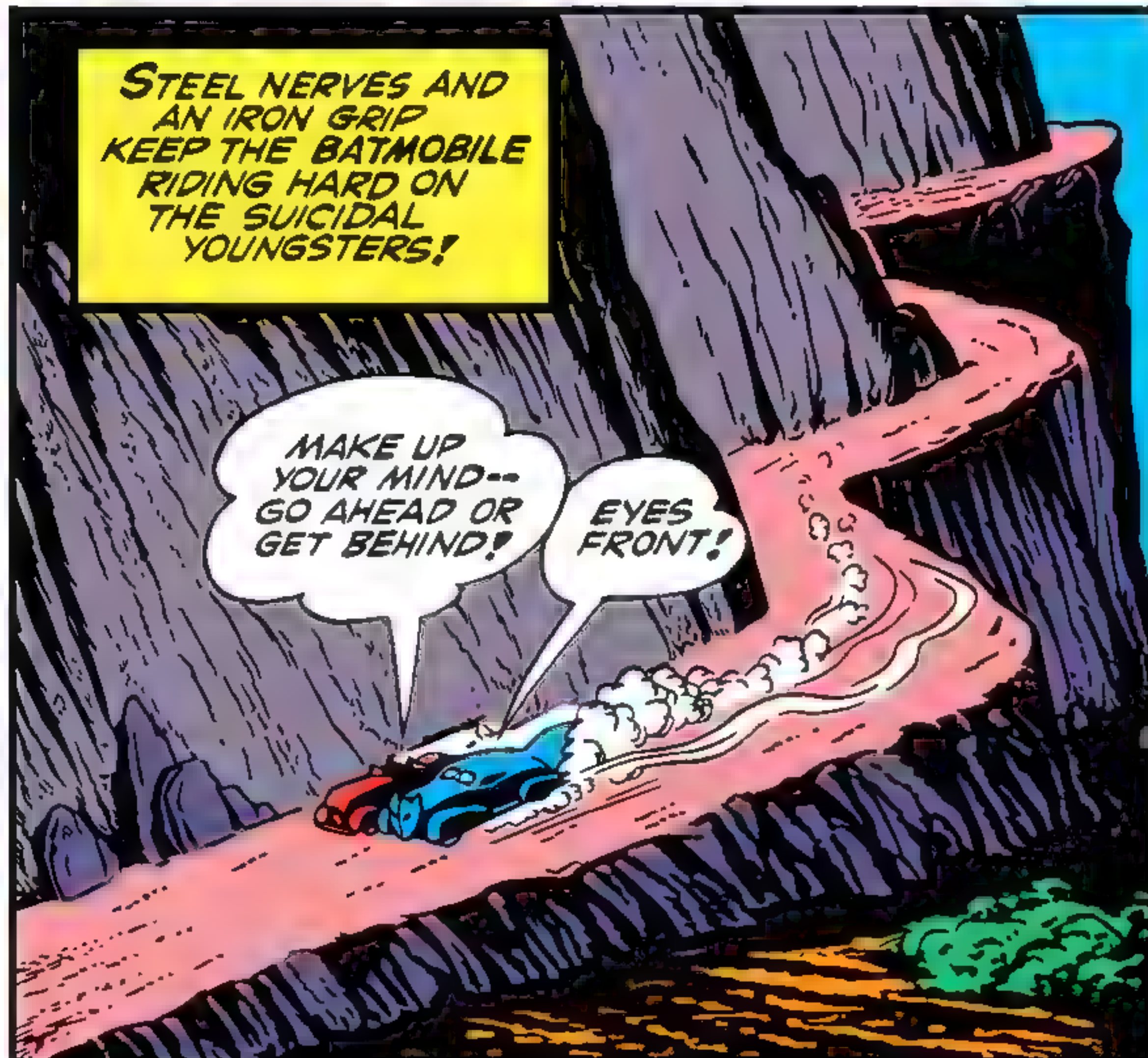




A SUPER-CHARGED MOTOR ROARS A SONG OF SPEED AS THE BATMOBILE CATAPULTS FORWARD...



STEEL NERVES AND AN IRON GRIP KEEP THE BATMOBILE RIDING HARD ON THE SUICIDAL YOUNGSTERS!



THE BREAKNECK CHASE ENDS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE TORTUOUS ROAD!



SAY, THAT OUTFIT-- AREN'T YOU THE BATMAN?

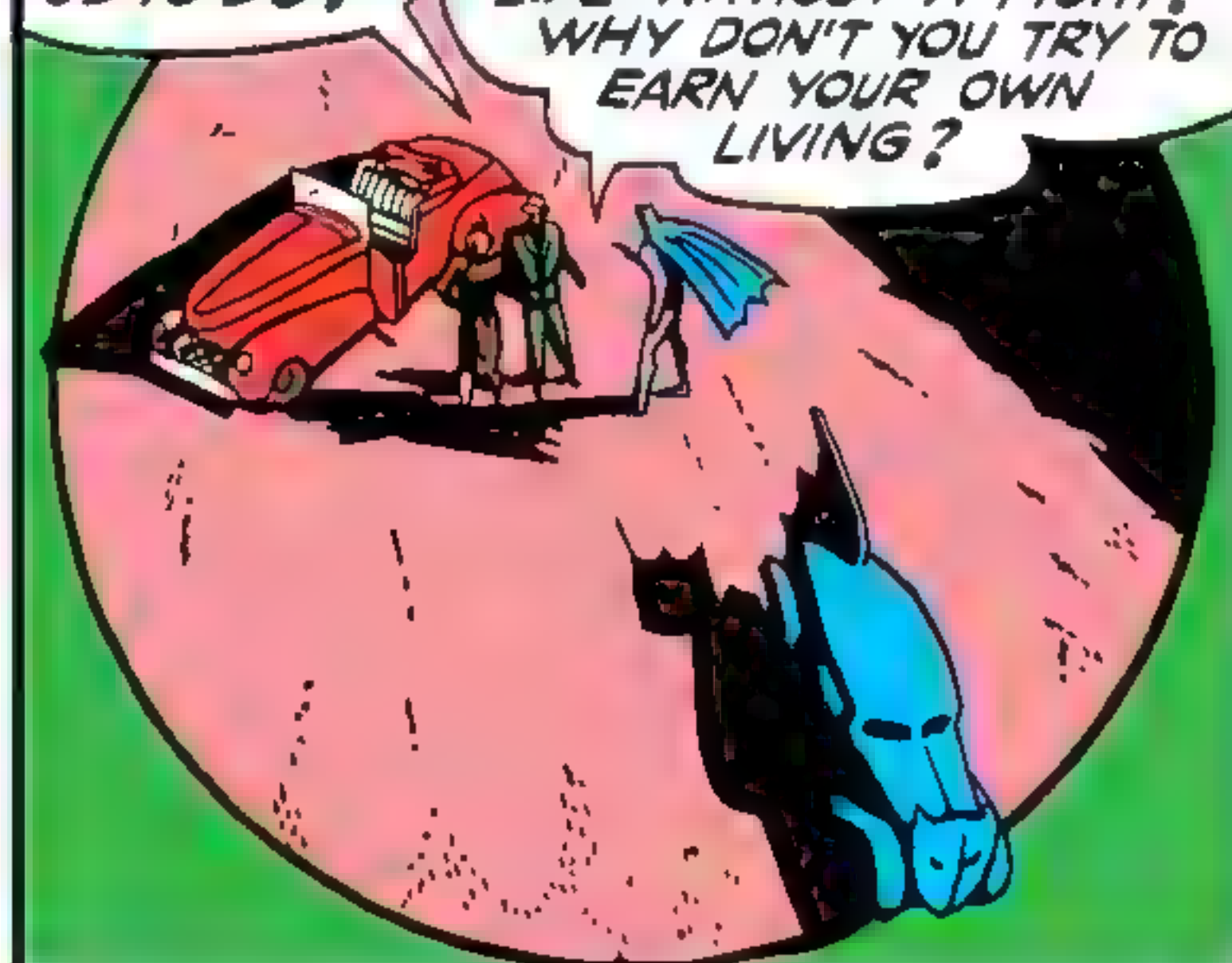
YES, AND NOW DO YOU MIND TELLING ME WHY YOU WERE TRYING TO KILL YOURSELVES?



UNDER THE SPELL OF THE BATMAN'S FIRM BUT KINDLY ATTITUDE, YOUNG RONNIE TOWER TELLS HIS RESCUER A STORY HE ALREADY KNOWS...

...AND SO THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT FOR US TO DO!

WHY, YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES! TWO HEALTHY YOUNG PEOPLE QUITTING LIFE WITHOUT A FIGHT! WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO EARN YOUR OWN LIVING?



EASIER SAID THAN DONE! BUT WHAT CAN I DO BESIDES PLAY GOLF, TENNIS AND TOOT A SAXOPHONE?

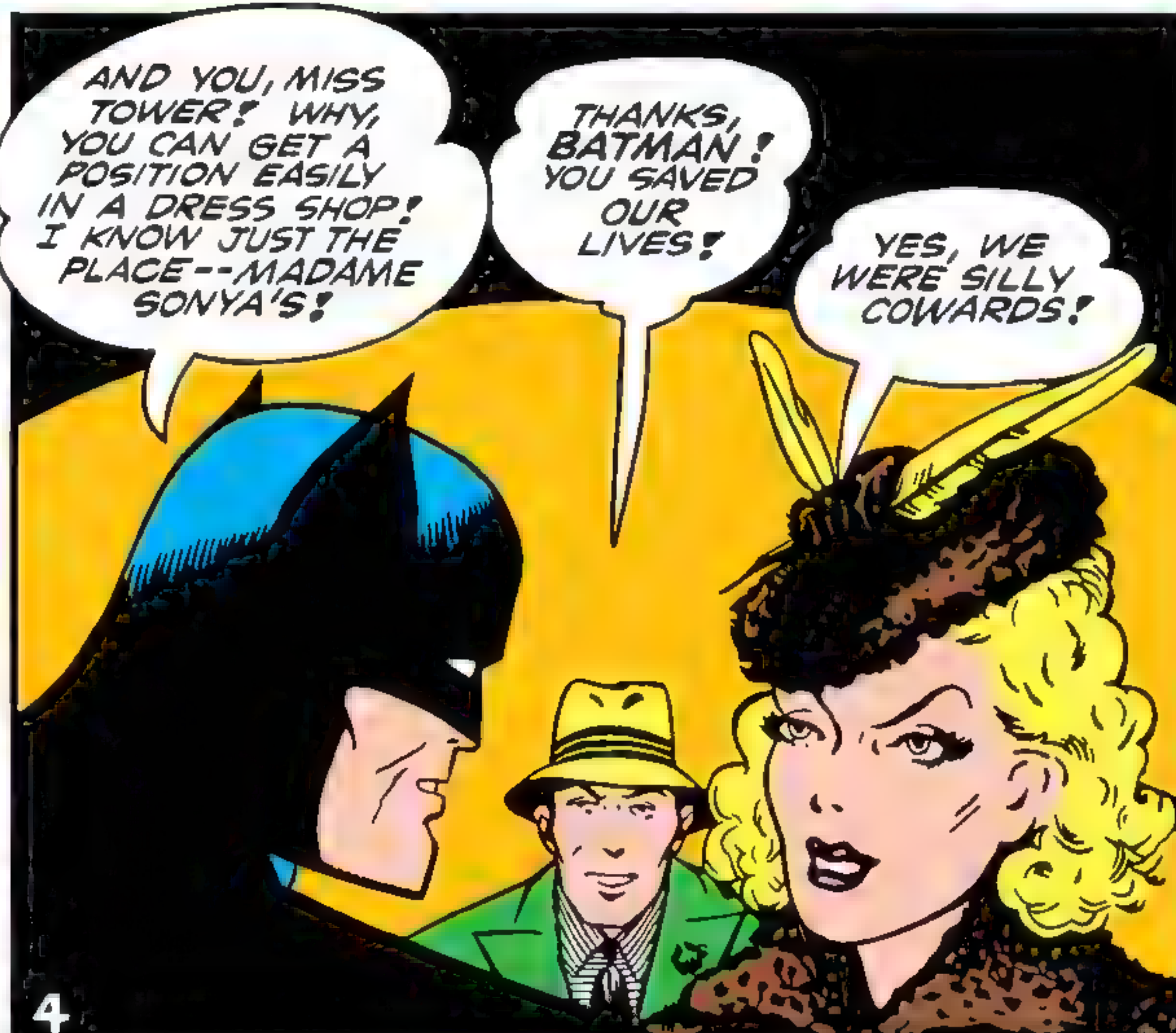
SAXOPHONE! THAT'S IT! YOU CAN GET A JOB IN A BAND! LISTEN, GO TO THE KITTY CLUB--- THE OWNER OWES ME SOME FAVORS! TELL HIM THE BATMAN SENT YOU!



AND YOU, MISS TOWER! WHY, YOU CAN GET A POSITION EASILY IN A DRESS SHOP! I KNOW JUST THE PLACE--MADAME SONYA'S!

THANKS, BATMAN! YOU SAVED OUR LIVES!

YES, WE WERE SILLY COWARDS!



THE GALLANT DARK KNIGHT SPEEDS AWAY, EYES NARROWED IN THOUGHT..



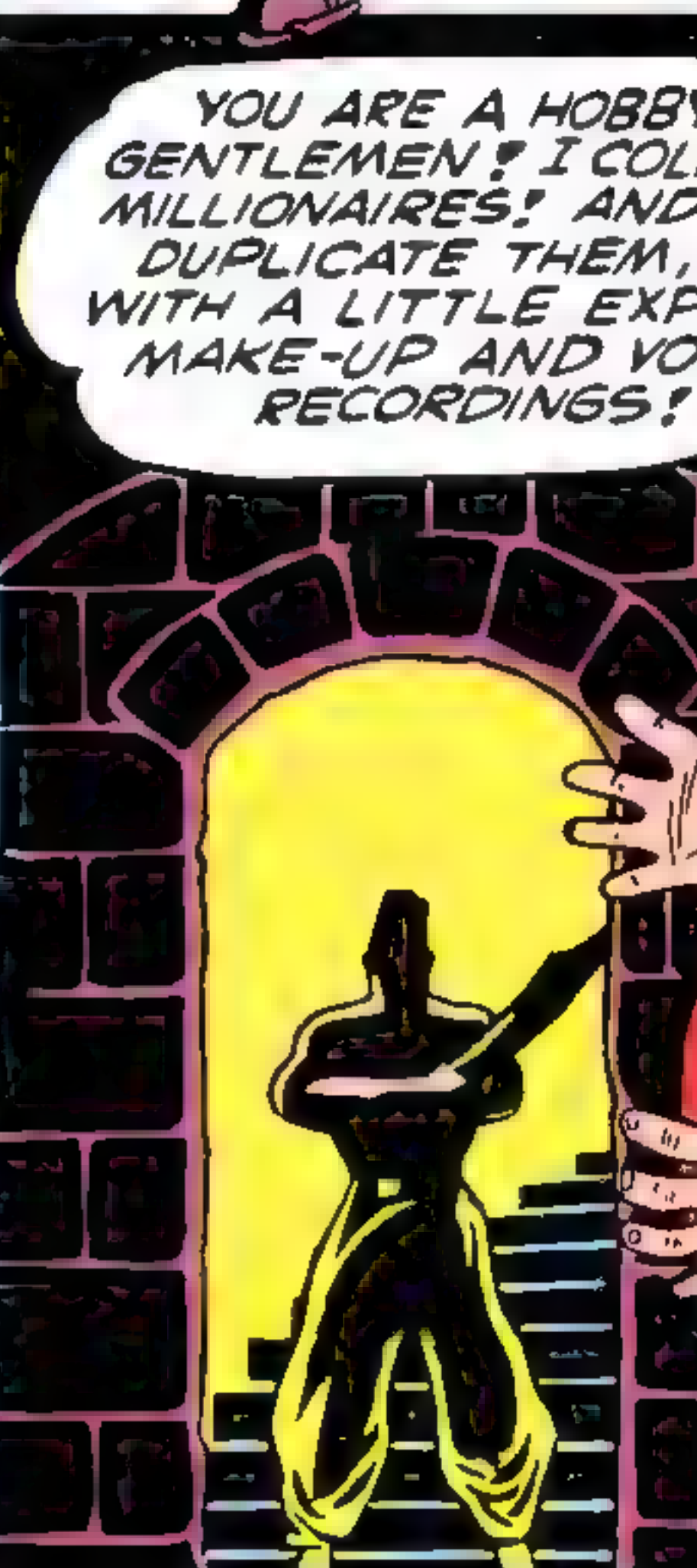
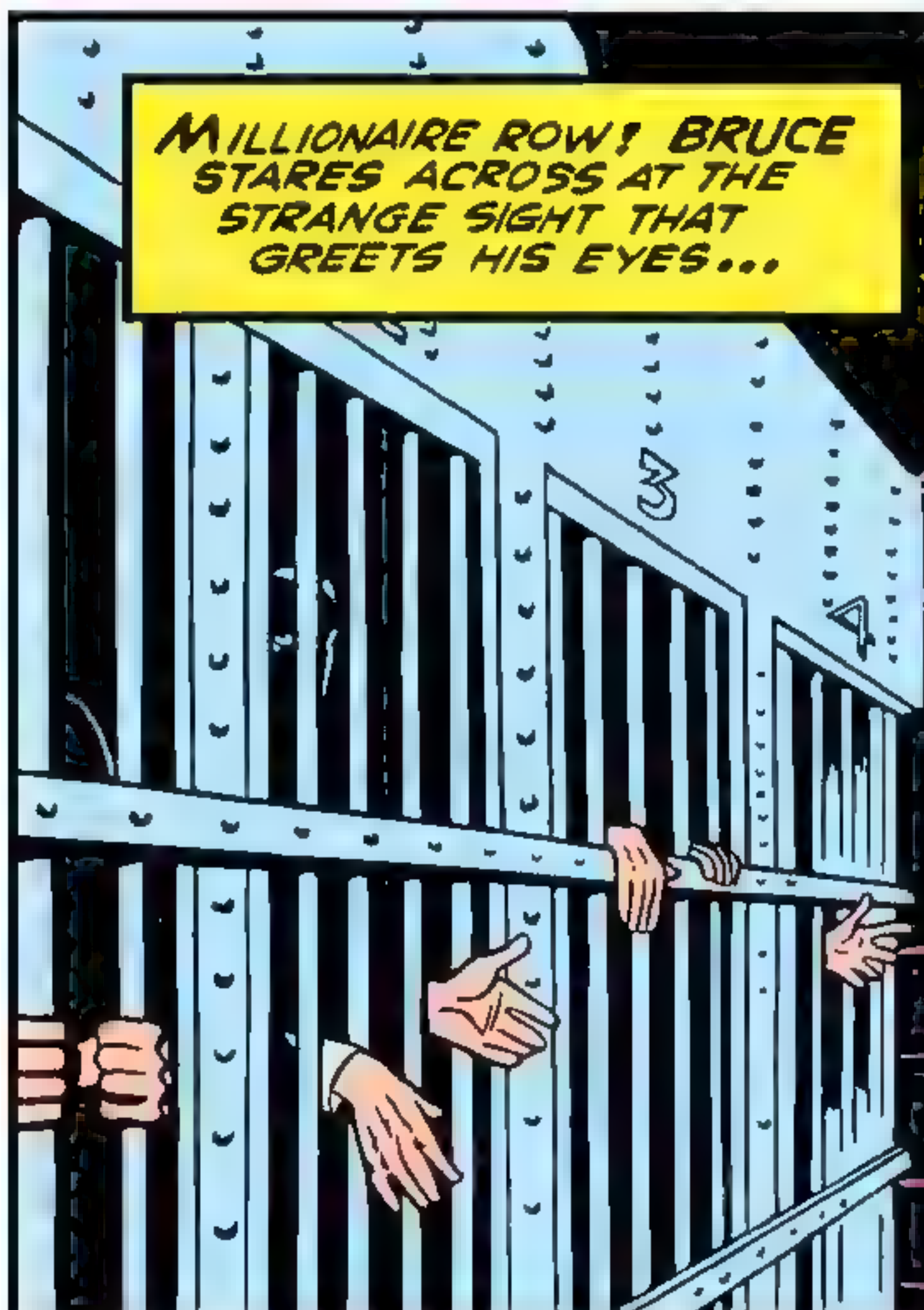
AND NOW LET US RETURN TO BRUCE IN HIS CELL...

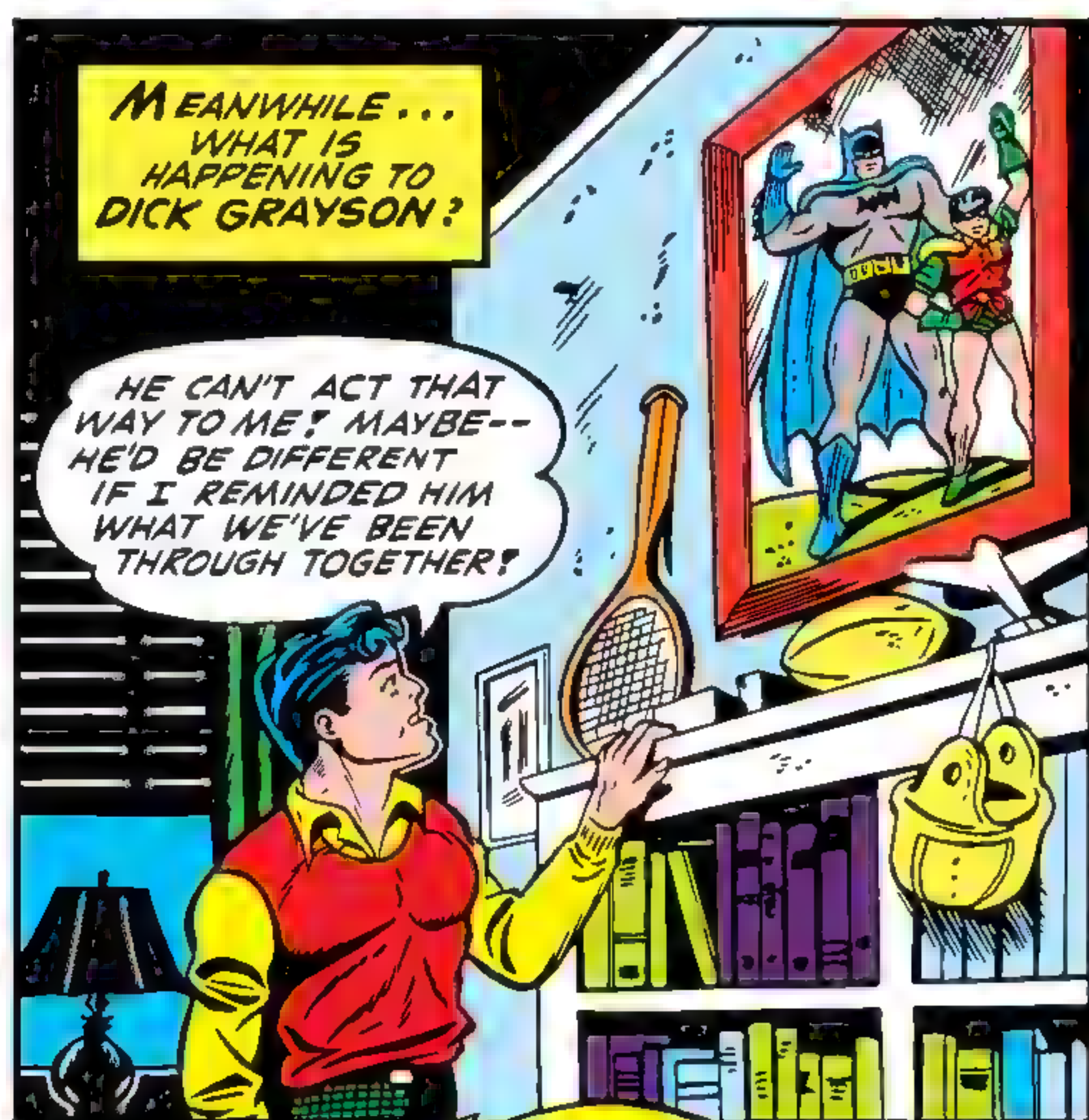
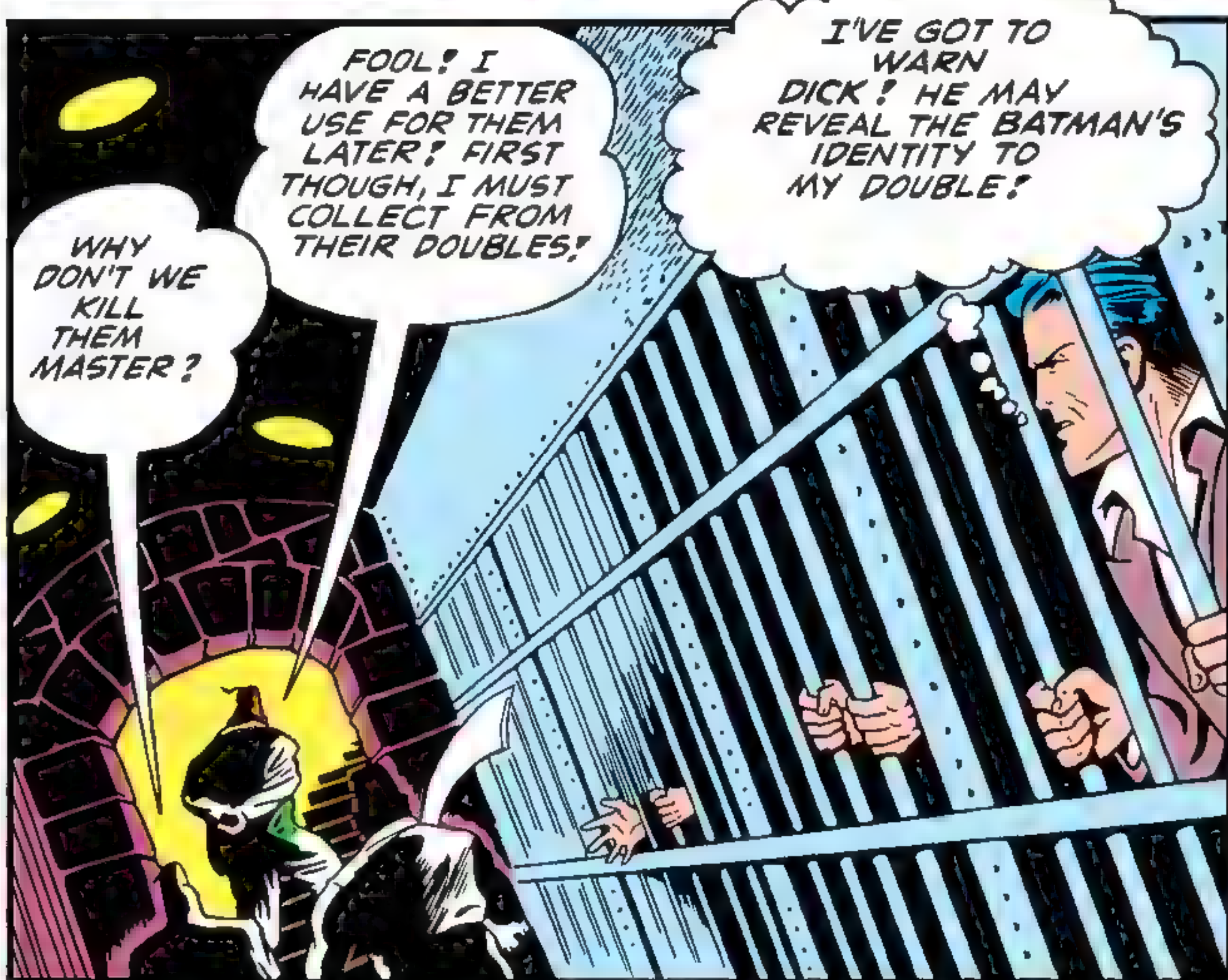


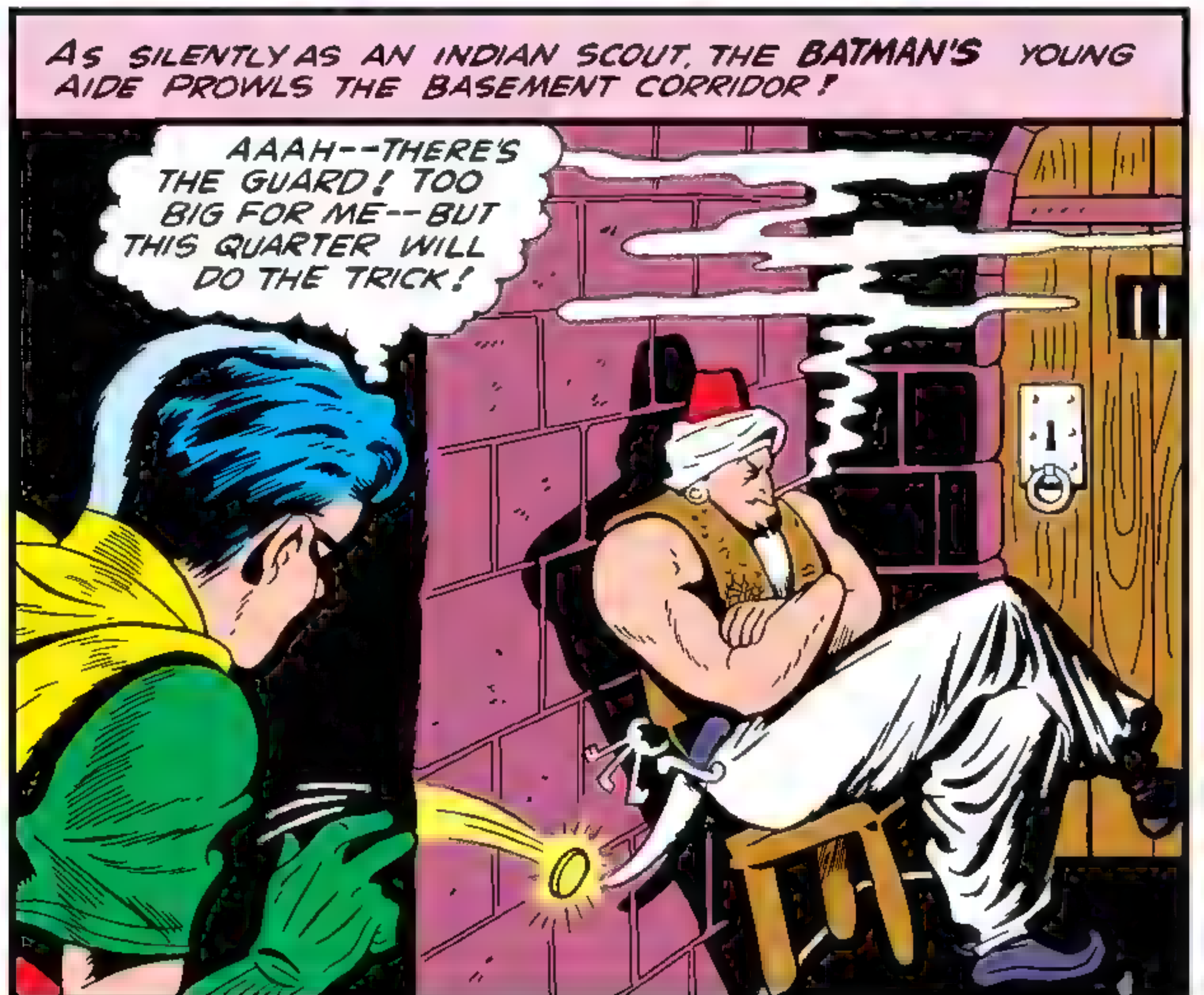
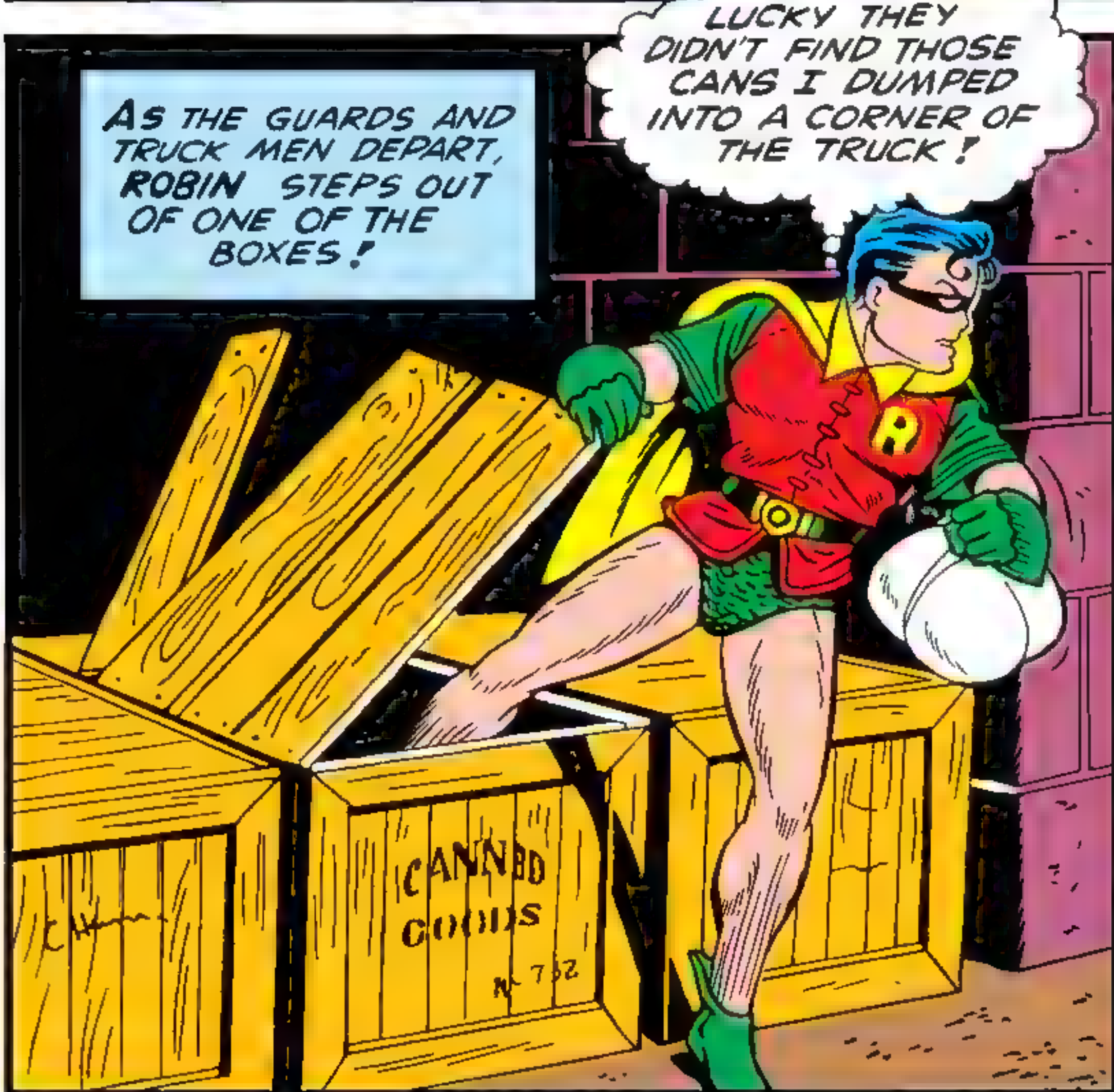
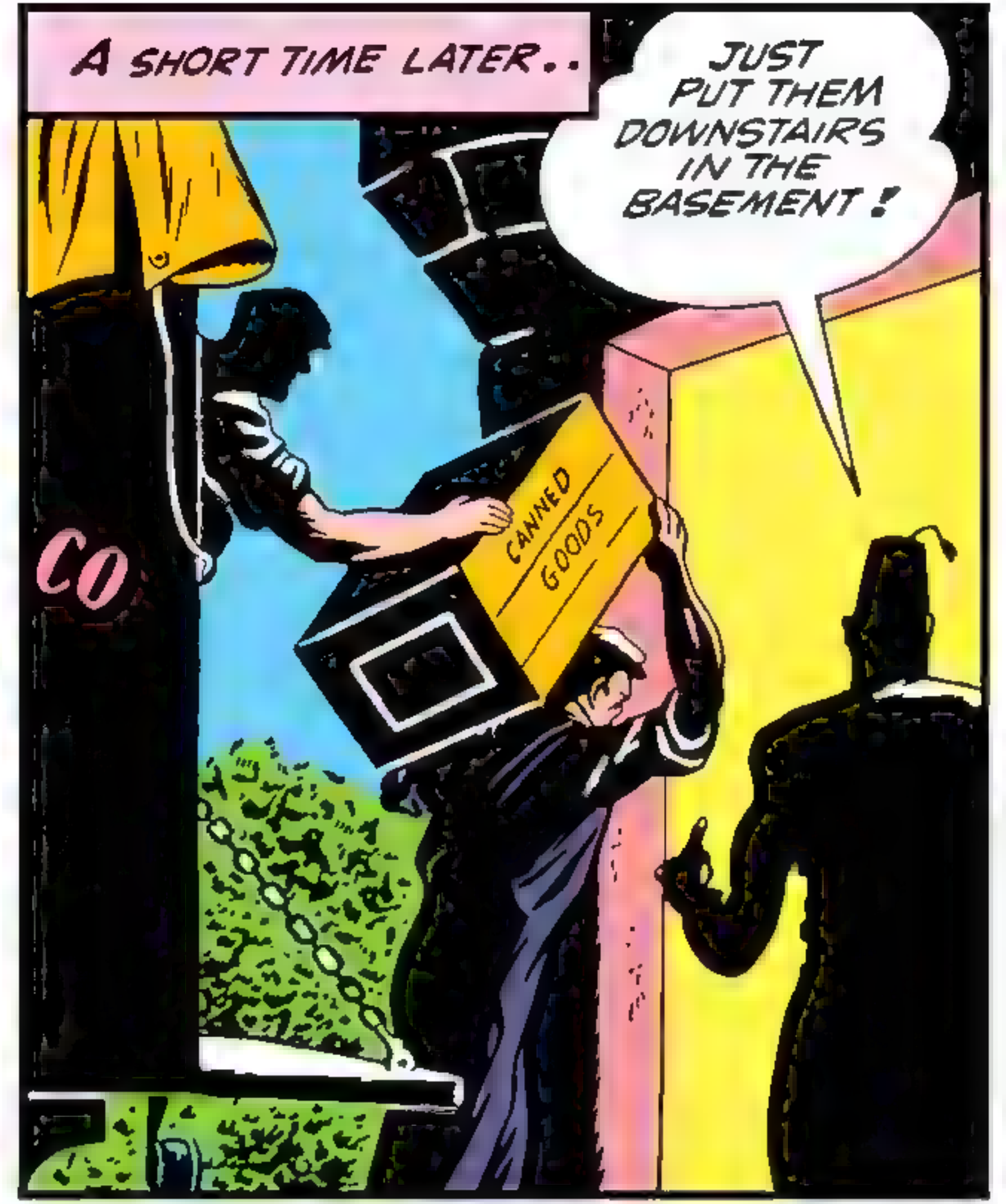
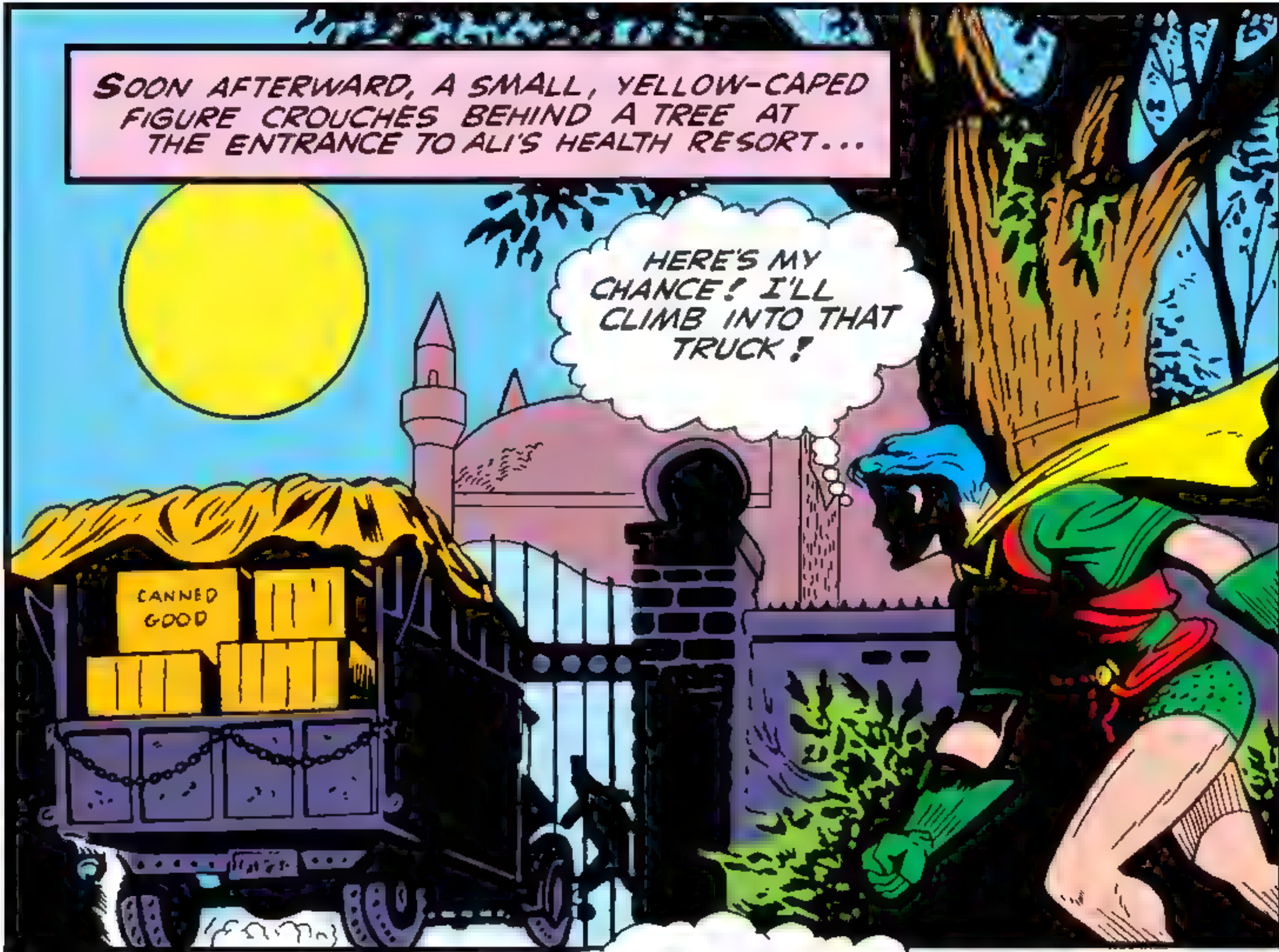
SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS IN THE CORRIDOR CLICK ON....



LOCK UP MR. VAN ASTOR WITH HIS FRIENDS IN MILLIONAIRE ROW! THEY DON'T SEEM HAPPY! MAYBE COMPANY WILL CHEER THEM UP!







MOMENTS LATER, AND IT IS A MANTLED BATMAN WHO FLITS FROM BRUCE WAYNE'S CELL...



ALI HAS GONE TO TOWN TO CLEAN UP! WE'LL HAVE TO STRIKE FAST AND ROUND UP THOSE IMPOSTORS!

CHECK! THEN LATER WE CAN COME BACK AND FREE THESE PRISONERS INCLUDING BRUCE WAYNE!

IN THE RACING BATMOBILE, THE DYNAMIC DUO PLOT A COURSE OF ACTION...



WE WON'T HAVE TIME TO GO AFTER THOSE FELLOWS TOGETHER! WE'LL HAVE TO DIVIDE OUR WORK!

WORK IS WHAT MY HANDS ARE ITCHING FOR!

IN A MIDTOWN COURT-ROOM, WHERE A FALSE "JUDGE TOWER" PRESIDES, JUSTICE GOES ON A SPREE!

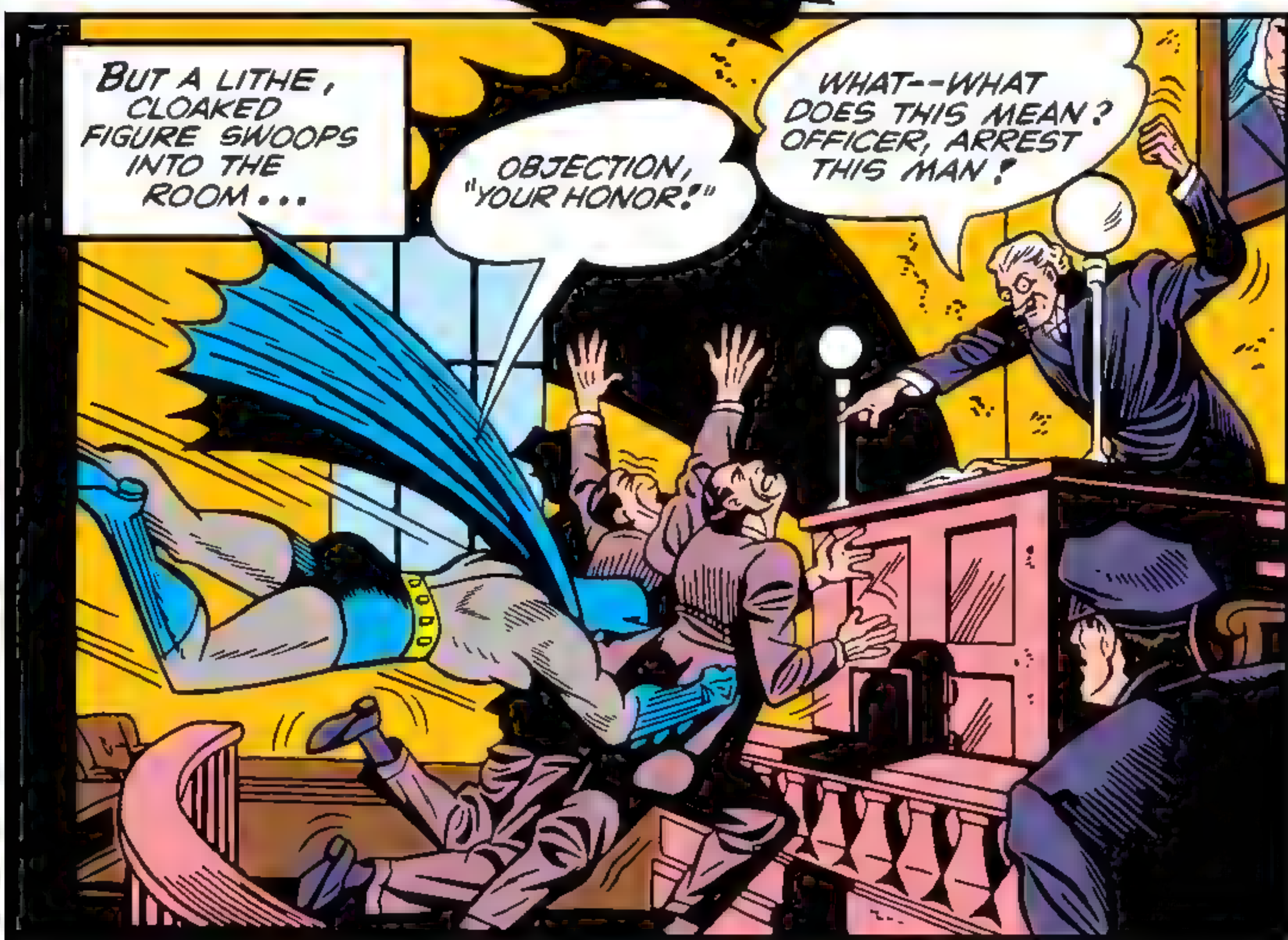


I CAUGHT THESE CROOKS STEALING JEWELRY, YOUR HONOR!

CHARGES DISMISSED! THESE MEN SEEM HONEST!

THOSE ROCKS BELONG TO US!

ALI'S MEN DON'T HAVE TO WORRY IF THEY ARE BROUGHT BEFORE ME! WE'LL CLEAN UP PLENTY!



BUT A LITHE, CLOAKED FIGURE SWOOPS INTO THE ROOM...

OBJECTION, "YOUR HONOR!"

WHAT--WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? OFFICER, ARREST THIS MAN!



NO, OFFICER! THESE MEN WILL BE---

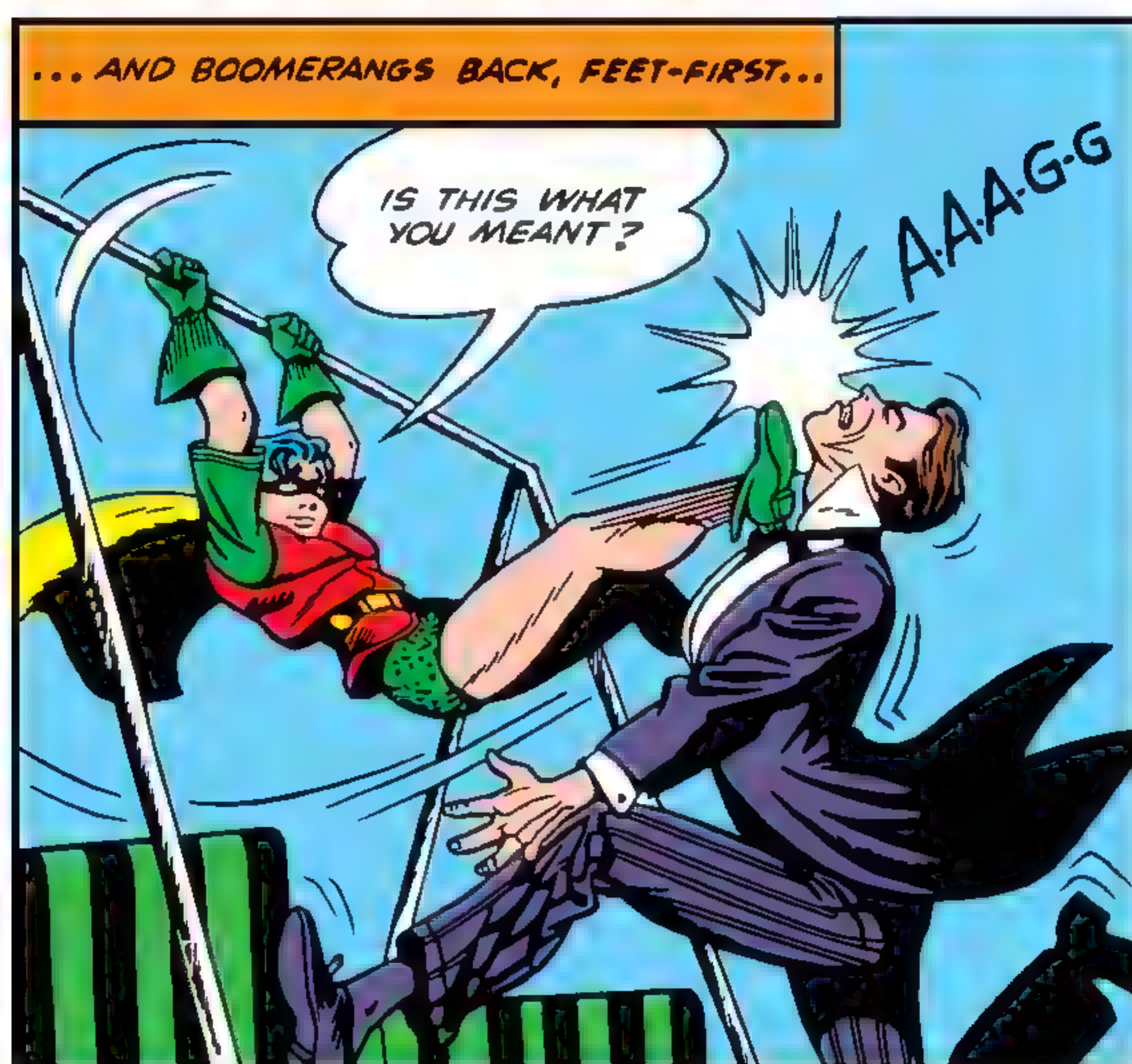
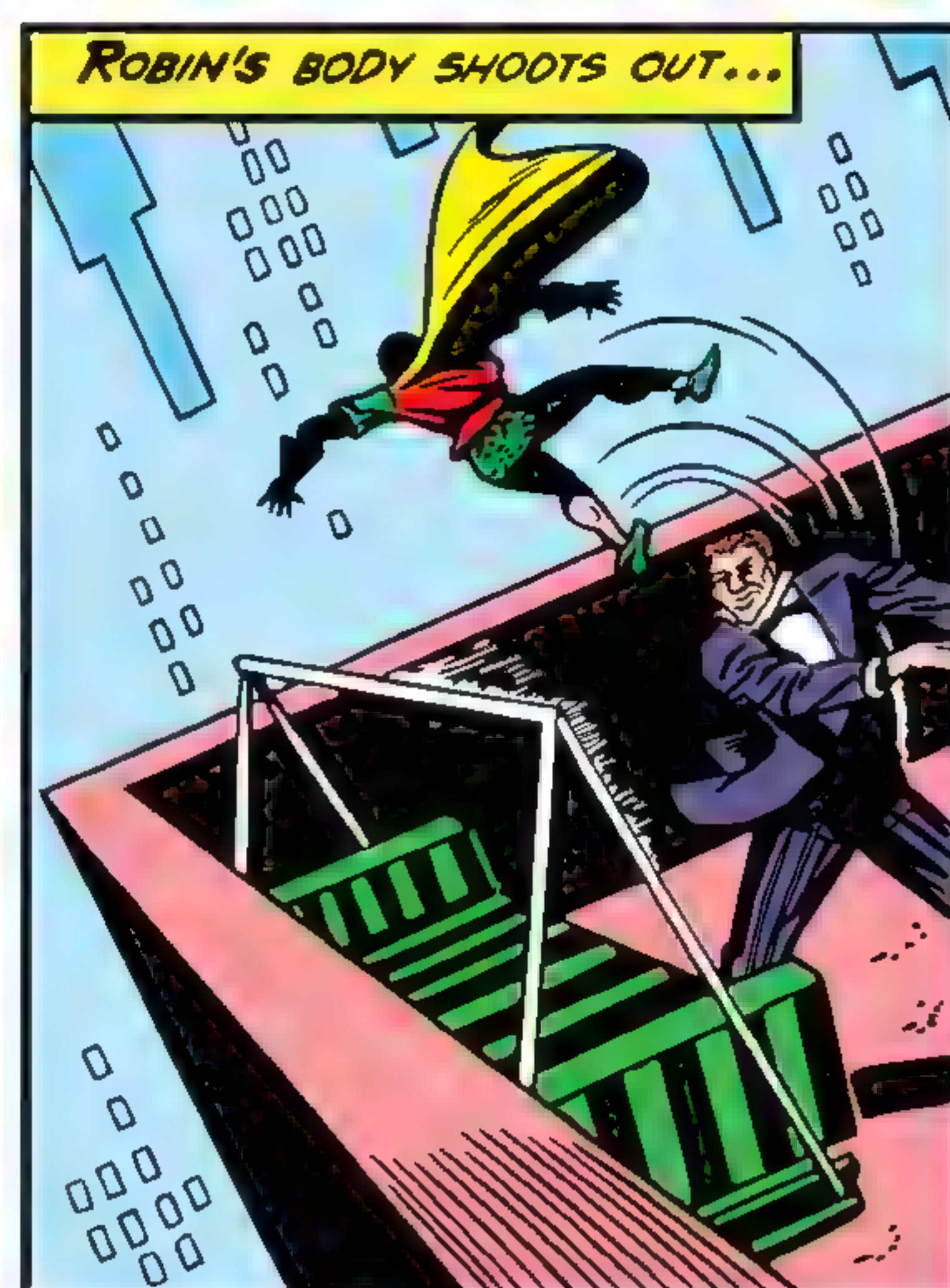


--WITNESSES TO--

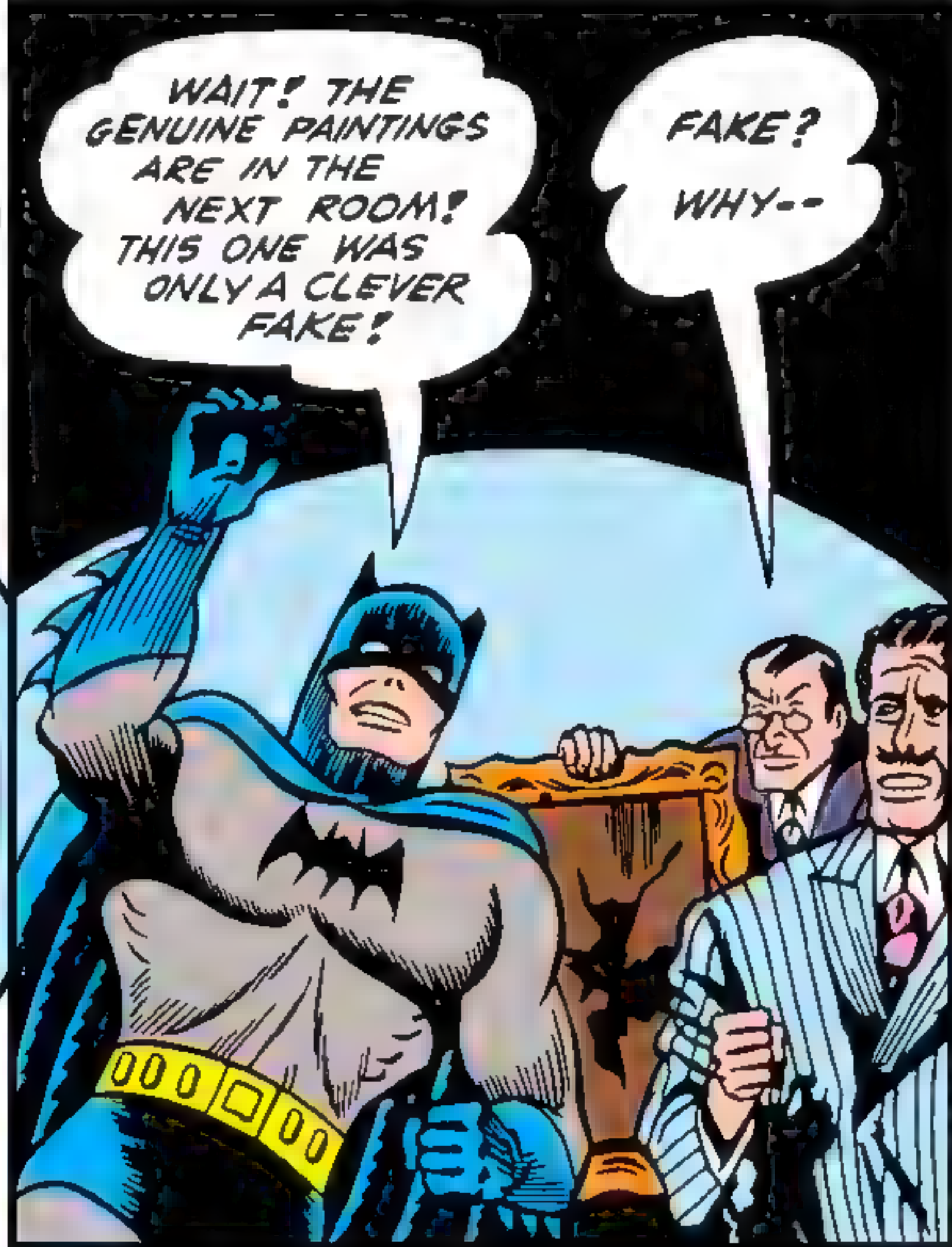
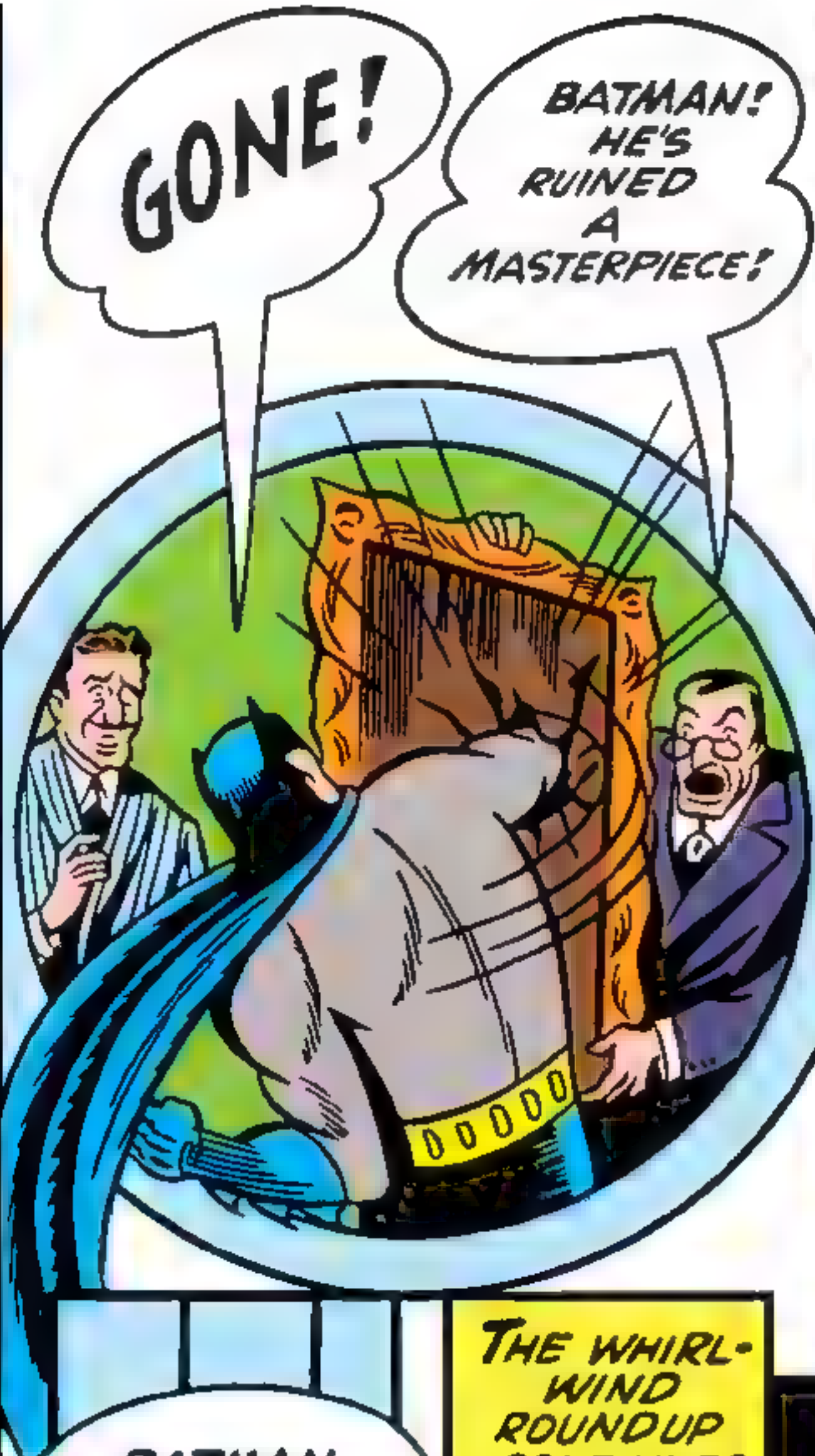


--THIS MASQUERADER'S REAL IDENTITY! TAKE 'EM AWAY OFFICER!

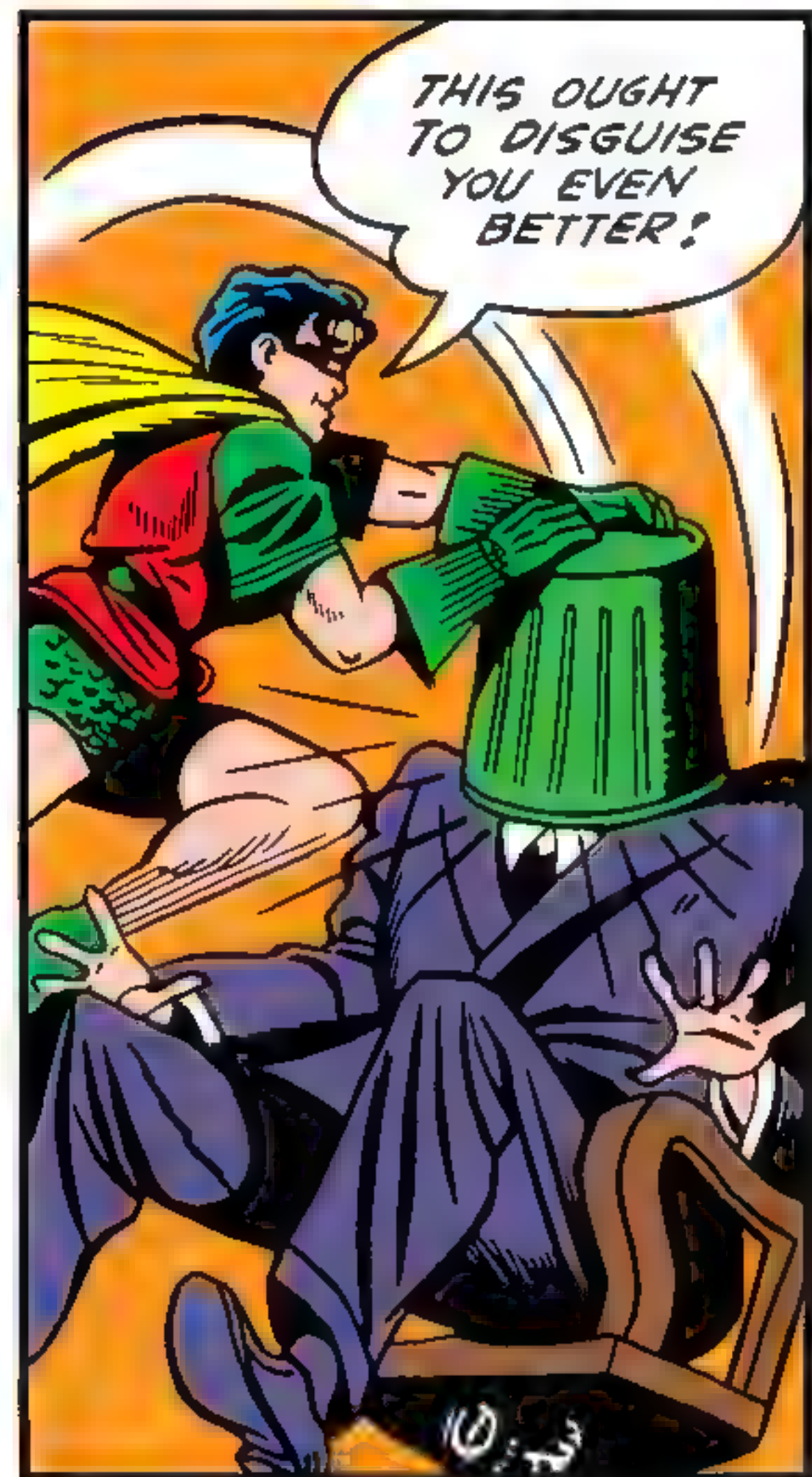
WITH PLEASURE, BATMAN! I THOUGHT THIS GUY WAS ACTING PHONEY!

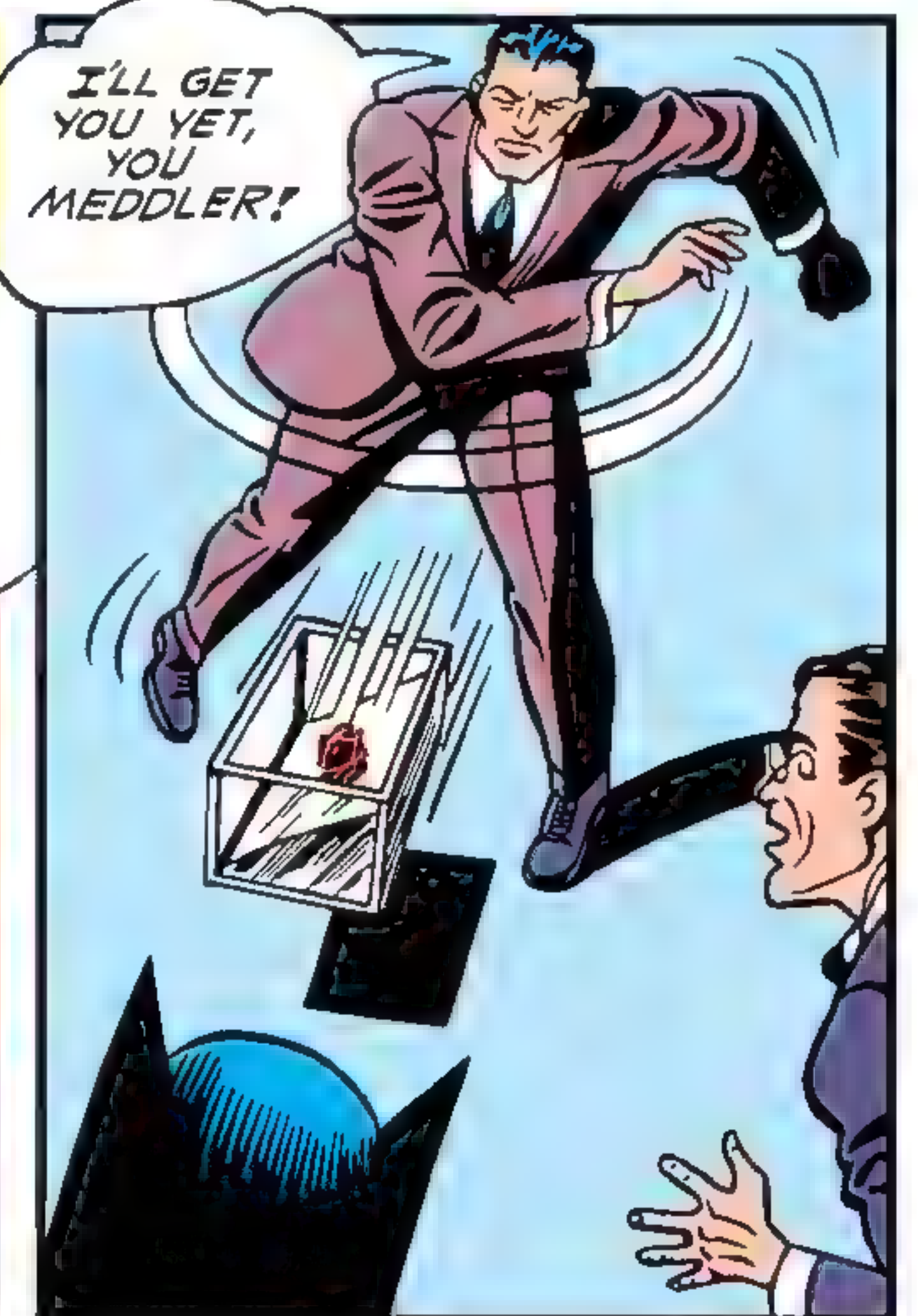
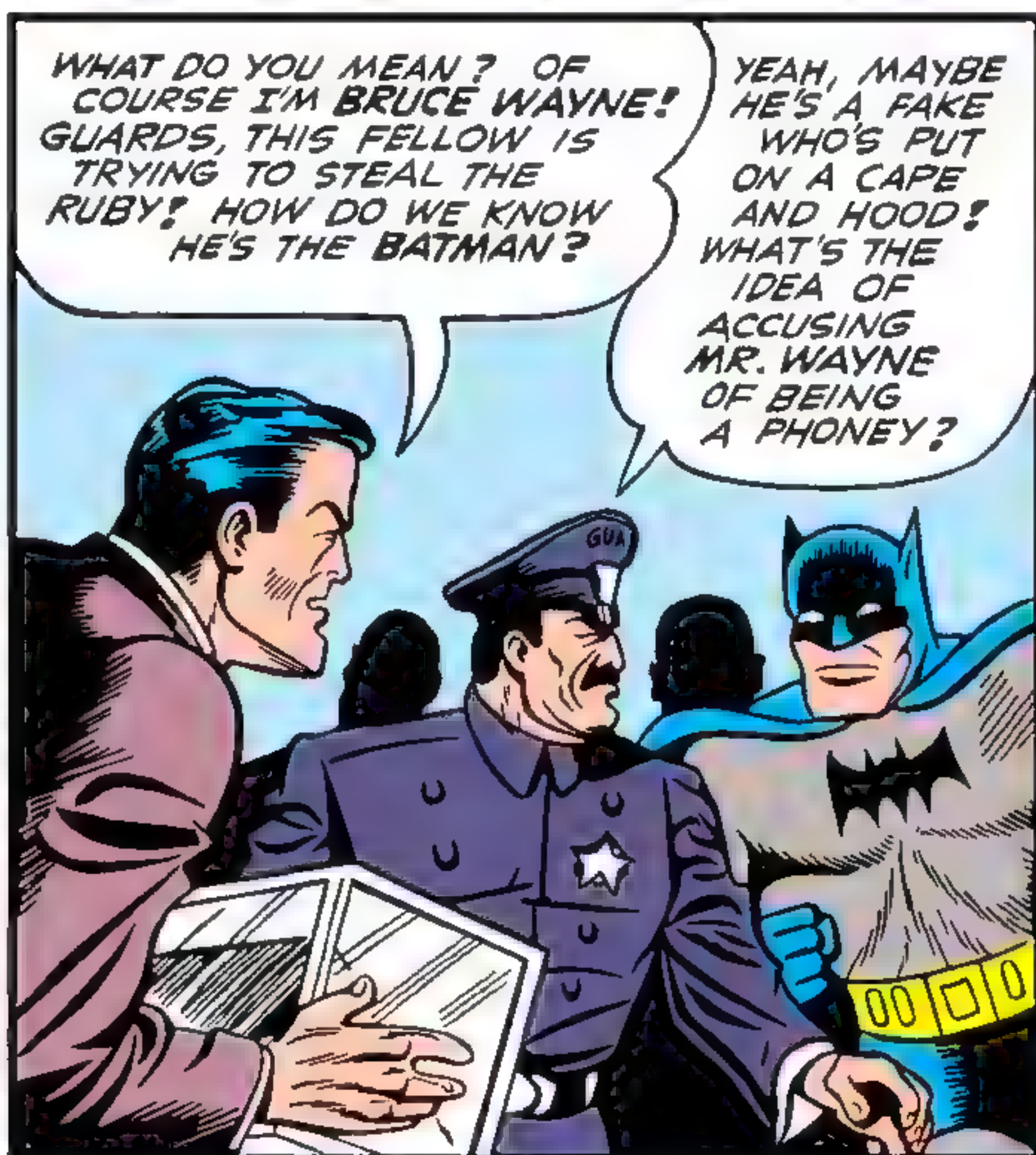
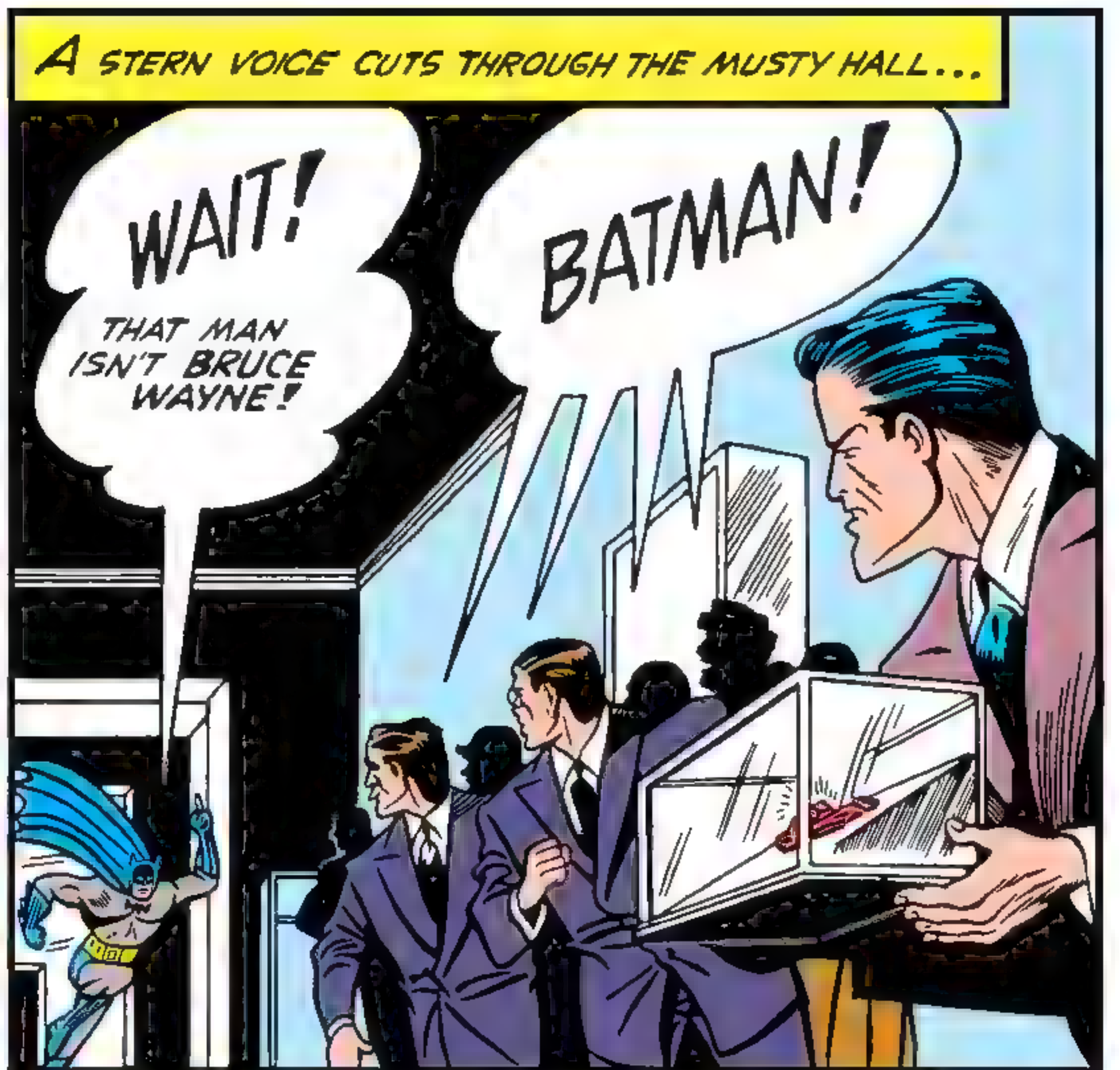
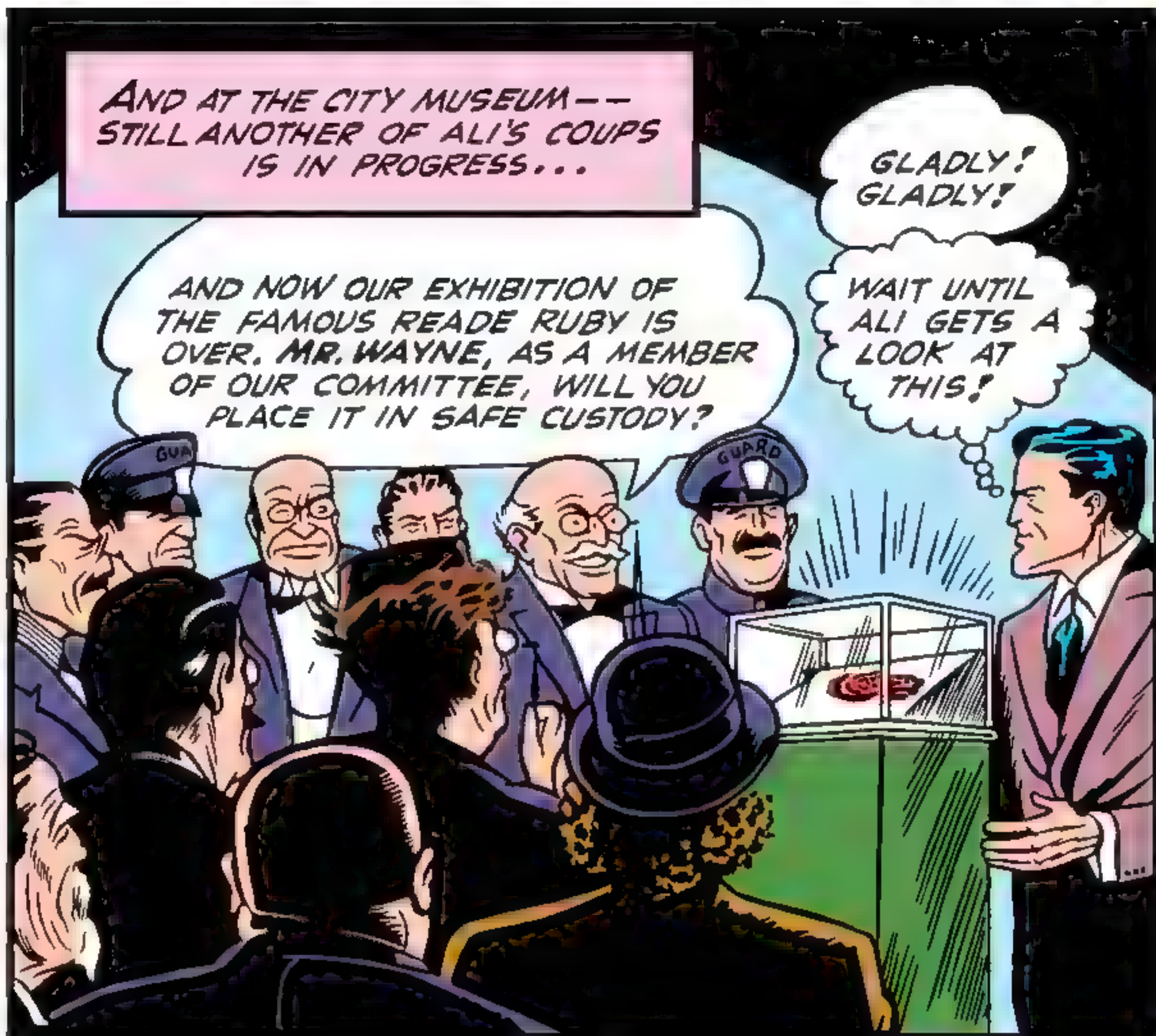


THE BATMAN HAS SPED TO HIS SECOND ASSIGNMENT...REGINALD VAN ASTOR'S HOME...

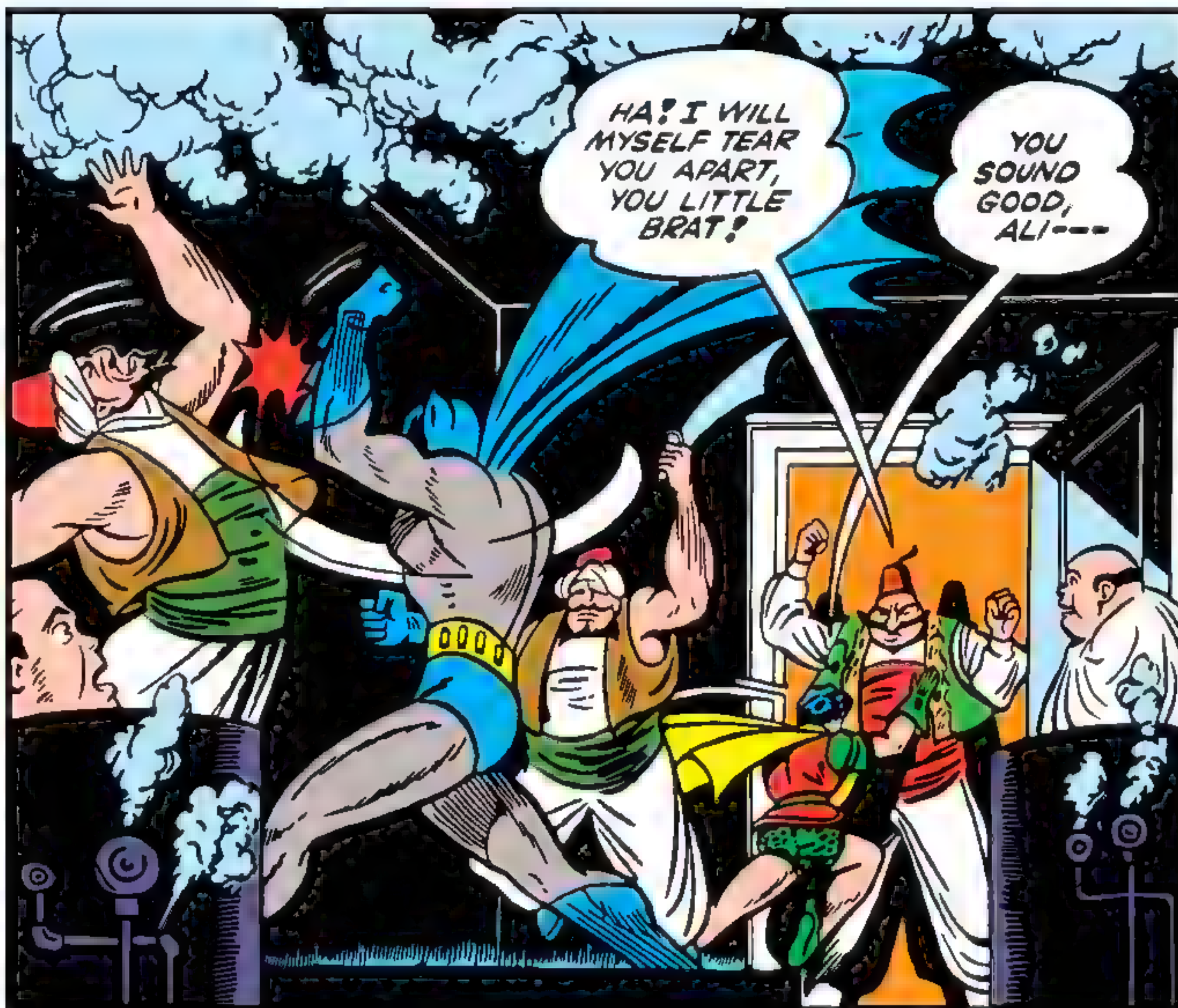


THE WHIRLWIND ROUNDUP CONTINUES WITH BANKER "MILES ROCKLEY".

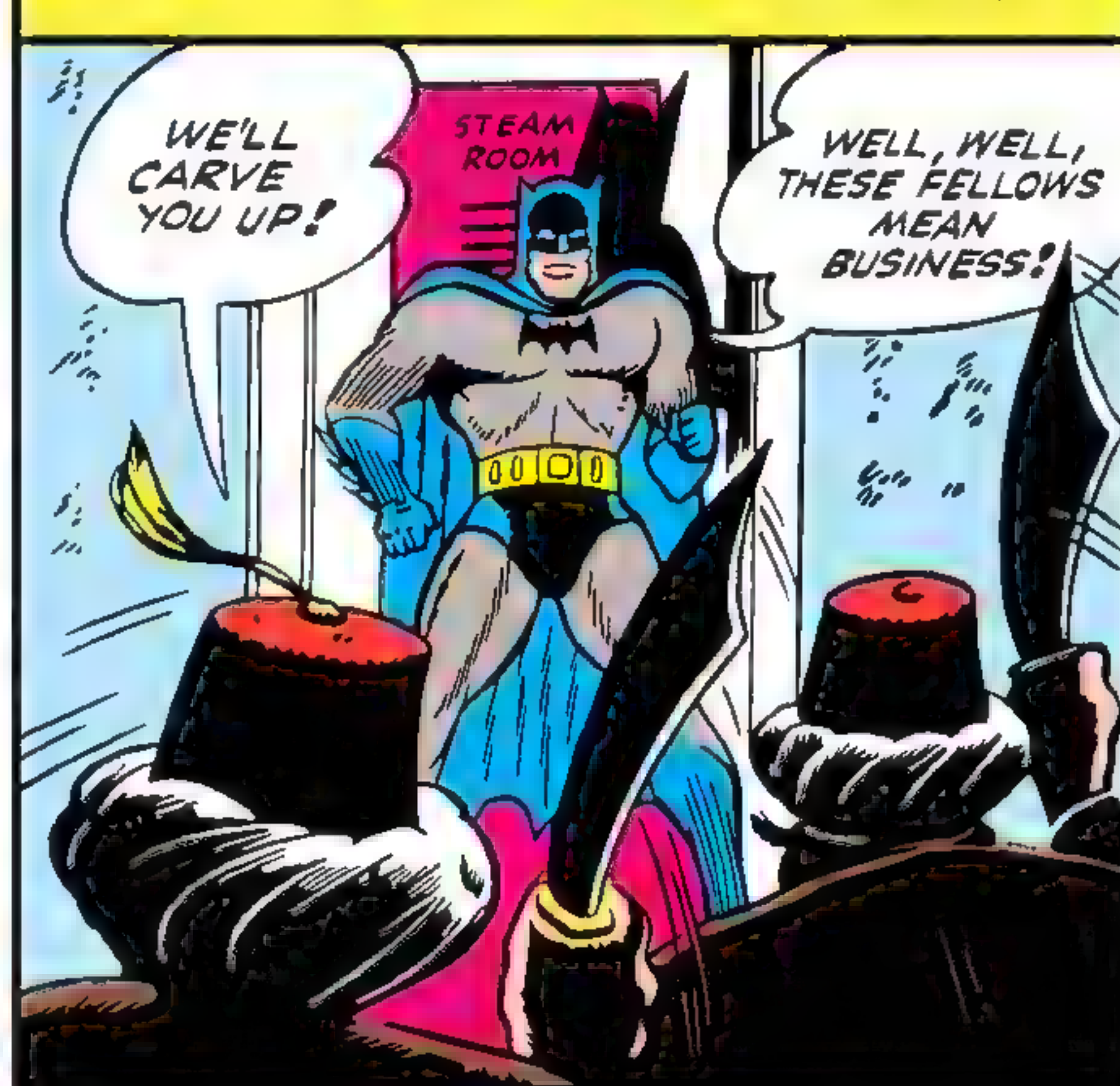


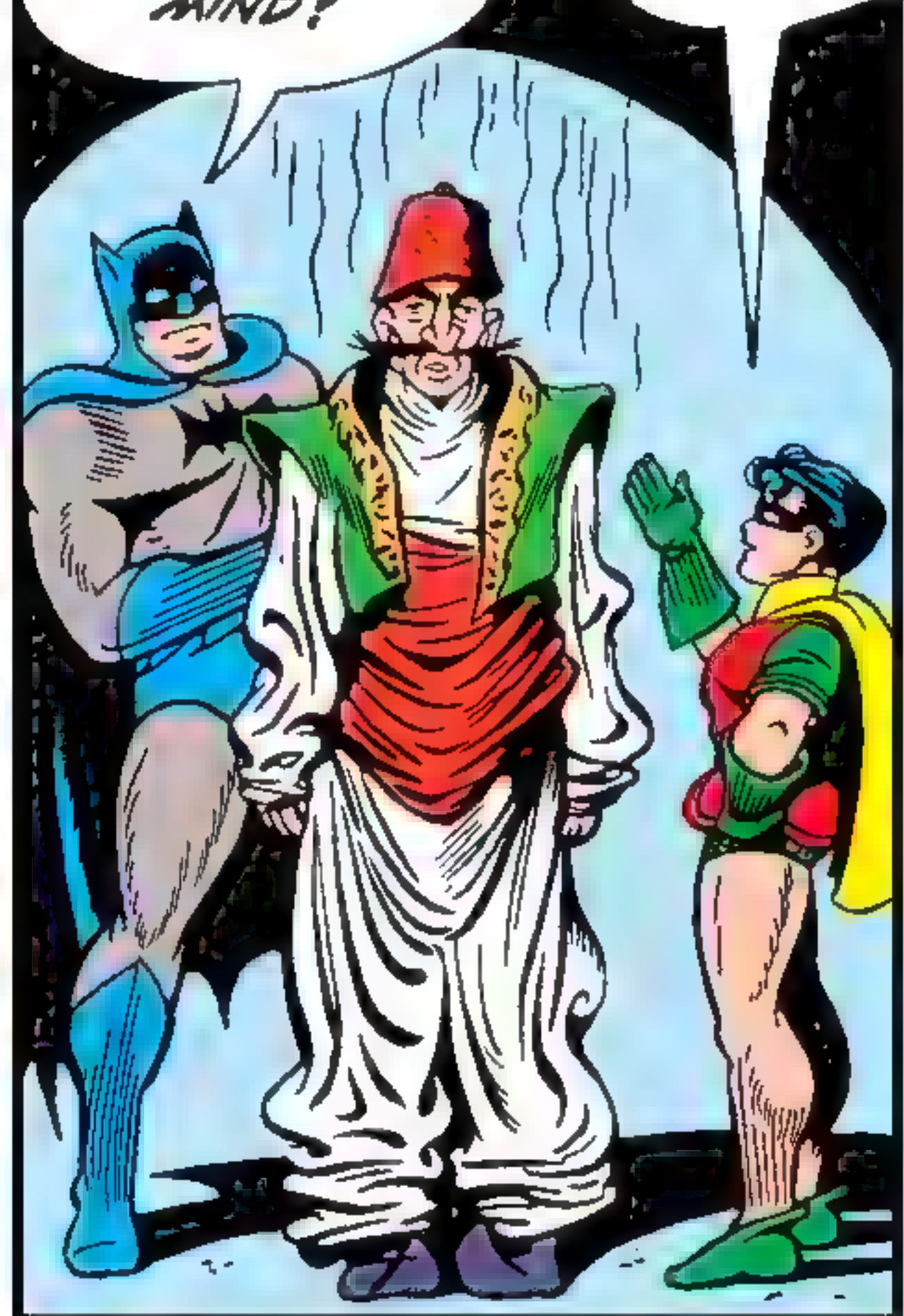
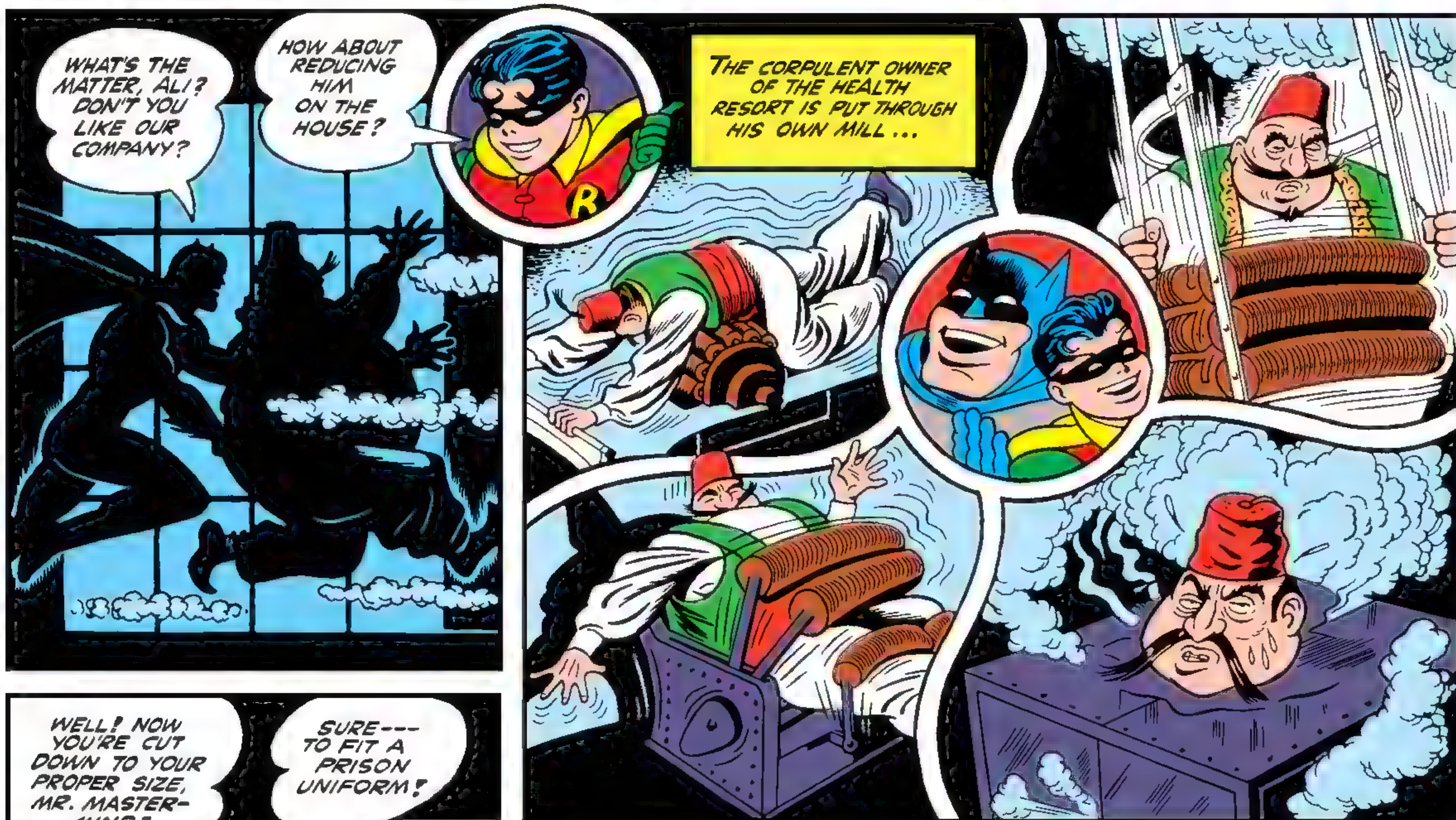


ROBIN REJOINS THE BATMAN-- AND AT ALI'S HEALTH RESORT, THE DYNAMIC TEAM EXPLODES INTO ACTION...



A CONCERTED RUSH THREATENS THE BATMAN...







No. 81

EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION!
BOY COMMANDOS



The **BATMAN**

Detective

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

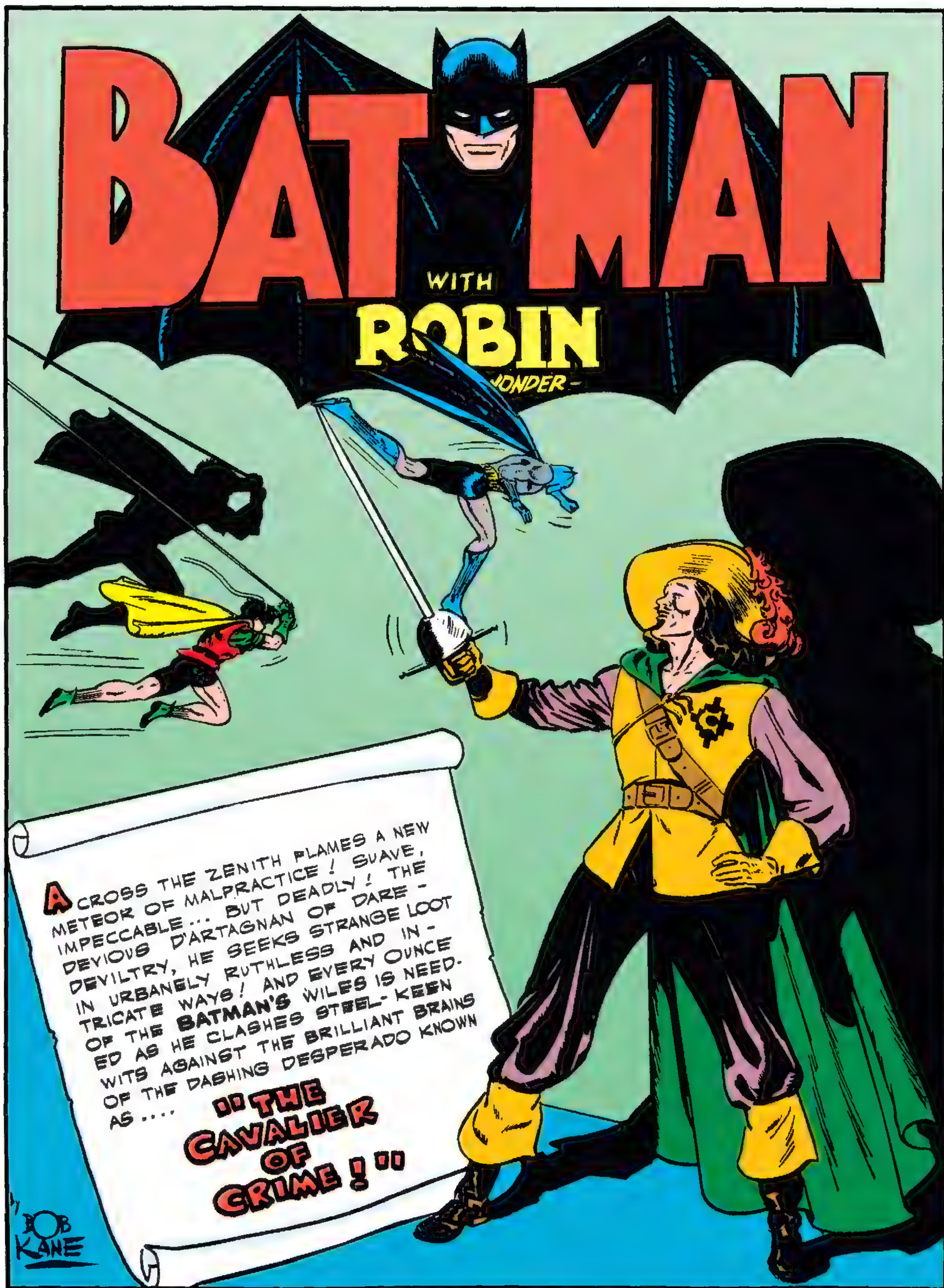
NOV.

COMICS



BATMAN AND ROBIN
ENCOUNTER A NEW
AND SWASHBUCKLING FOE ...
THE CAVALIER!

BOB
KANE



ACROSS THE ZENITH FLAMES A NEW
METEOR OF MALPRACTICE! SUAVE,
IMPECCABLE... BUT DEADLY! THE
DEVIOUS D'ARTAGNAN OF DARE-
DEVILTRY, HE SEEKS STRANGE LOOT
IN URBANELY RUTHLESS AND IN-
TRICATE WAYS! AND EVERY OUNCE
OF THE BATMAN'S WILES IS NEED-
ED AS HE CLASHES STEEL-KEEN
WITS AGAINST THE BRILLIANT BRAINS
OF THE DASHING DESPERADO KNOWN
AS

**THE
CAVALIER
OF
CRIME!**

A STARTLING SIGHT SUDDENLY APPEARS ONE DAY ON THE STREETS OF PEACEFUL GOTHAM CITY!

THAT BASEBALL YOU CODDLE INTERESTS ME MIGHTILY, STRIP-LING! I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO HAVE IT!

NO! I WON'T GIVE IT TO YOU!

DON'T DARE TO BALK ME, LAD! HERE -- THESE THREE NEW BASEBALLS WILL MORE THAN COMPENSATE FOR THIS OLD ONE!

NO, THEY WON'T! GIVE ME BACK MY OLD ONE!

WAH! I WANT MY BASE-BALL!

THREE FOR ONE, AND STILL HE CRIES! FOOLISH YOUNGESTER!

NOT FAR AWAY, TWO PEDESTRIANS HALT IN BLANK AMAZEMENT --- BRUCE WAYNE, SOCIETY PLAYBOY, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON!

WHA --? TAKE A LOOK AT THAT, BRUCE!

SIR WALTER RALEIGH... ROB-BING A KID! THIS CALLS FOR SOME **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** INVESTIGATION, AND THERE'S AN ALLEY TO MAKE A FAST CHANGE IN!

SPLIT SECONDS LATER...

WHO ARE YOU? AND WHAT'S THE IDEA OF STEALING THAT BASE-BALL?

AH! **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! MEET YOUR POTENTIALLY FAMOUS NEW OPPONENT-- THE CAVALIER! I HOPE TO BE AN EVEN GREATER INCONVENIENCE TO YOU THAN THE **JOKER** AND THE **PENGUIN**!

AND AS FOR MY PURPOSE IN TRADING THESE NEW BASEBALLS FOR AN EXCEEDINGLY SEEDY ONE -- LET ME ADVISE YOU TO ATTEND TO YOUR OWN KNITTING!

YOU KNOW, MY GAUDY FRIEND, I DON'T LIKE YOUR ATTITUDE!

THEN CHANGE MY ATTITUDE... IF YOU CAN!

I'LL DO IT, **BATMAN**! YOU SAVE YOUR STRENGTH FOR TOUGHER CHARACTERS!

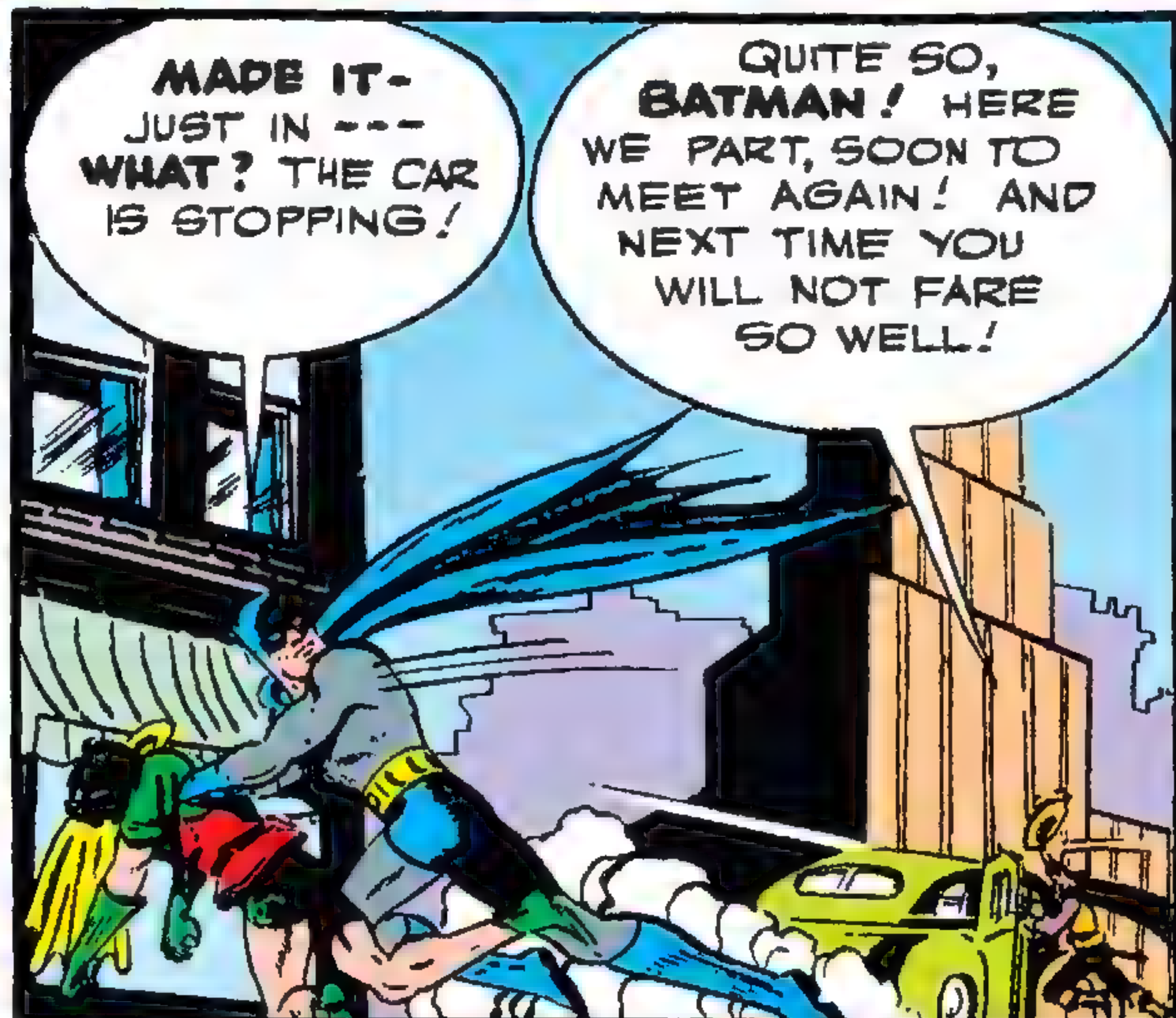
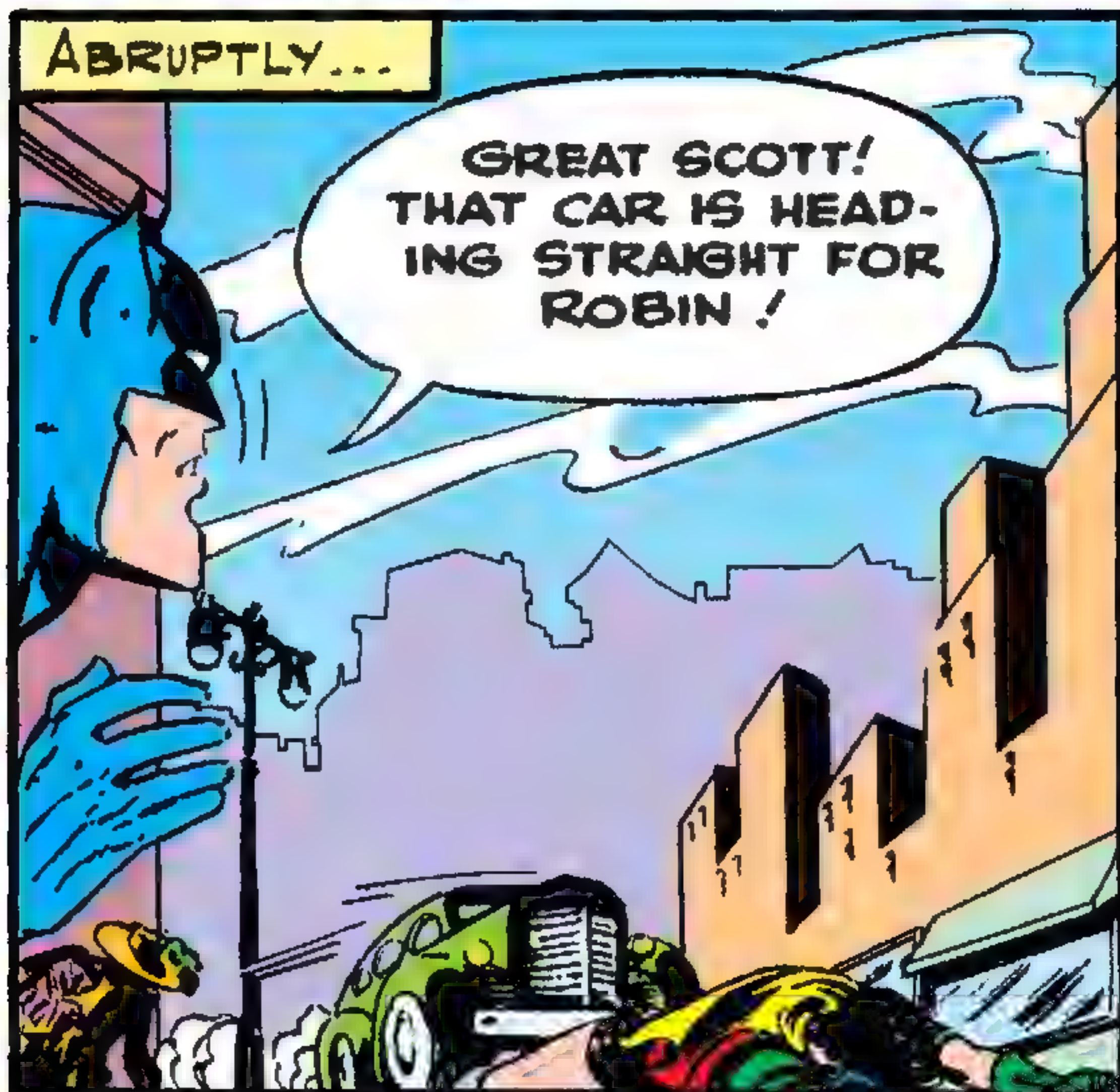
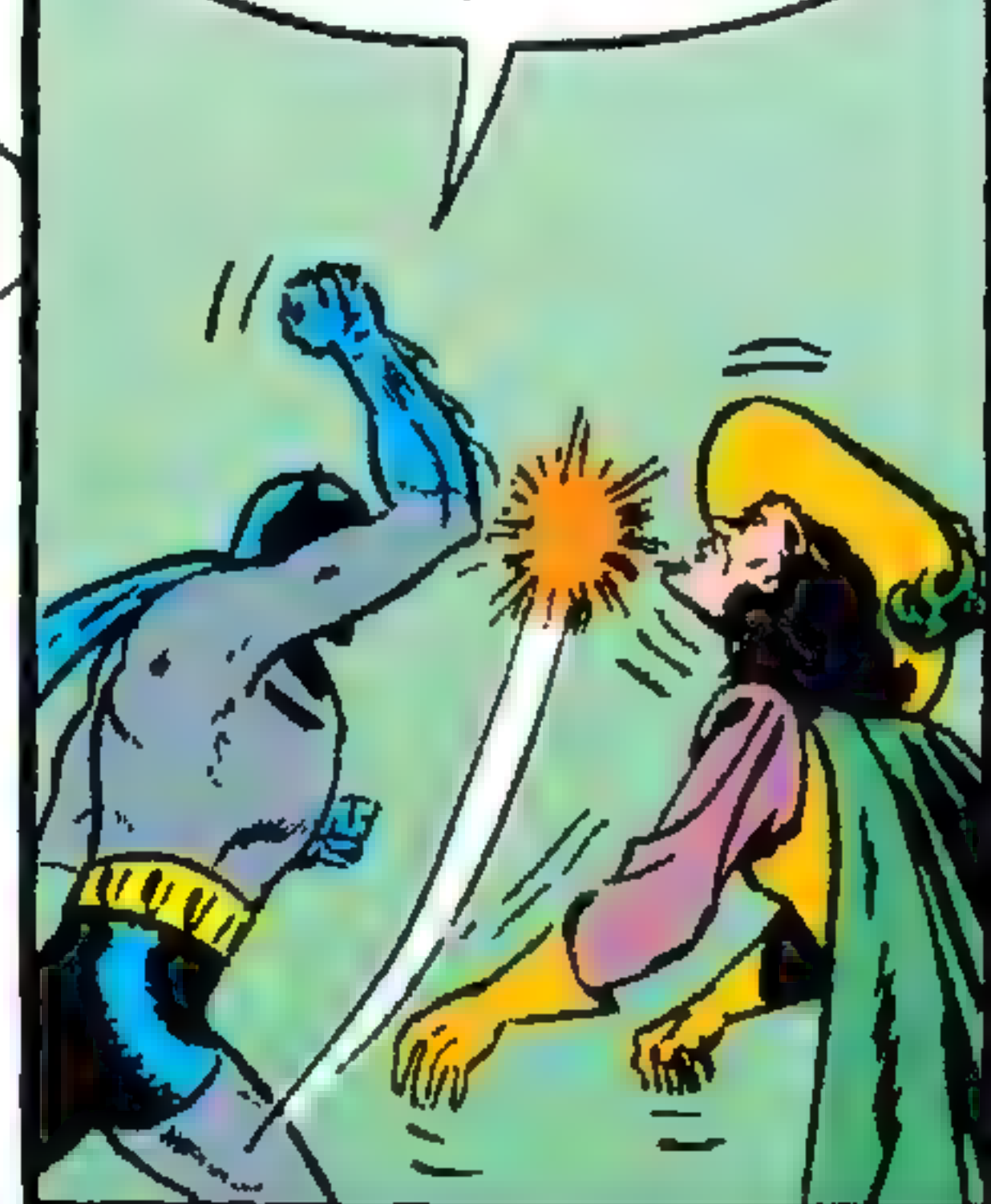
A LITHE YOUNG ARM SWINGS WITH DEVASTATING POWER... AND SLICES POWERLESSLY THROUGH THIN AIR!



--- AND PERHAPS NOT! A LACE HANDKERCHIEF IS A HANDY LITTLE WEAPON... WHEN THERE IS A LEADEN PELLET AT THE END OF IT!

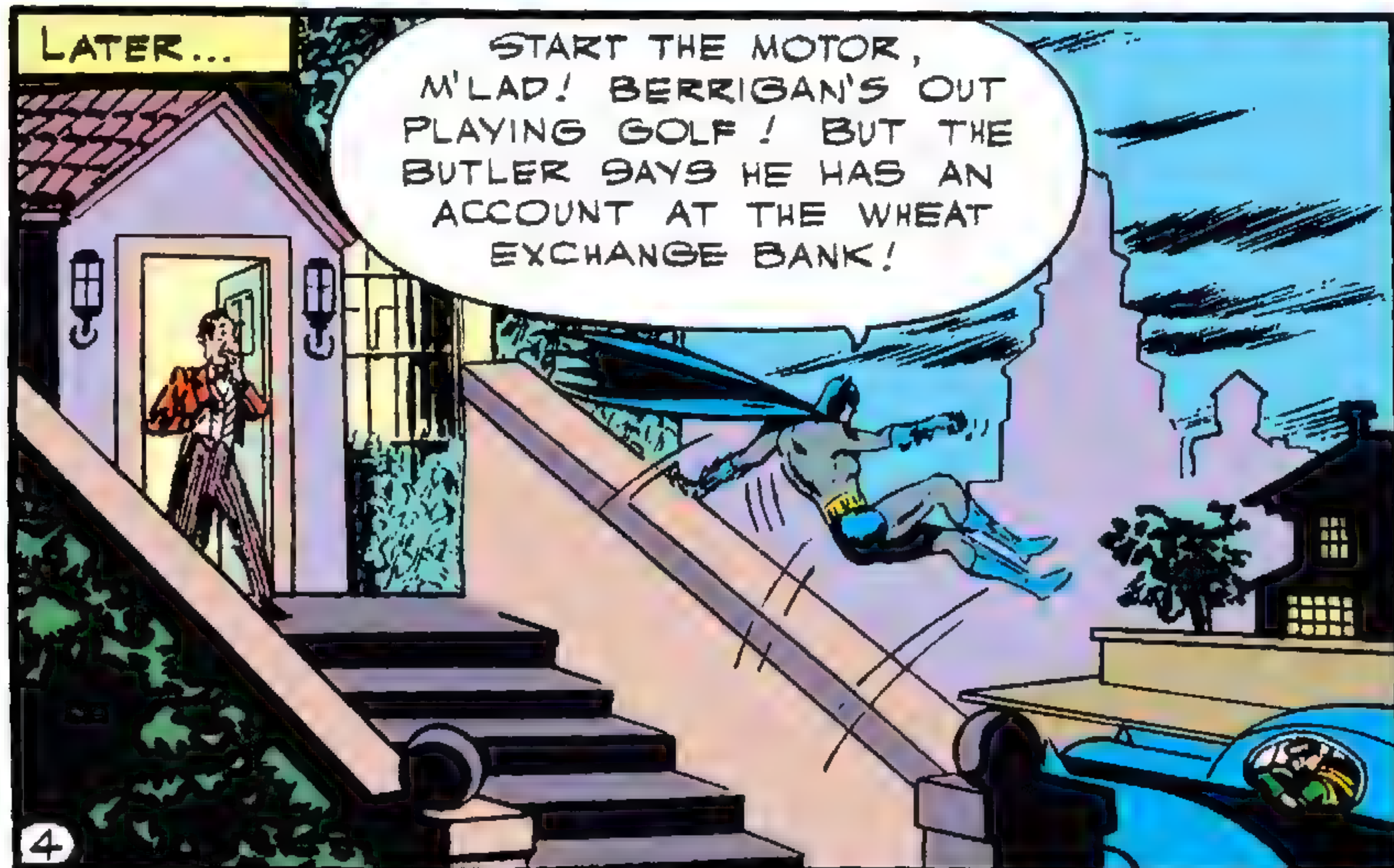
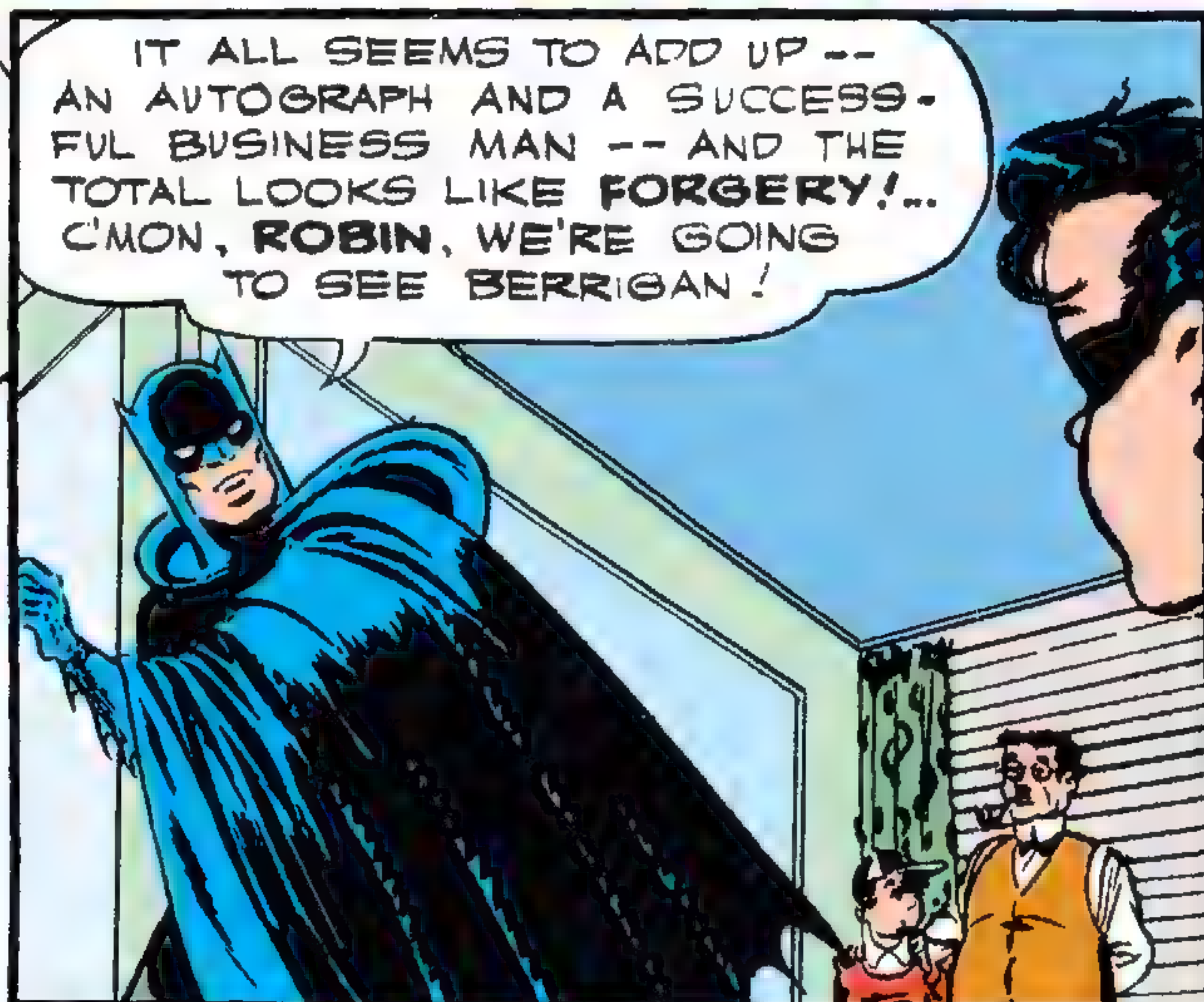
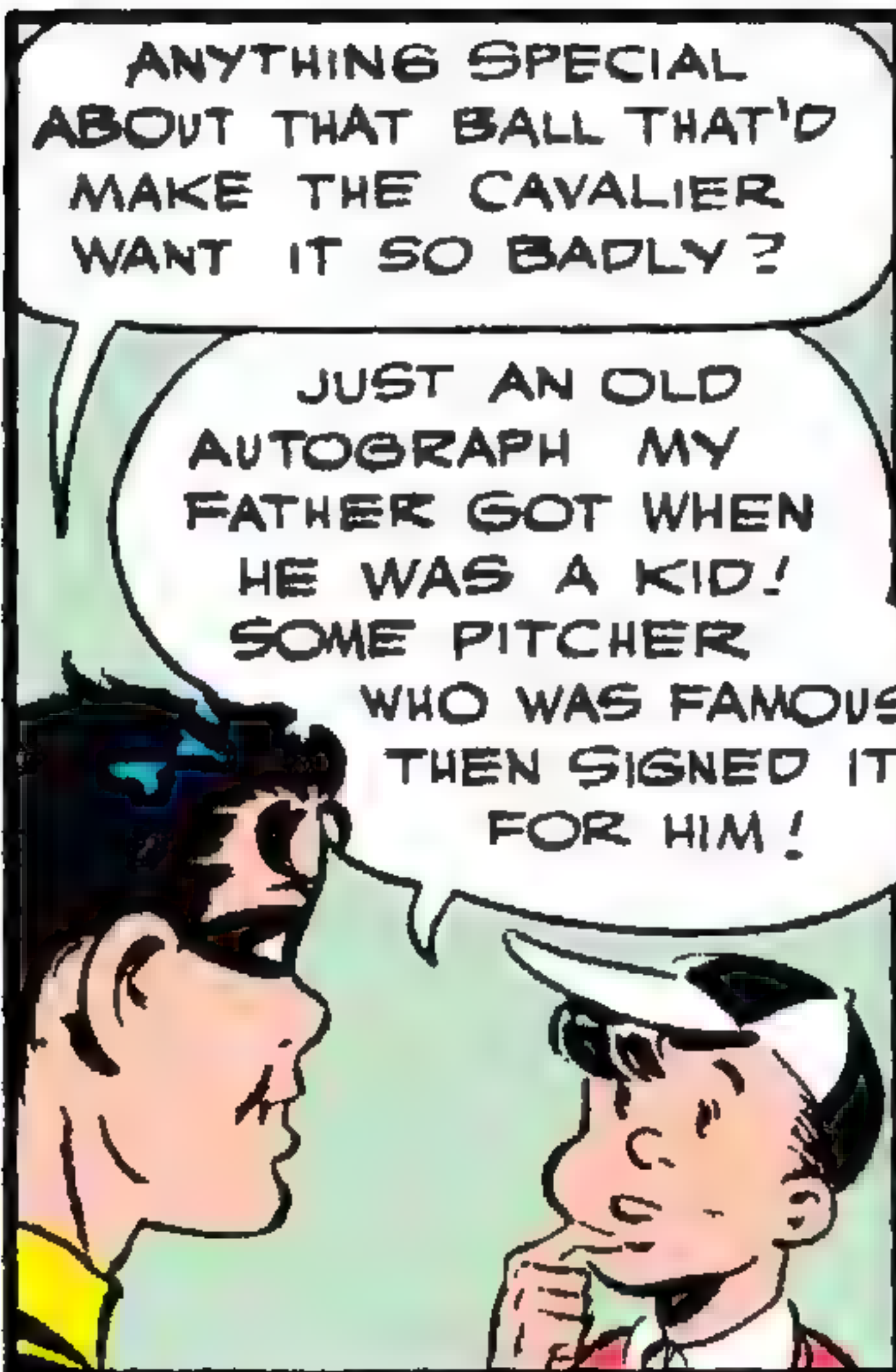


AND SO IS AN ARM... WHEN THERE'S A **FIST** AT THE END OF IT!



THEN, A CLASH OF GEARS AND THE GAILY GARBED ROGUE STREAKS AWAY!





MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF GOTHAM, THAT ROMANTIC RASCAL MOVES RAPIDLY ALONG HIS ROUND-ABOUT ROAD OF CRIME!

HOW FARE YOU, JENNINGS?

VERY WELL, IF I MAY SAY SO, SIR! JUST A LITTLE MORE PRACTICE---

THERE! IT'S PERFECT NOW!

SPLENDID! NOW INSCRIBE THE MESSAGE I SHALL DICTATE!

Berry Berrigan

PRESENTLY...

FOLLOW MY EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS, JENNINGS, AND I CAN PROMISE YOU WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE WHATSOEVER!

QUITE!

WHEAT EXCHANGE BANK

THAT NOTE IS WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION FROM MR. BERRIGAN TO GET SOMETHING FOR HIM FROM HIS SAFE DEPOSIT BOX!

YES, SIR!... GUARD, TAKE THIS MAN TO THE VAULT!

DOWN IN THE STEEL-SHEATHED COFFER ROOM... A KEY GRATES IN A MASSIVE LOCK AND A HAND REACHES INTO THE THICK METAL BOX...

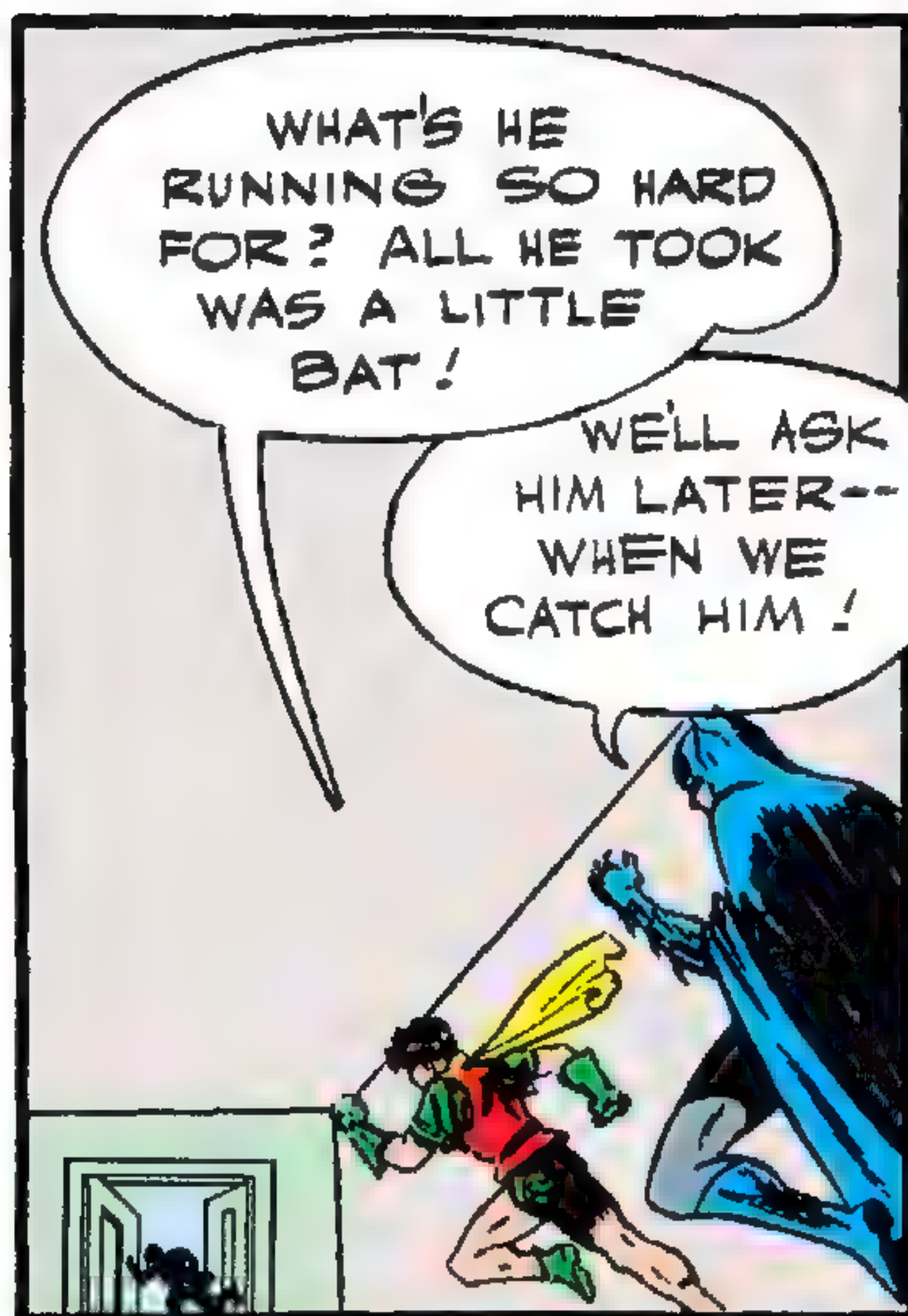
FOR A TOY BASEBALL BAT!

MINUTES LATER, IN THE BANK LOBBY ABOVE...

NO, **BATMAN!** NOBODY HAS PRESENTED ANY CHECKS DRAWN ON MR. BERRIGAN'S ACCOUNT!

VERY PECULIAR!

BUT A MAN DID HAVE A NOTE FROM MR. BERRIGAN TO GET A TOY BASEBALL BAT OUT OF HIS SAFE DEPOSIT VAULT! IN FACT---



THROUGH THE TWISTING CITY STREET ROARS THE CAVALIER'S CAR -- WITH THE GRIM SHAPE OF THE BATMOBILE CLINGING CLOSE!



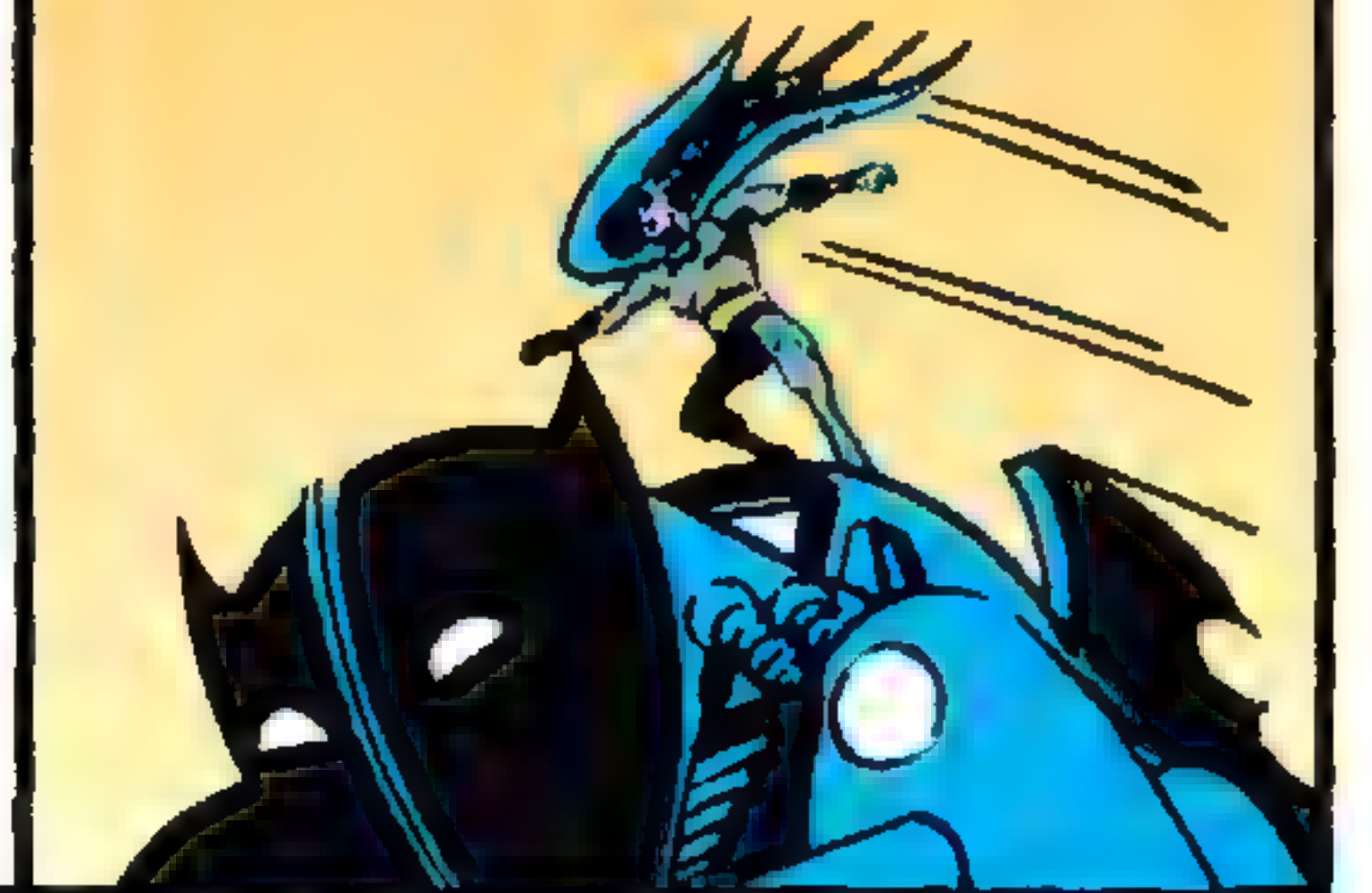
REARING WILDLY, THE TERRIFIED TEAM STAMPEDES DIRECTLY INTO THE BATMOBILE'S PATH!



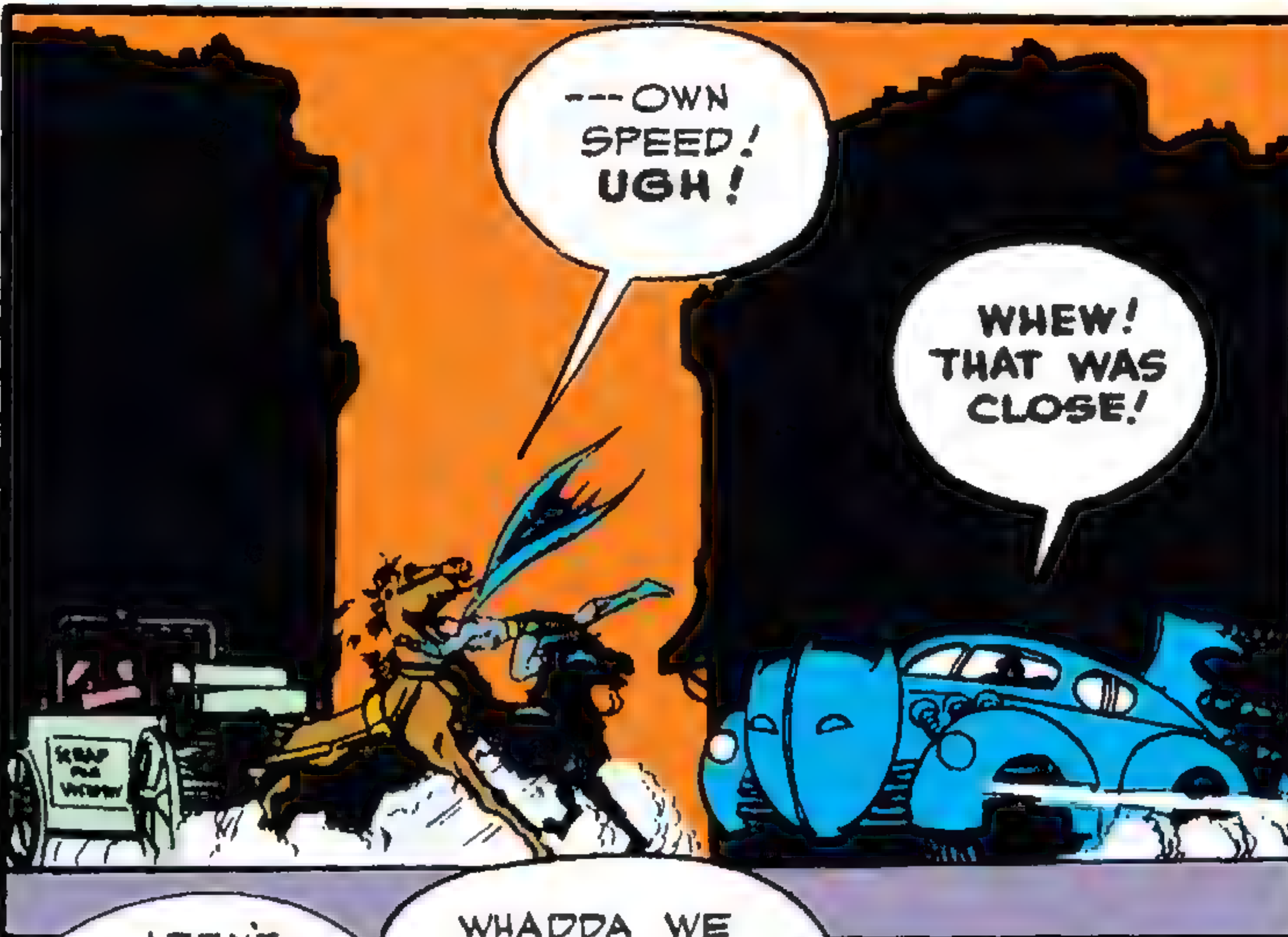
OH-OH!

GRAB THE WHEEL, ROBIN!

HERE'S WHERE WE TEST EINSTEIN'S THEORY... THAT I CAN TRAVEL AS FAST AS THE BATMOBILE PLUS MY ---

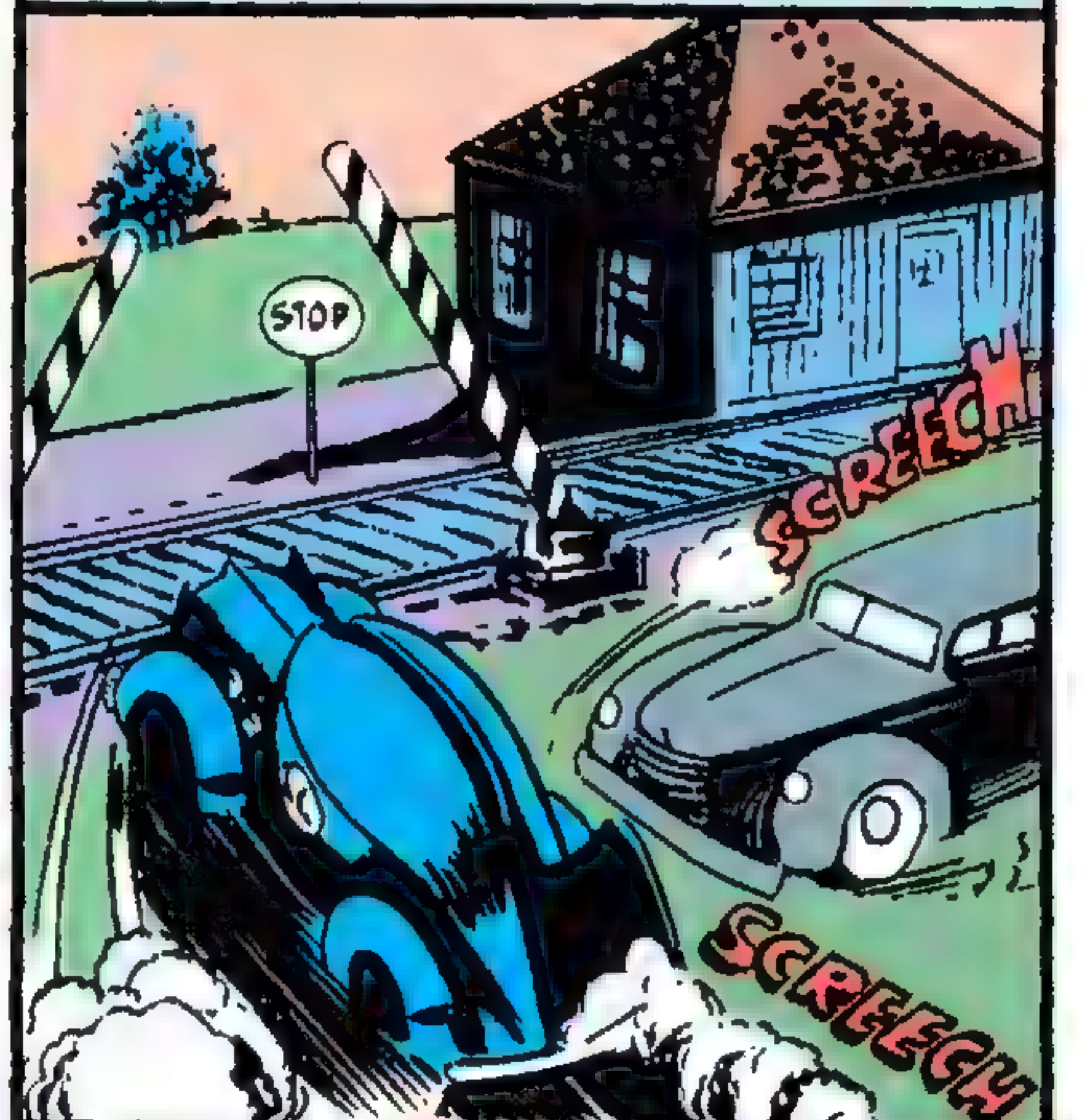


WITH DEADLY DANGER RECKLESSLY AVERTED, THE SLEEK BATMOBILE TAKES TO THE HUNT AGAIN! AND BEFORE LONG...



---OWN SPEED! UGH!

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

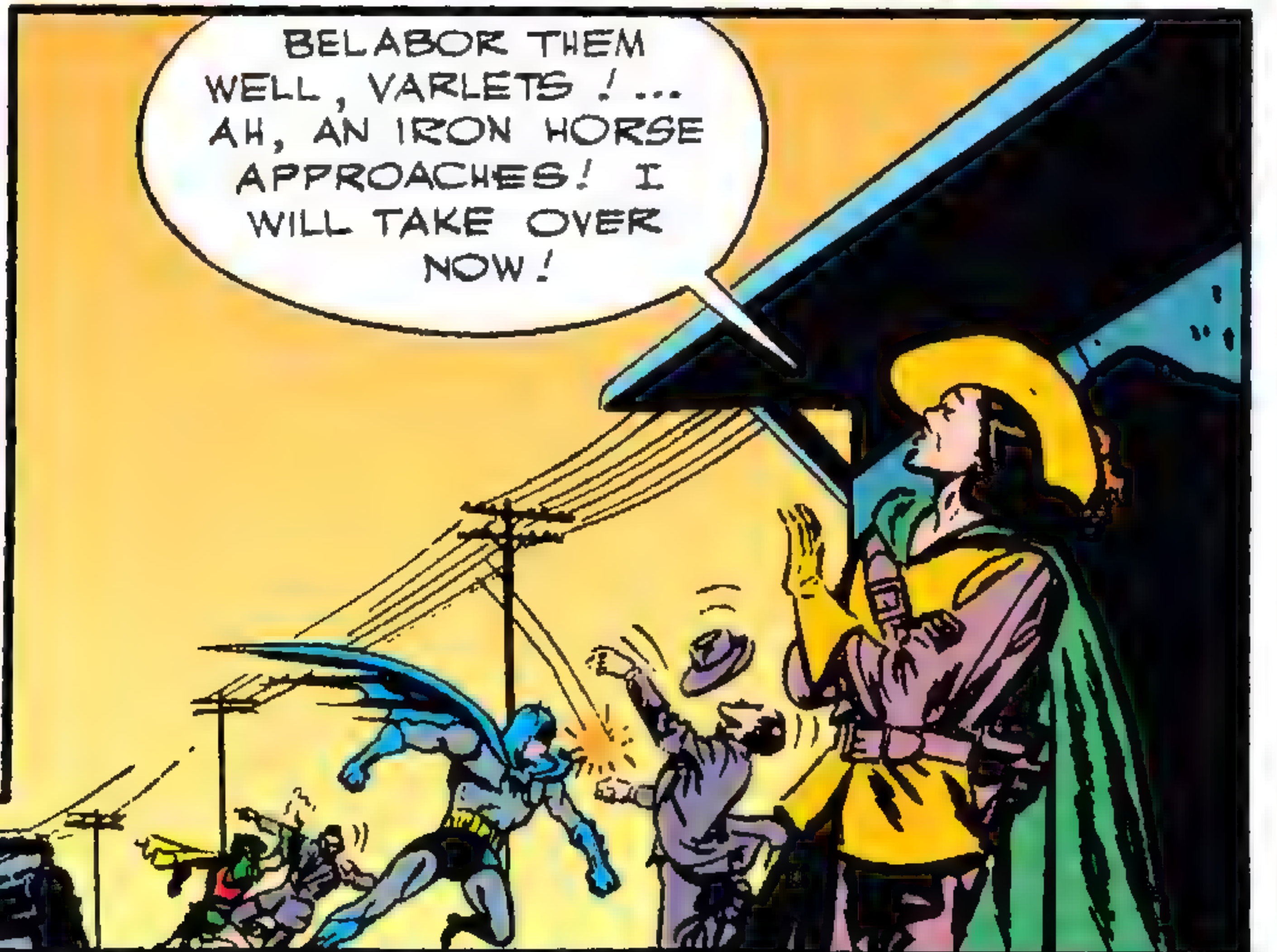


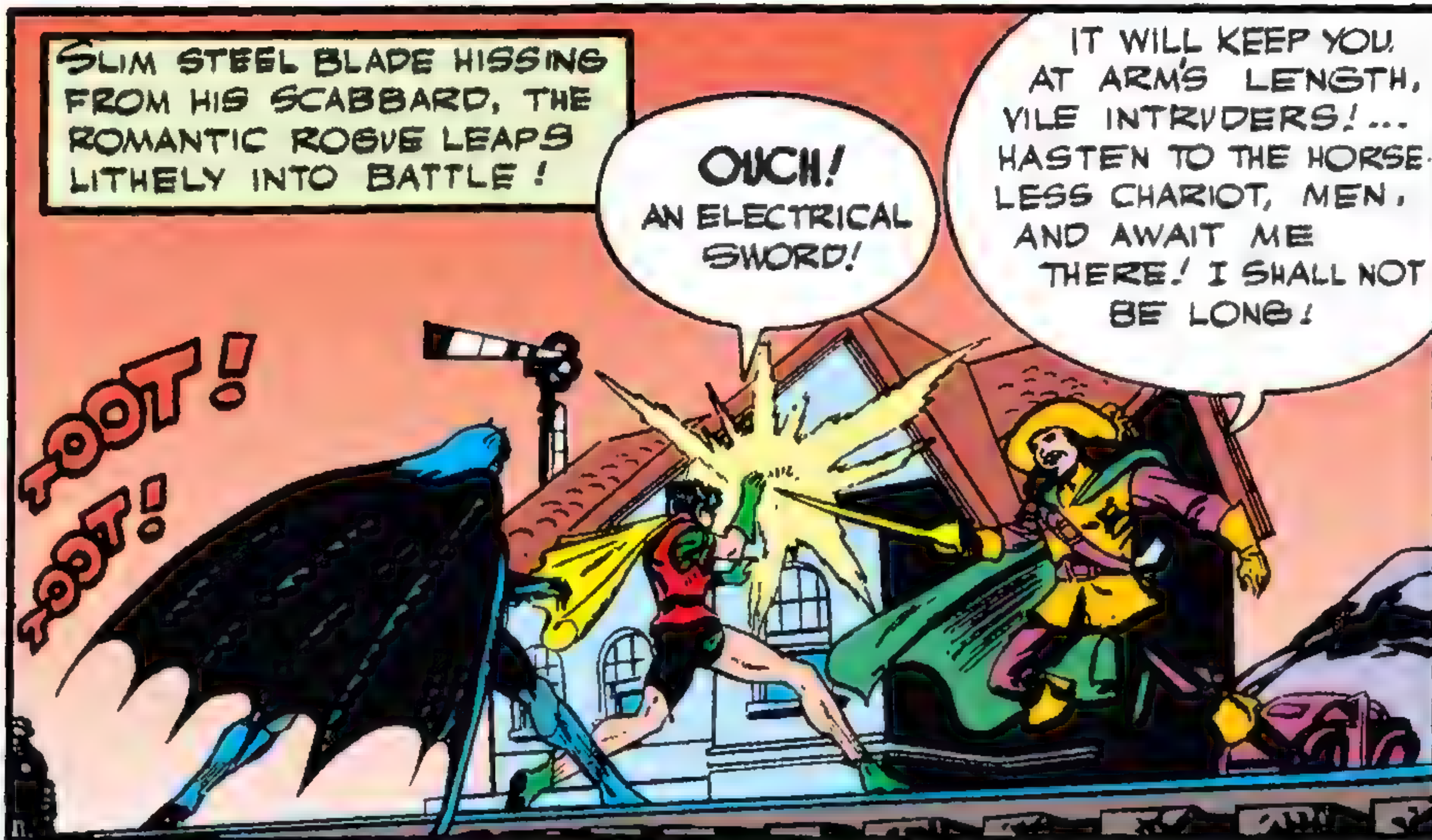
AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES FIGHTING OVER A TOY BAT!

WHADDA WE CARE WHAT WE FIGHT OVER AS LONG AS WE GET PAID?



BELABOR THEM WELL, VARLETS! ... AH, AN IRON HORSE APPROACHES! I WILL TAKE OVER NOW!





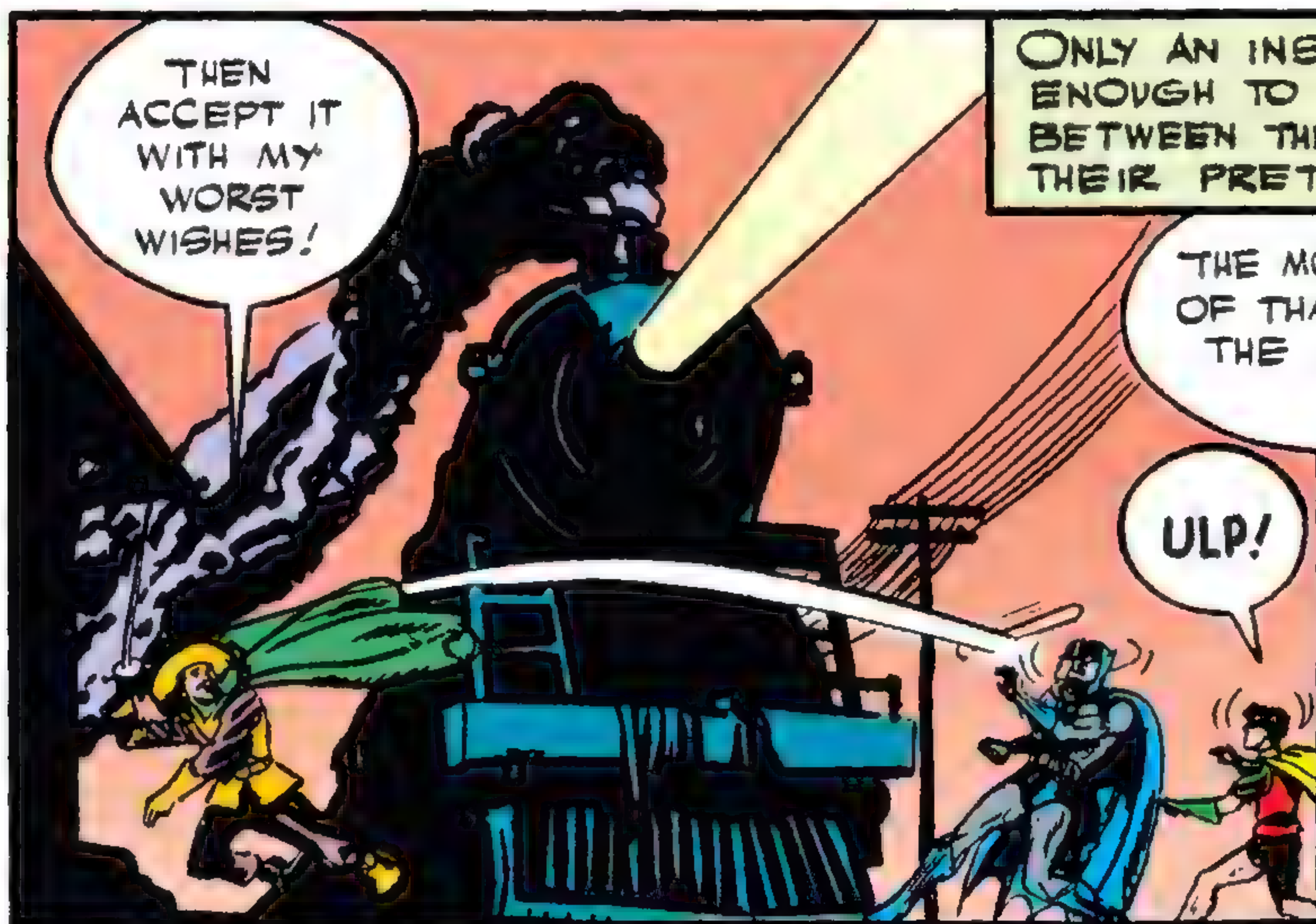
SLIM STEEL BLADE HISSING FROM HIS SCABBARD, THE ROMANTIC ROBE LEAPS LITHELY INTO BATTLE!

OUCH!
AN ELECTRICAL
SWORD!

IT WILL KEEP YOU
AT ARM'S LENGTH,
VILE INTRUDERS!...
HASTEN TO THE HORSE-
LESS CHARIOT, MEN,
AND AWAIT ME
THERE! I SHALL NOT
BE LONG!

HERE! THIS MINI-
ATURE CUDGEL
IS WHAT YOU
ARE SEEKING,
IS IT NOT?

YES,
BUT...



THEN
ACCEPT IT
WITH MY
WORST
WISHES!

ONLY AN INSTANT'S HESITATION -- BUT
ENOUGH TO PUT A ROCKETING TRAIN
BETWEEN THE POWERHOUSE PAIR AND
THEIR PRETENTIOUS PREY!

THE MORE I SEE
OF THAT RAINBOW,
THE LESS I LIKE
HIM!

ULP!

HE'S SHREWD, ALL
RIGHT! BUT WE'LL
GET ONTO HIS
TRICKS! AND
WHEN WE
DO---!

WHAT KIND
OF BAT IS
THIS ANY-
WAY?
FIRST THE
CAVALIER
GOES TO
SO MUCH
TROUBLE
TO GET IT
AND NOW
HE THROWS
IT AWAY
JUST LIKE
THAT!
QUEER
DOINGS, WE
MUST
SAY!

WELL, AT LEAST WE'VE GOT
THE BAT! THAT'S BETTER
THAN NOTHING!

I'M
BEGINNING TO WONDER!
IT'S JUST AN ORDINARY
TOY, MADE OF WOOD;
AND NOTHING RATTLES
INSIDE! AND
IT WON'T
OPEN!

BUT IT HAS TO! IT HAS
TO HAVE SOMETHING VAL-
UABLE INSIDE OTHER-
WISE THIS WHOLE BUSINESS
DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

HOLD ON, ROBIN!
SUBWAY ELECTRIC
LIGHTS ARE THE
ANSWER!

HUH! SUBWAY ELECTRIC
LIGHTS?

SURE!
THEY UNSCREW
IN THE OPPOSITE
DIRECTION TO KEEP
NUISANCES FROM
STEALING THEM...
AND SO DOES
THE BAT!

HERE'S THE ONLY THING IN IT -- A WAD OF COTTON!

I GET IT! THE COTTON KEEPS WHATEVER WAS IN THERE FROM RATTLING!... BUT THERE ISN'T ANYTHING, SO WE'RE STYMIED!

BUT THE CAPED CRIME-CRUSHER'S KEEN EYES SPOT A CLUE!

NO, M'LAD! THE CAVALIER OUTSMARTED HIMSELF IN GIVING US THIS BAT TO EXAMINE! THIS BAT HELD A KEY! SEE THE IMPRINT?

MEANWHILE...

BOY, YOU SURE MADE MONKEYS OUT OF THEM TWO, CAVALIER!

YEAH, YOU GOT A HEAD ON YOU ALL RIGHT!

THANK YOU, MESSIEURS! I HOPE SOME DAY TO BE ABLE TO RETURN THE COMPLIMENT! NOW SPEED ON TO OUR DESTINATION!

BUT FATE INTERVENES--FATE IN THE FORM OF A LITTLE OLD LADY, WITH TOO MANY PARCELS FOR HER SHAKY HANDS!

HOLD, DRIVER! I WOULD HELP THAT HELPLESS GRANDAME!

AW, BUT BOSS, WE'RE IN A BIG HURRY!

DEAR ME, THIS IS VERY NICE OF YOU!

NOT AT ALL, MADAME! IT IS MAN'S BOUNDEN DUTY TO ASSIST WOMANKIND!

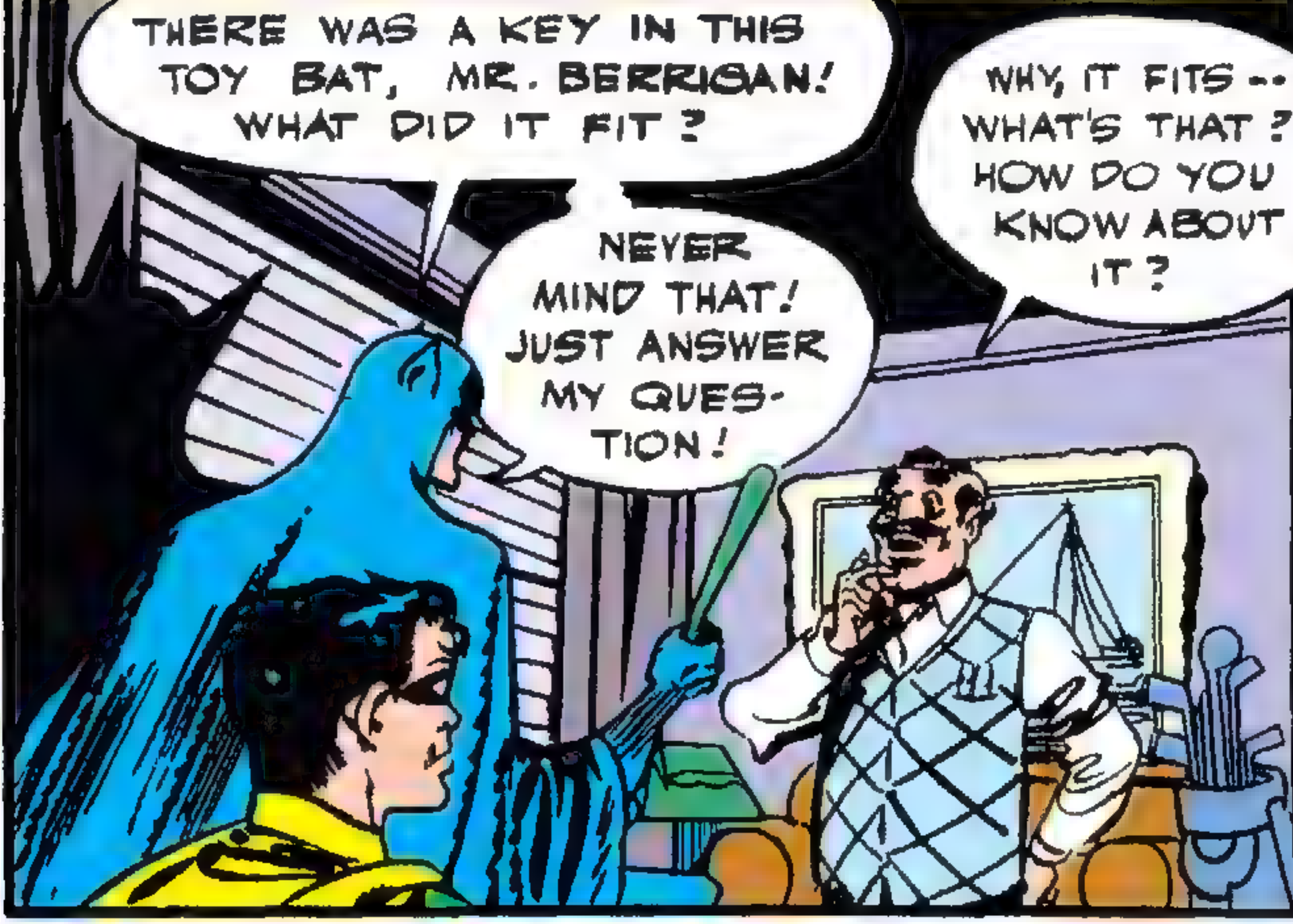
WELL, WILL YA LOOK AT THAT?

AND US BREAKIN' OUR NECKS TO GET THERE!

GOSH, WHAT FOR, CAVALIER? NOW MAYBE THE BATMAN'LL BE ABLE TO STOP US!

CHIVALRY IS MY ENTIRE CODE OF HONOR! AND NEVER FEAR, WE'LL ACCOMPLISH OUR DEED BEFORE THE BATMAN TRACES US!

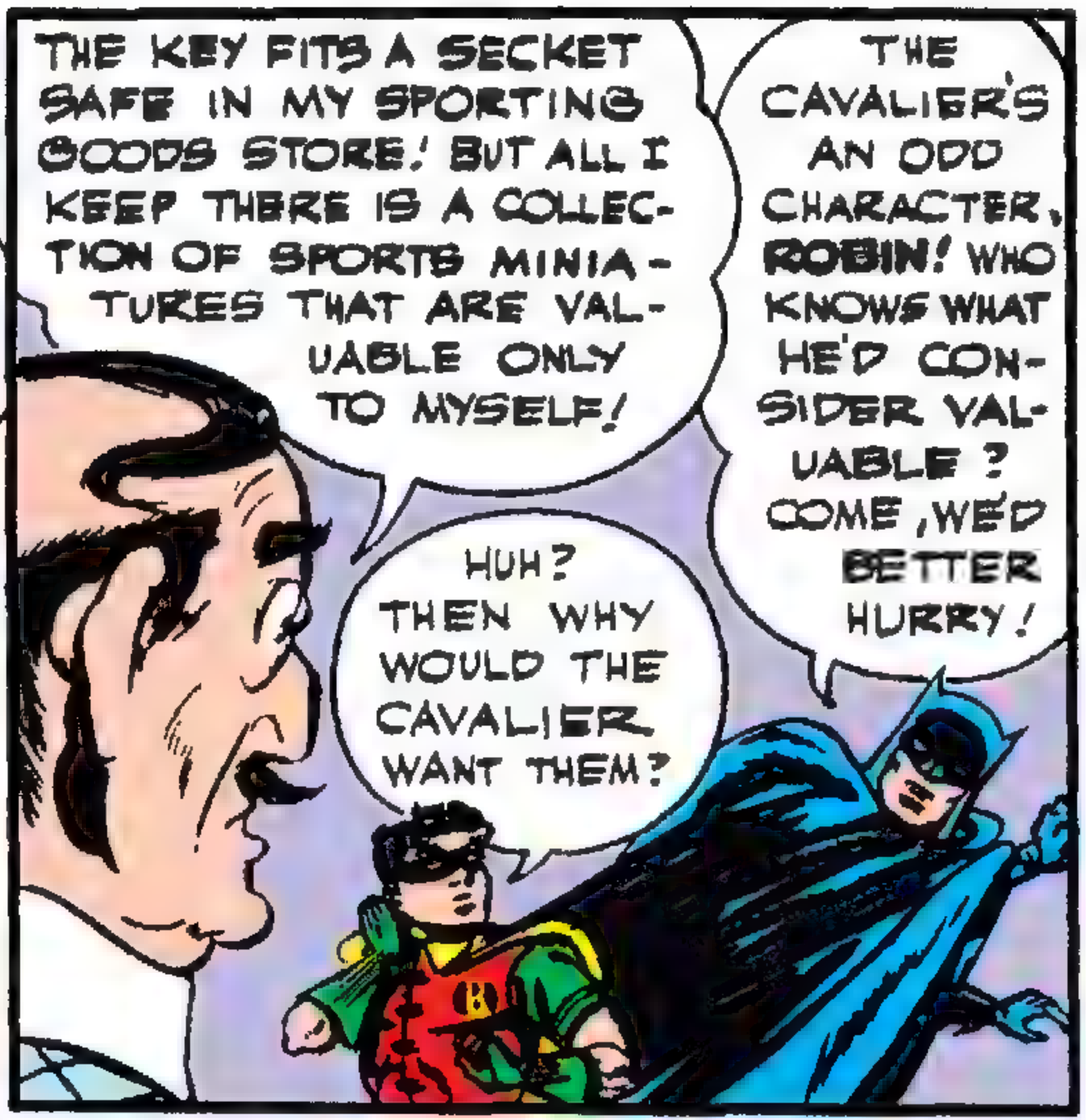
BUT AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE HOUSE OF BERRY BERRIGAN, EX-PITCHER...



THERE WAS A KEY IN THIS TOY BAT, MR. BERRIGAN! WHAT DID IT FIT?

NEVER MIND THAT! JUST ANSWER MY QUESTION!

WHY, IT FITS -- WHAT'S THAT? HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?

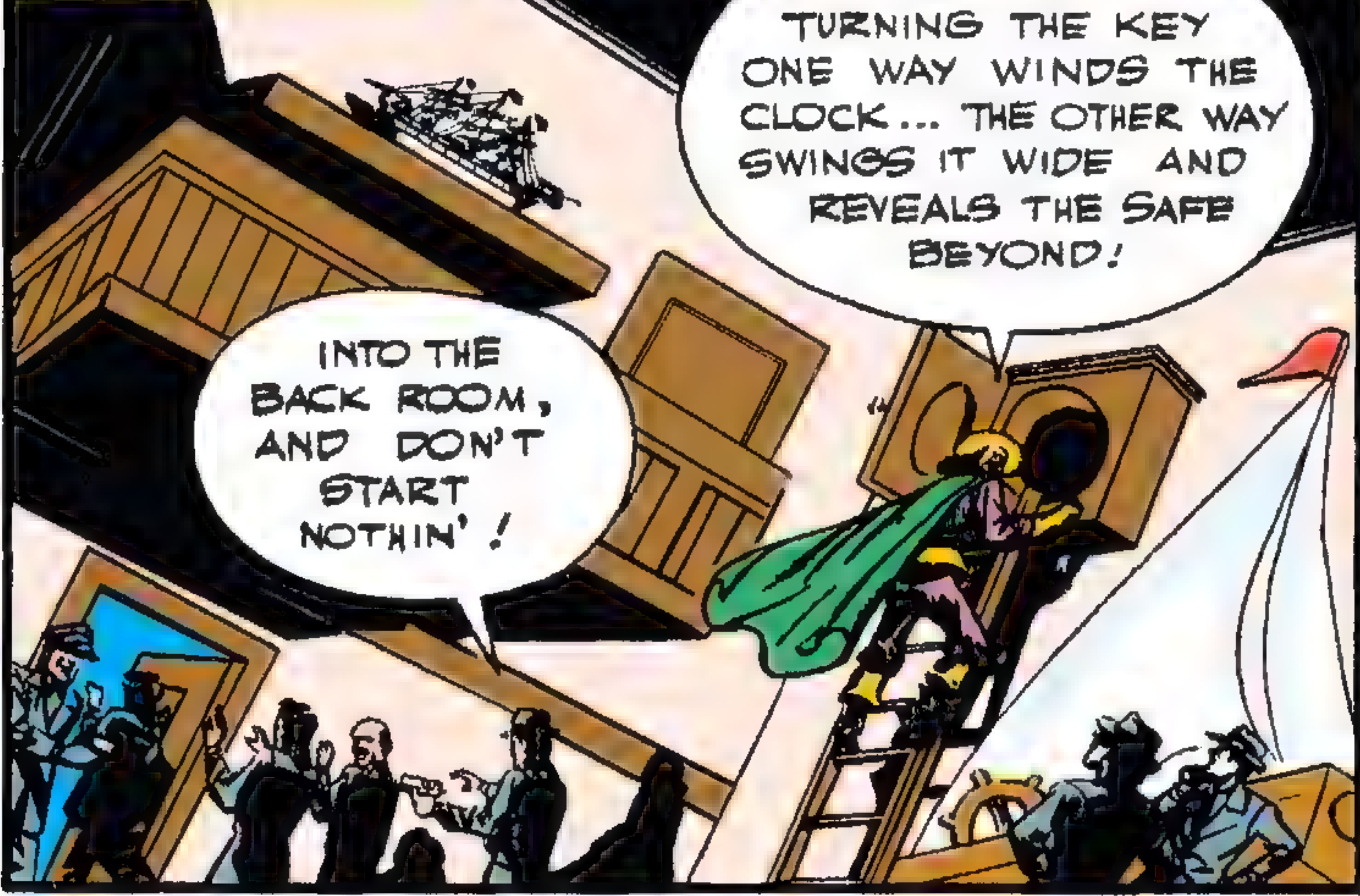


THE KEY FITS A SECKET SAFE IN MY SPORTING GOODS STORE! BUT ALL I KEEP THERE IS A COLLECTION OF SPORTS MINIA-TURES THAT ARE VAL-UABLE ONLY TO MYSELF!

HUH? THEN WHY WOULD THE CAVALIER WANT THEM?

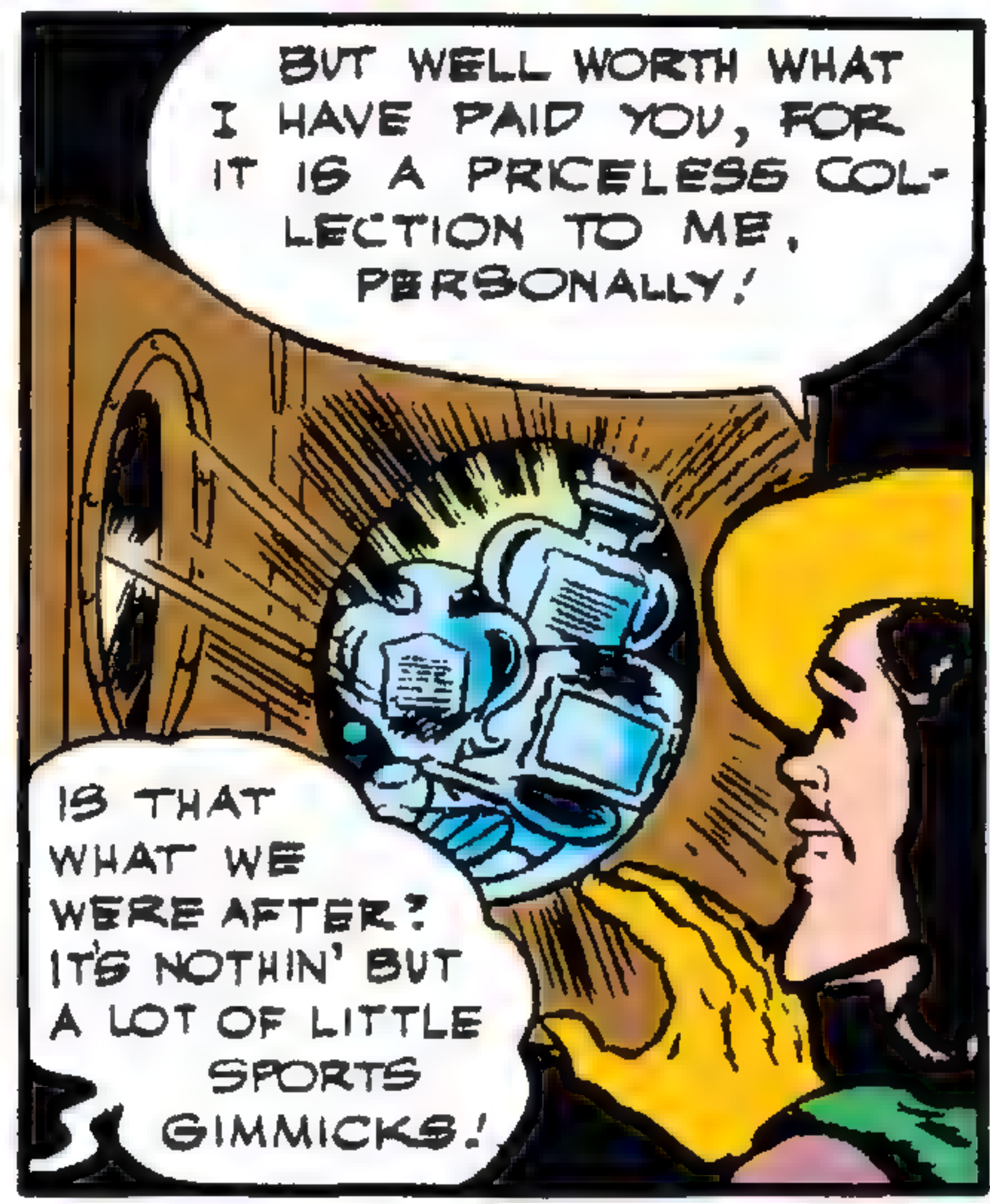
THE CAVALIER'S AN ODD CHARACTER, ROBIN! WHO KNOWS WHAT HE'D CON-SIDER VAL-UABLE? COME, WE'D BETTER HURRY!

MEANWHILE...



INTO THE BACK ROOM, AND DON'T START NOTHIN'!

OBSERVE --- TURNING THE KEY ONE WAY WINDS THE CLOCK... THE OTHER WAY SWINGS IT WIDE AND REVEALS THE SAFE BEYOND!



BUT WELL WORTH WHAT I HAVE PAID YOU, FOR IT IS A PRICELESS COLLECTION TO ME, PERSONALLY!

IS THAT WHAT WE WERE AFTER? IT'S NOTHIN' BUT A LOT OF LITTLE SPORTS GIMMICKS!

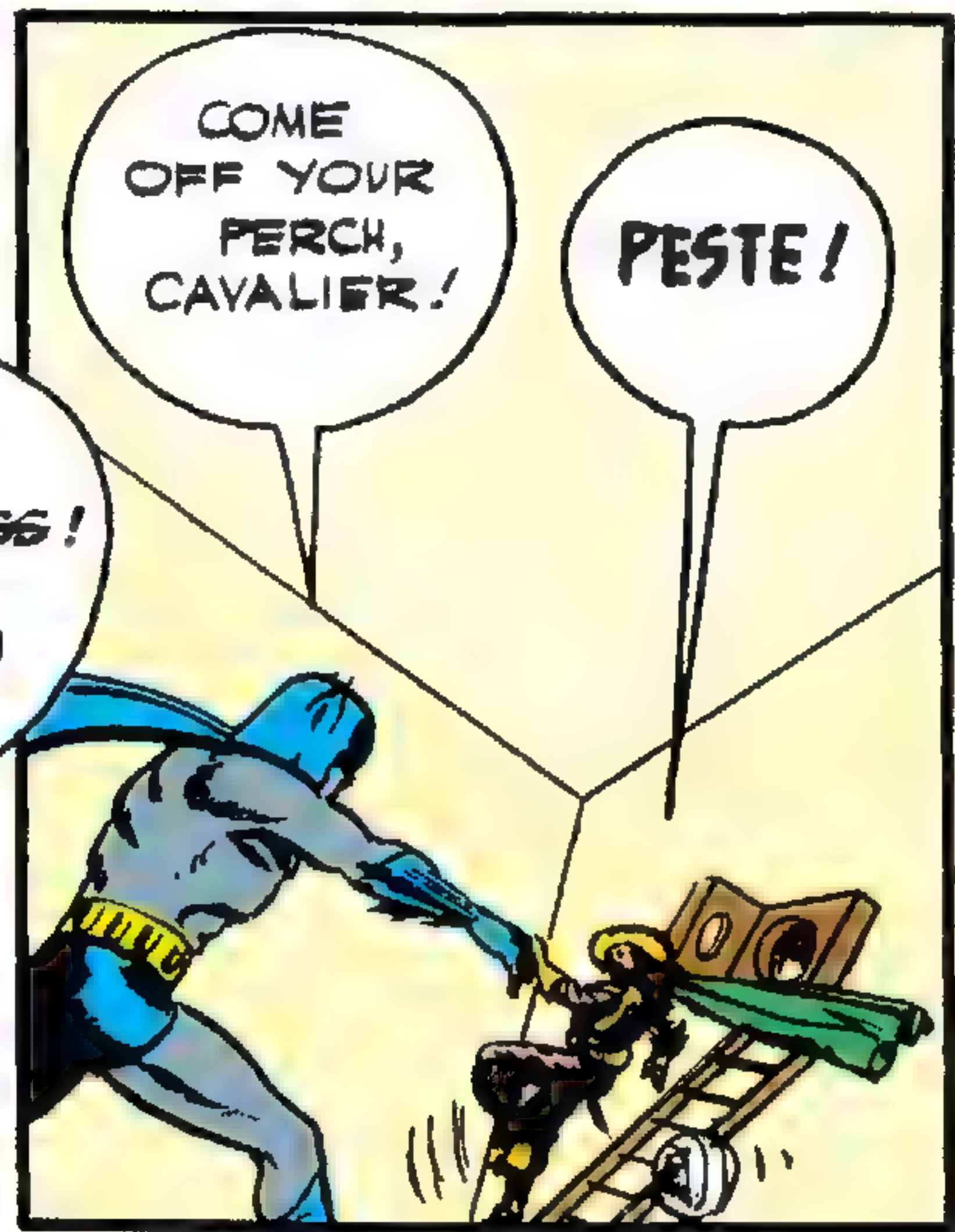
ABRUPTLY, TWO STERN CAPED FIGURES INTERRUPT!



VERY TOUCHING, CAVALIER! BUT YOU WON'T COLLECT THEM!

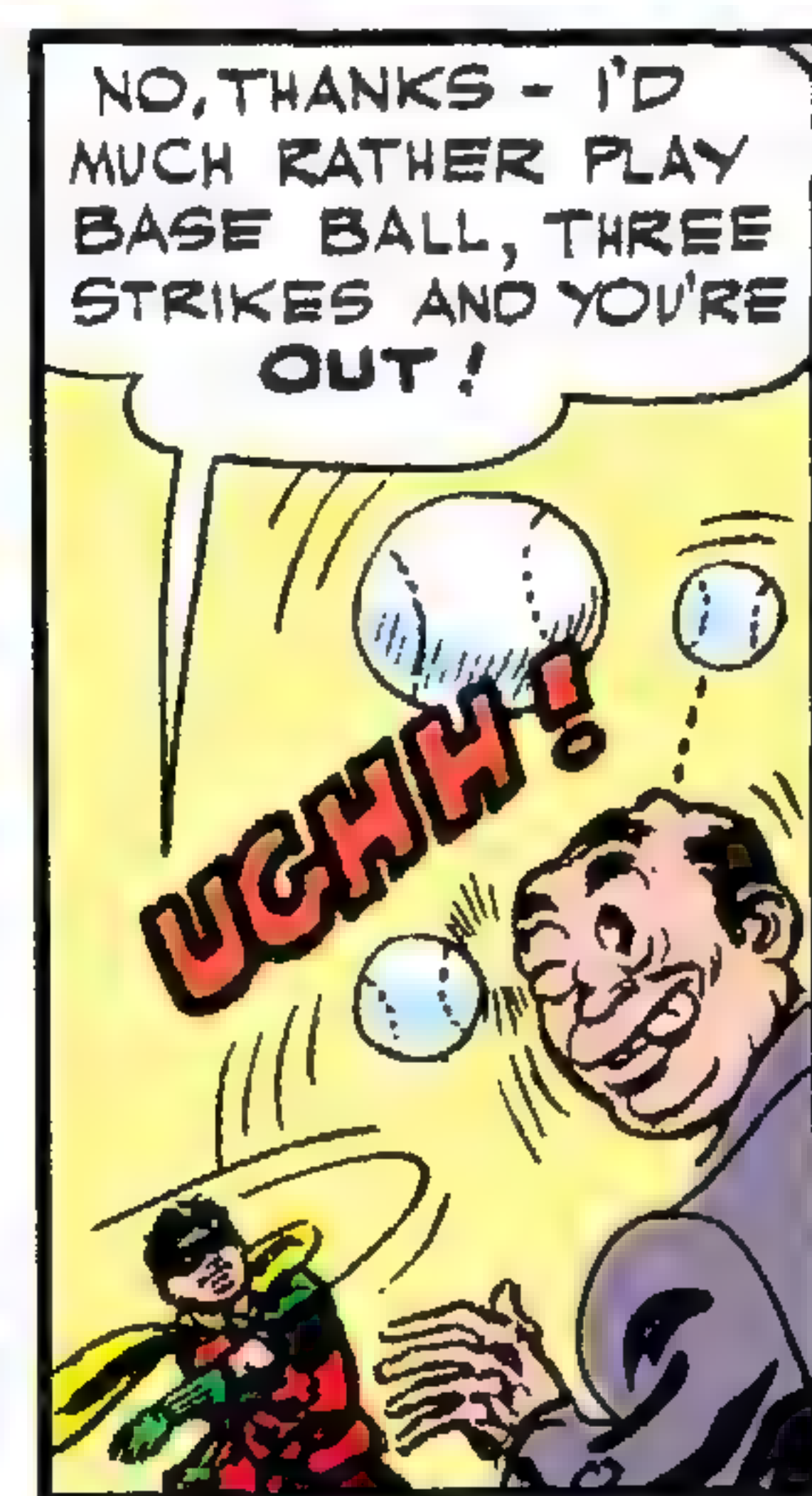
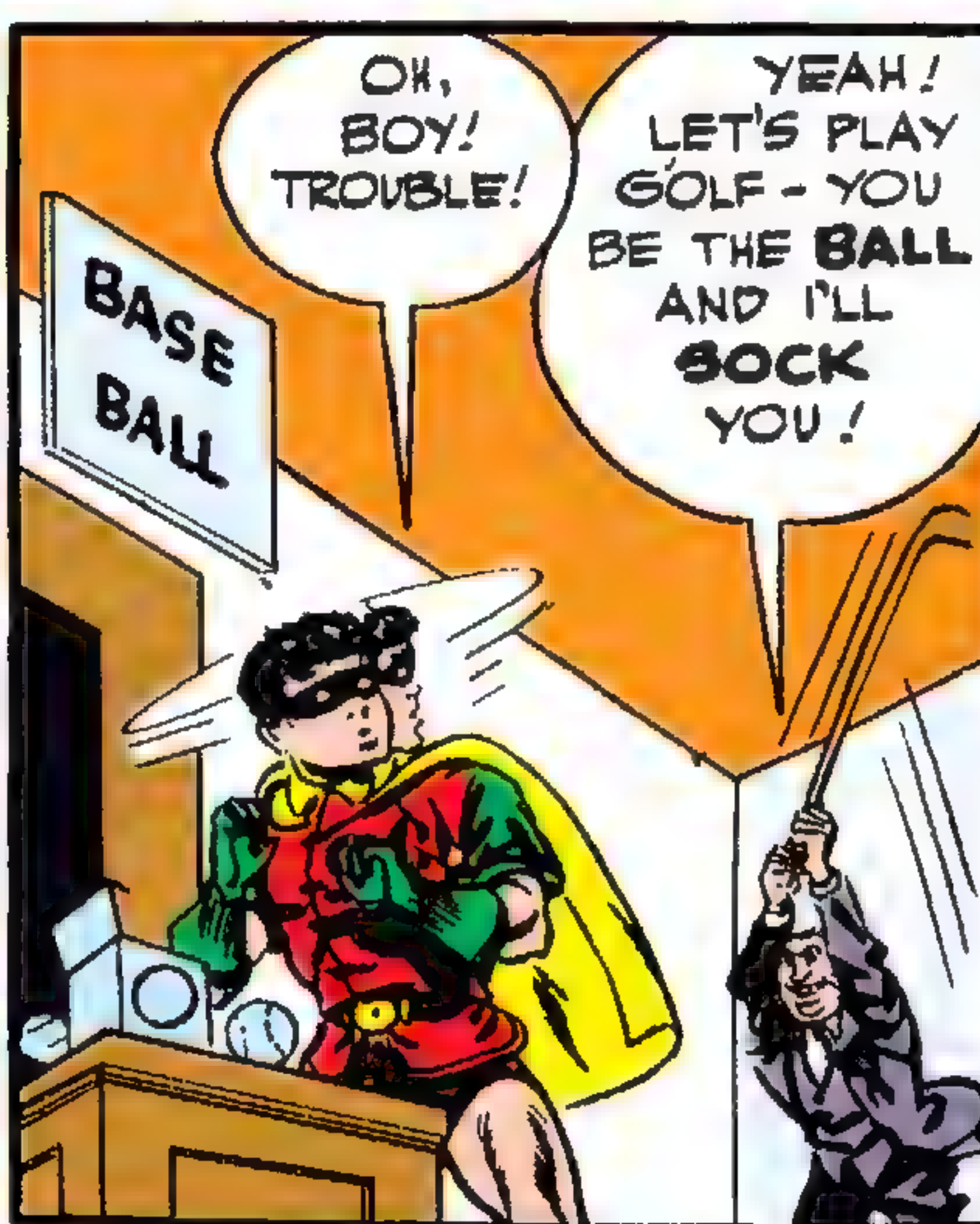
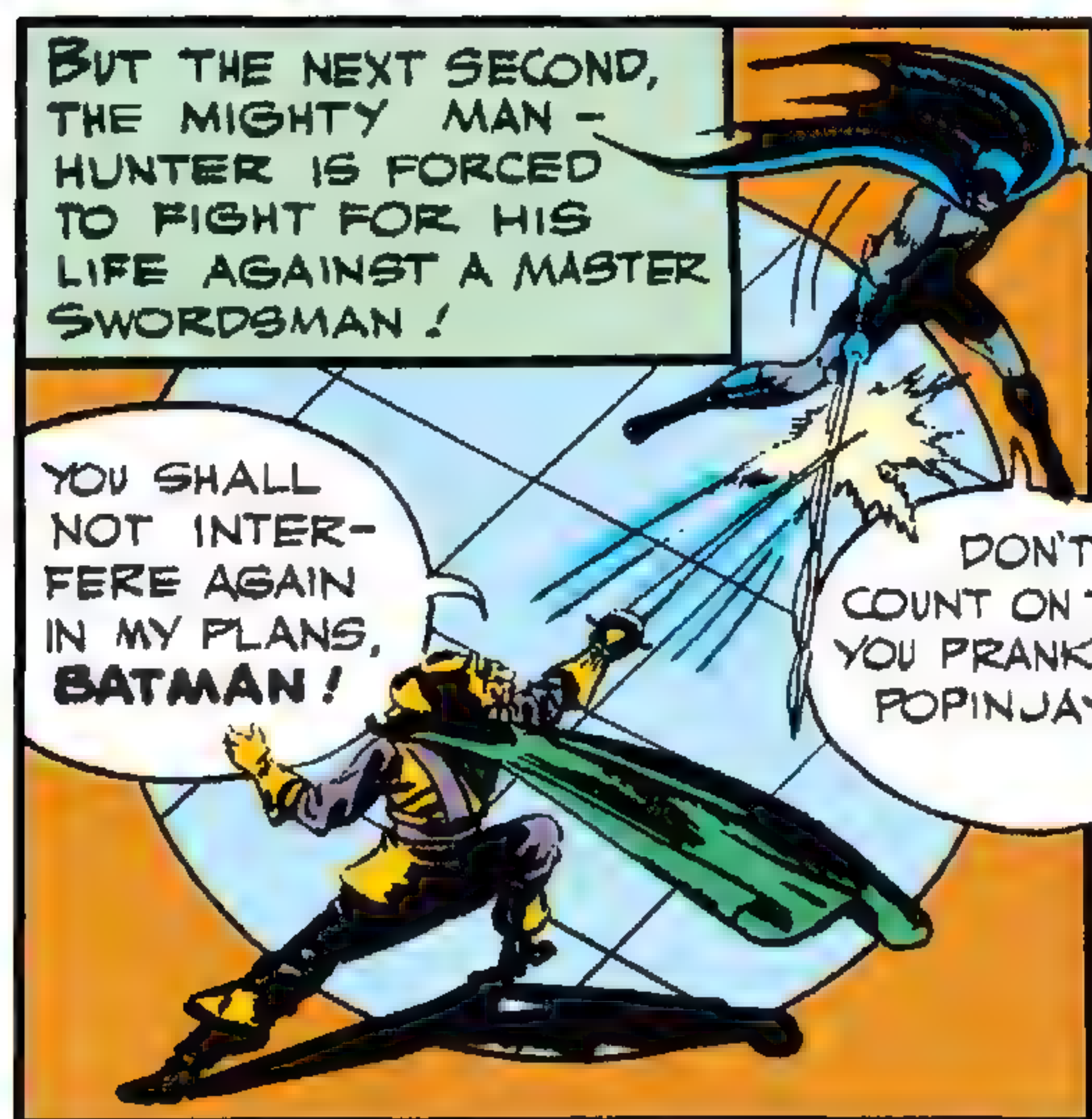
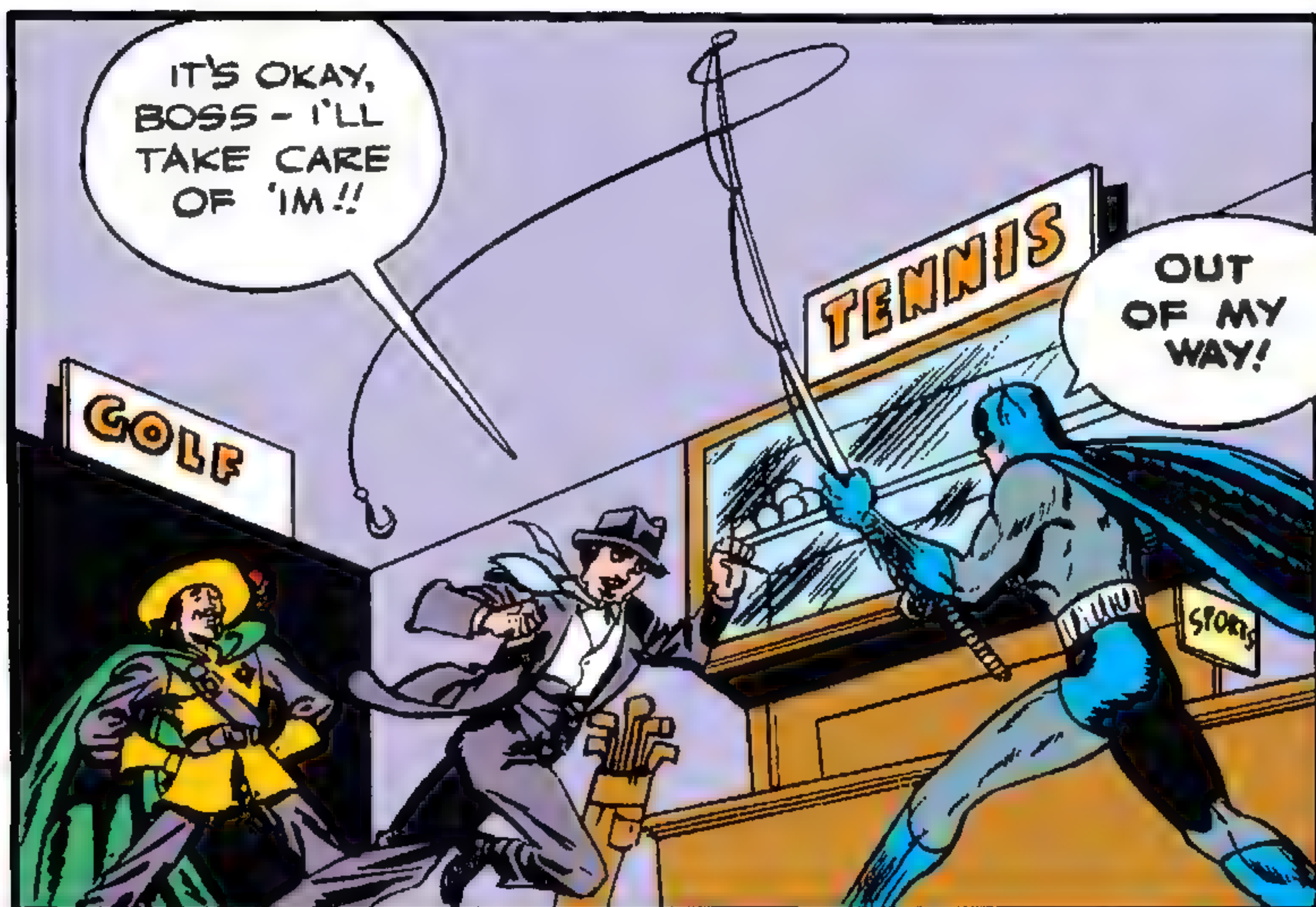
SEE WHERE THIS CHIVALRY STUFF GETS YA, BOSS! THAT'S WHAT GAVE EM TIME TO CATCH UP WITH US!

'SBLOOD! BATMAN AND ROBIN!



COME OFF YOUR PERCH, CAVALIER!

PESTE!



MEANWHILE, BATMAN FORCES HIS WILY OPPONENT BACKWARD... EVER BACKWARD!

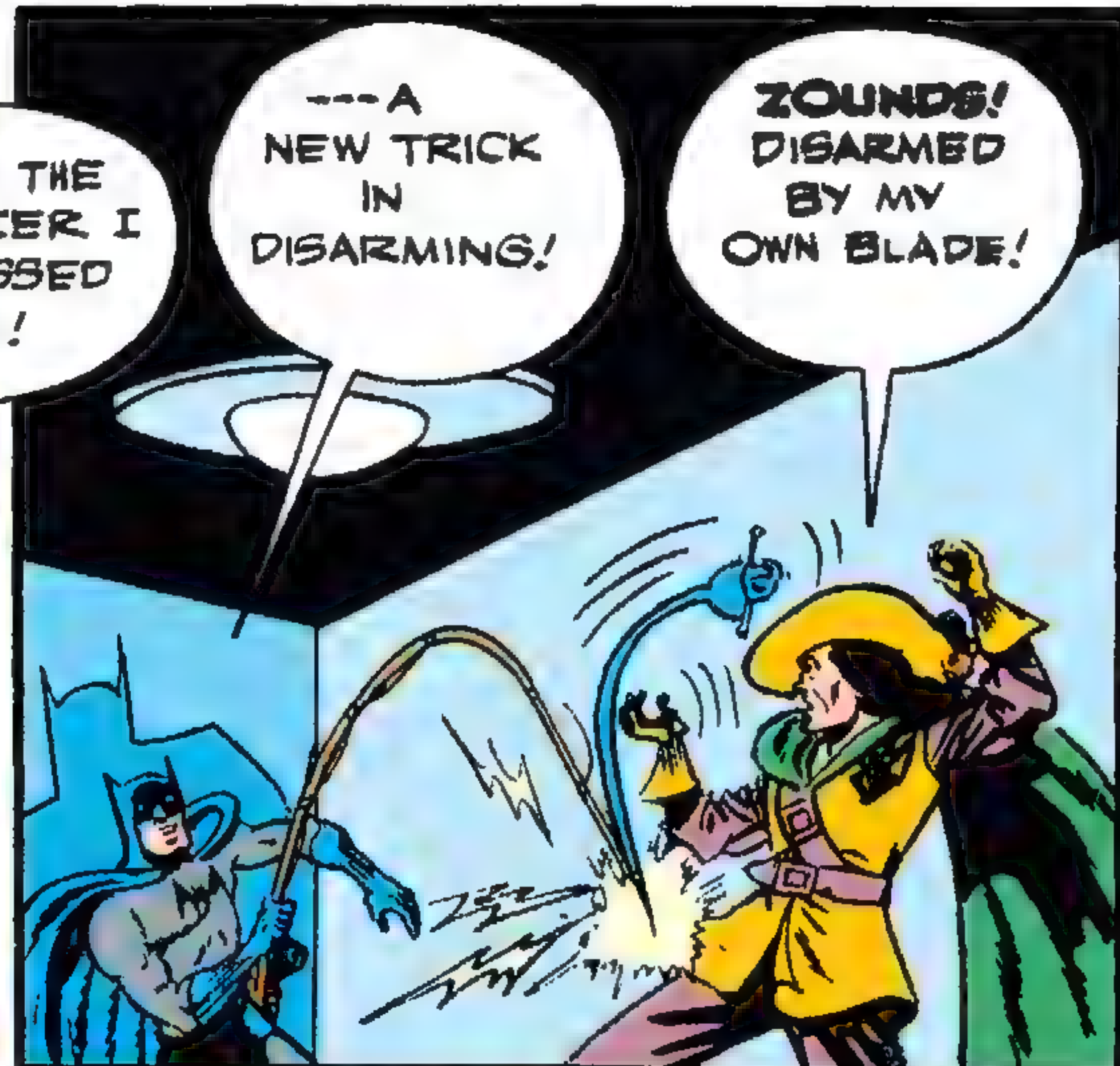


FAITH, YOU ARE THE GREATEST FENCER I HAVE EVER CROSSED SWORDS WITH!

MIGHTY NICE OF YOU TO SAY SO! NOW HERE'S SOMETHING THAT WILL INTEREST YOU---

AND NOW I THINK I'LL DISMANTLE YOU WITH MY BARE HANDS!

SAY NOT SO! THE CAVALIER STILL HAS A TRICK UP HIS HAT!



---A NEW TRICK IN DISARMING!

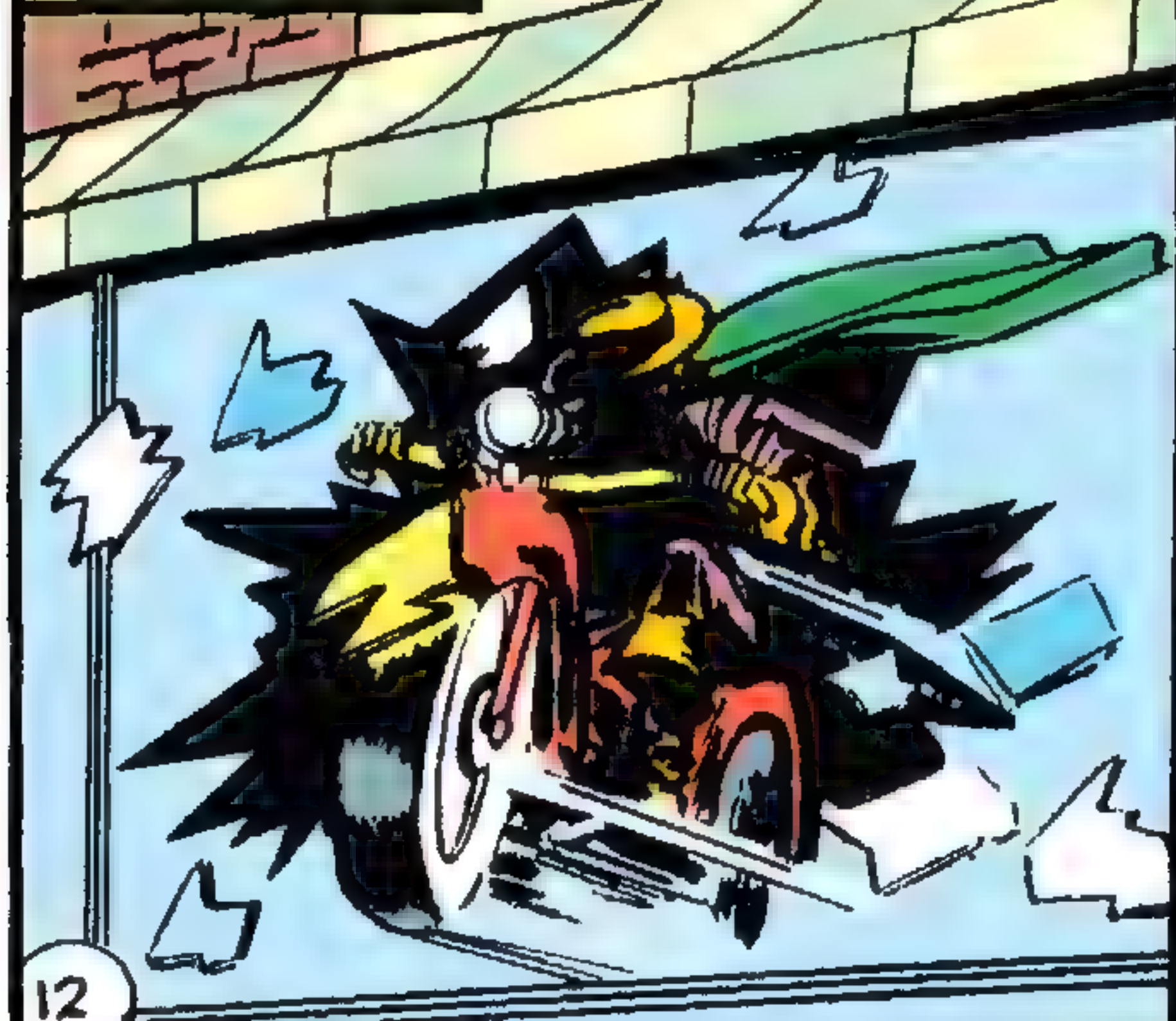
ZOUNDS! DISARMED BY MY OWN BLADE!



A PLUME WITH A STEEL-TIPPED DART!

PRECISELY, MON AMI! AND NOW FAREWELL UNTIL THE NEXT TIME WE MEET!

AND BEFORE THE DYNAMIC DUO CAN ACT...



SHORTLY AFTER...

(PUFF) THE COLLECTION HASN'T BEEN TOUCHED (PUFF) THANKS TO YOU, BATMAN (PUFF) AND ROBIN!



AND THE GANG IS ALL HERE, CAPTAIN... EXCEPT THE CAVALIER! WE'LL ADD HIM TO YOUR COLLECTION AS SOON AS WE CAN!

PARBLEU-CHECKMATED! BUT THEY SHALL FEEL THE STEEL OF THE CAVALIER AGAIN!



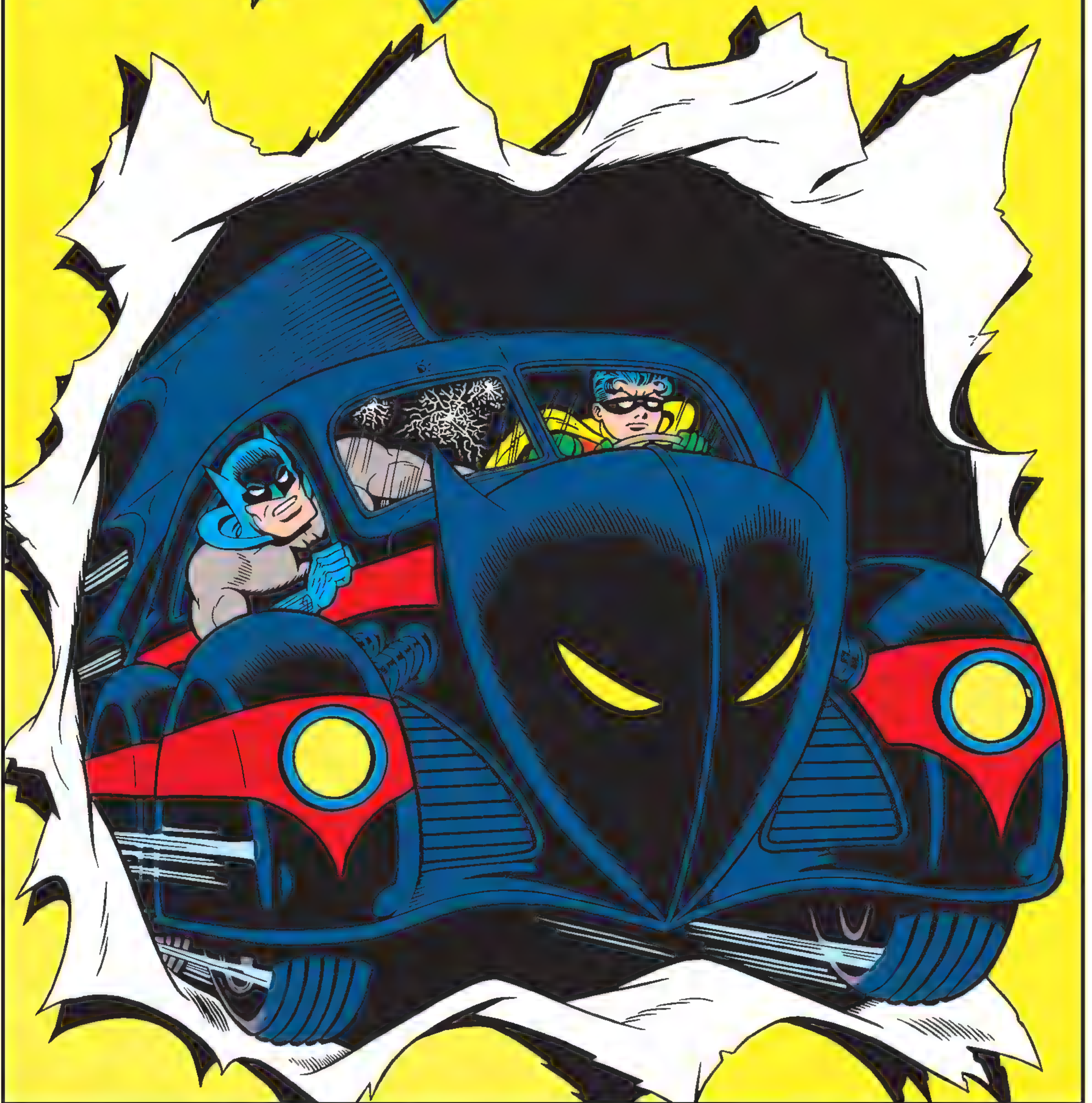
WATCH FOR ANOTHER ADVENTURE OF THE CAVALIER IN THE BATMAN MAGAZINE!

BATMAN
No.20



BATMAN

FOUR BIG
BATMAN & ROBIN
ACTION STORIES



BATMAN

I M A G I N E T H A T M I R T H F U L M O U N T E B A N K ,
T H E J O K E R , M A K I N G C O S T L Y J E S T S A T
O T H E R P E O P L E ' S E X P E N S E I N A N C I E N T
D A M A S C U S . . . I M A G I N E H I M A T H O U S A N D
Y E A R S F R O M T O D A Y E N G A G E D I N T H E
S A M E N E F A R I O U S P A S T I M E I N A S T R E A M -
L I N E D C I T Y O F W O N D E R S ! S T I L L B E T -
T E R . . . T U R N T H E P A G E S A N D S E E W I T H
Y O U O W N E Y E S H O W C R I M E ' S C L O W N -
I N G C H A R L A T A N M I X E S P A S T , P R E S E N T
A N D F U T U R E I N A T E N S E W H I R L O F M A D -
N E S S T H A T L E A D S T H E B A T T L I N G B A T M A N
A N D R O B I N A P E R I L O U S C H A S E T H R O U G H

"THE CENTURIES OF CRIME!"



IN EVERY BIG CITY UNDERWORLD THERE IS ONE RESORT DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE ENTERTAINMENT OF THOSE SUAVE, SCHEMING, FLINT-HEARTED ARISTOCRATS OF THIEVERY-- CONFIDENCE MEN AND SWINDLERS! IN GOTHAM CITY, THAT DUBIOUS HONOR IS HELD BY CHARLESTON CHARLIE'S CHOWDER HOUSE...

...WHERE TONIGHT WE FIND PROFESSOR ECLA TATE, FRAUDULENT SCIENTIST, IN GLOOMY CONVERSATION WITH SWAMI MEERA KELL, CROOKED CRYSTAL GAZER...

TWO CHEATERS, ACCUSING FATE OF CHEATING THEM-- AND SUDDENLY A THIRD APPEARS, THE GREATEST CHEAT OF THEM ALL!

I TELL YOU, SWAMI, BUSINESS IS TERRIBLE! TODAY MY MOST GUL-LIBLE PROSPECT RE-FUSED TO PUT ANY MORE MONEY INTO MY PERPET-UAL MOTION INVENTION!

I WEEP WITH YOU, PROFESSOR! MY CRYSTAL BALL IS GETTING DUSTY! PEOPLE ARE LOS-ING FAITH IN MY POWER TO PICK WINNERS!

PARDON ME, FRIENDS,... COULD I IN-TEREST YOU IN MAKING A FEW MILLIONS?

WHAT A NERVE YOU HAVE WALK-ING AROUND PUB-LICLY WHILE EVERY COP IN AMERICA IS HUNTING YOU-- NOT TO MENTION THE BATMAN!

THE JOKER!

THE POLICE...THE BATMAN... BAH! I AM TOO CLEVER FOR THEM! AND NOW, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MY SCHEME FOR MAKING MONEY- BIG MONEY...

PROCEED, JOKER! WE'RE INTERESTED!

WHAT DO PEOPLE WANT ABOVE ALL? MONEY AND ES-CAPE FROM SECRET FEARS! WELL, GENTLE-MEN, I AM PREPARED TO GIVE THEM THESE THINGS, FOR A PRICE-- NOT IN THE WORLD OF TODAY, BUT IN THE WORLDS OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE!

INDEED? BUT HOW?

MONEY? I SEEM TO RE-MEMBER HAVING SOME, LONG AGO...

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I HAVE DISCOVERED A MEANS OF TRAVEL-ING TO AND FROM THE FUTURE OR THE PAST! ISN'T THAT RICH? HA, HA, HA!

THE WILEY CRIME CLOWN EXPLAINS ...

THERE IS NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS WE CAN FLEECE! YOU MUST HAVE A LONG LIST OF UNSHORN LAMBS!

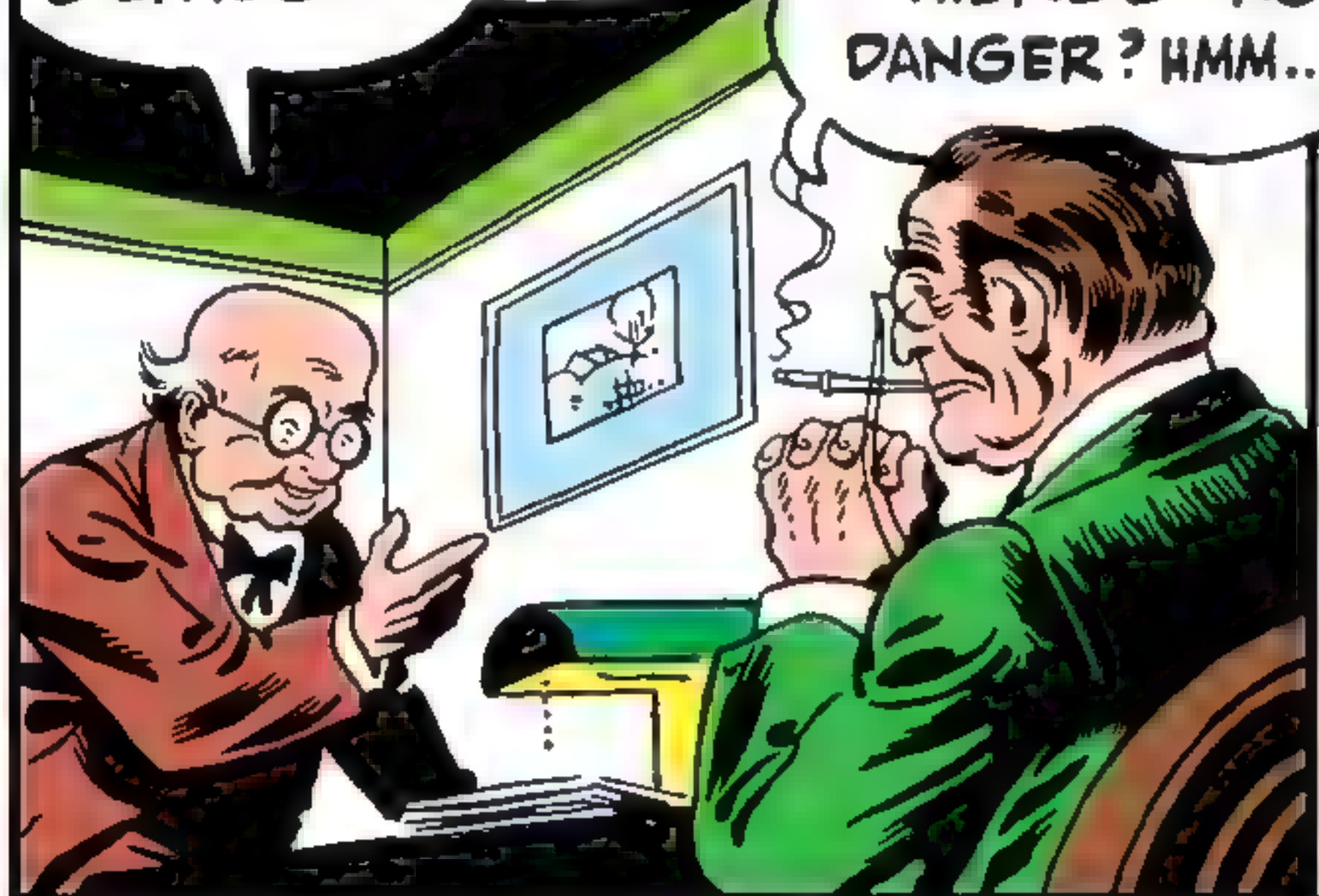
I HAVE A PROS-PECT! HE'S FILTHY RICH BUT STILL MAD ABOUT MONEY-- AND HE'LL GAMBLE ON ANYTHING!

JOKER, YOU ARE A GEN-IUS! I, TOO, HAVE A CUS-TOMER-- ONE WHO LIVES IN CONSTANT TERROR! HE IS A CROOK, BUT A LONE WOLF, AND FAIR GAME-- AND THEY SAY HE HAS HIDDEN A MILLION IN LOOT!

NEXT DAY THE VERY WEALTHY PERCIVAL PRUITT IS OFFERED A PROPOSITION THAT APPEALS TO HIS COLOSSAL GREED...

BUT THIS IS BIGGER EVEN THAN PERPETUAL MOTION, MR. PRUITT! THINK OF IT--A CHANCE TO GO A THOUSAND YEARS INTO THE FUTURE! CAN'T YOU SEE THE POSSIBILITIES?

HMMM-- YOU SAY THIS TIME MACHINE HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY TESTED? THERE'S NO DANGER? HMM...



THE POPULATION WILL BE HUGE IN THE YEAR 2043, AND PROPERTY SHOULD BE IMMENSELY VALUABLE! I COULD SELL MY REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS AT A MILLION PER CENT PROFIT!

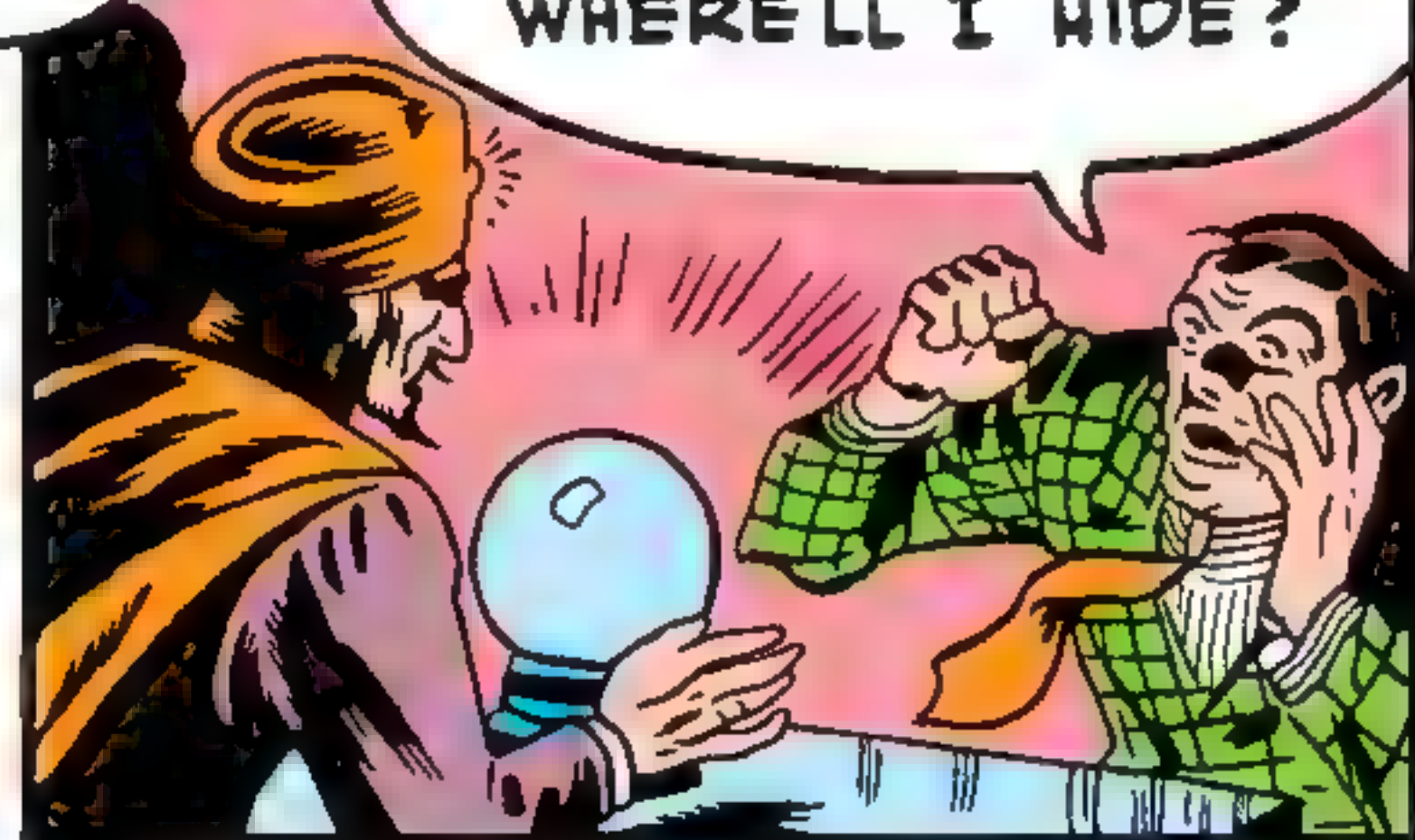
MORE THAN THAT, THE MONEY YOU NOW HAVE IN THE BANKS, AT COMPOUND INTEREST, WILL HAVE DOUBLED ITSELF THOUSANDS OF TIMES IN THE INTERVENING PERIOD! YOU CAN DRAW IT OUT AND BRING IT BACK WITH YOU!



MEANWHILE, THE CRYSTAL IS PRODUCING ALARMING INFORMATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL BANK ROBBER KNOWN AS KID GLOVE MIXTER...

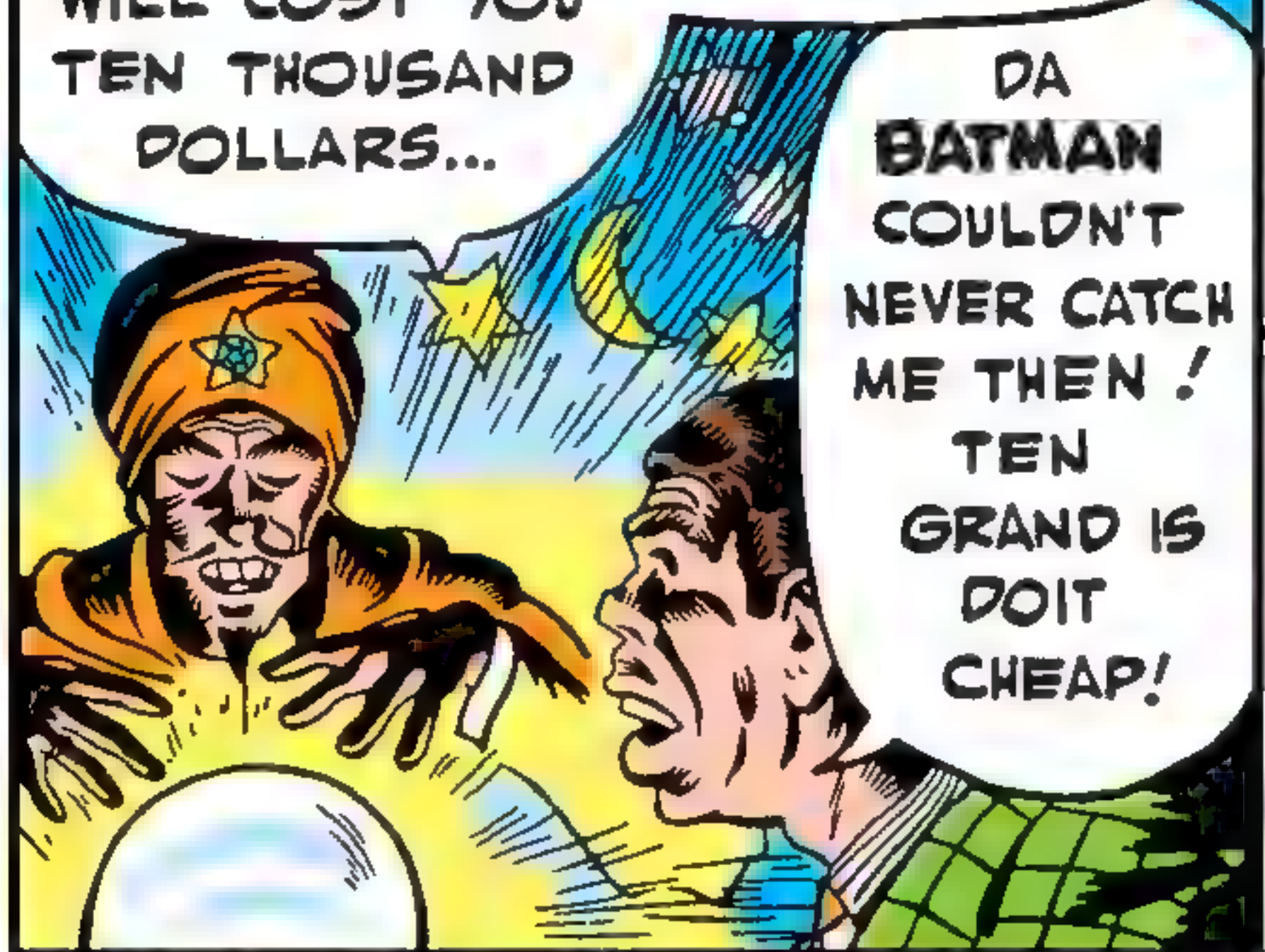
I SENT FOR YOU, MIXTER, BECAUSE THE MYSTIC CRYSTAL WARNED ME THAT THE BATMAN WAS ON YOUR TRAIL!... AH-- I CAN SEE HIM NOW, SEIZING YOU, BEATING YOU --

CHEE -- DA ONE GUY I'M SCAIRT T' DEATH OF! WHAT'LL I DO, SWAMI? WHERE'LL I HIDE?



ASK, AND THE CRYSTAL ANSWERS!.. A STRANGE NEW MACHINE APPEARS TO SEND YOU A THOUSAND YEARS INTO THE FUTURE, AND BRING YOU BACK WHENEVER YOU WISH! IT WILL COST YOU TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS...

DA BATMAN COULDN'T NEVER CATCH ME THEN! TEN GRAND IS DOIT CHEAP!



MIXTER ACCOMPANIES MEERA KELL TO A DINGY TENEMENT HOUSE, WHERE...

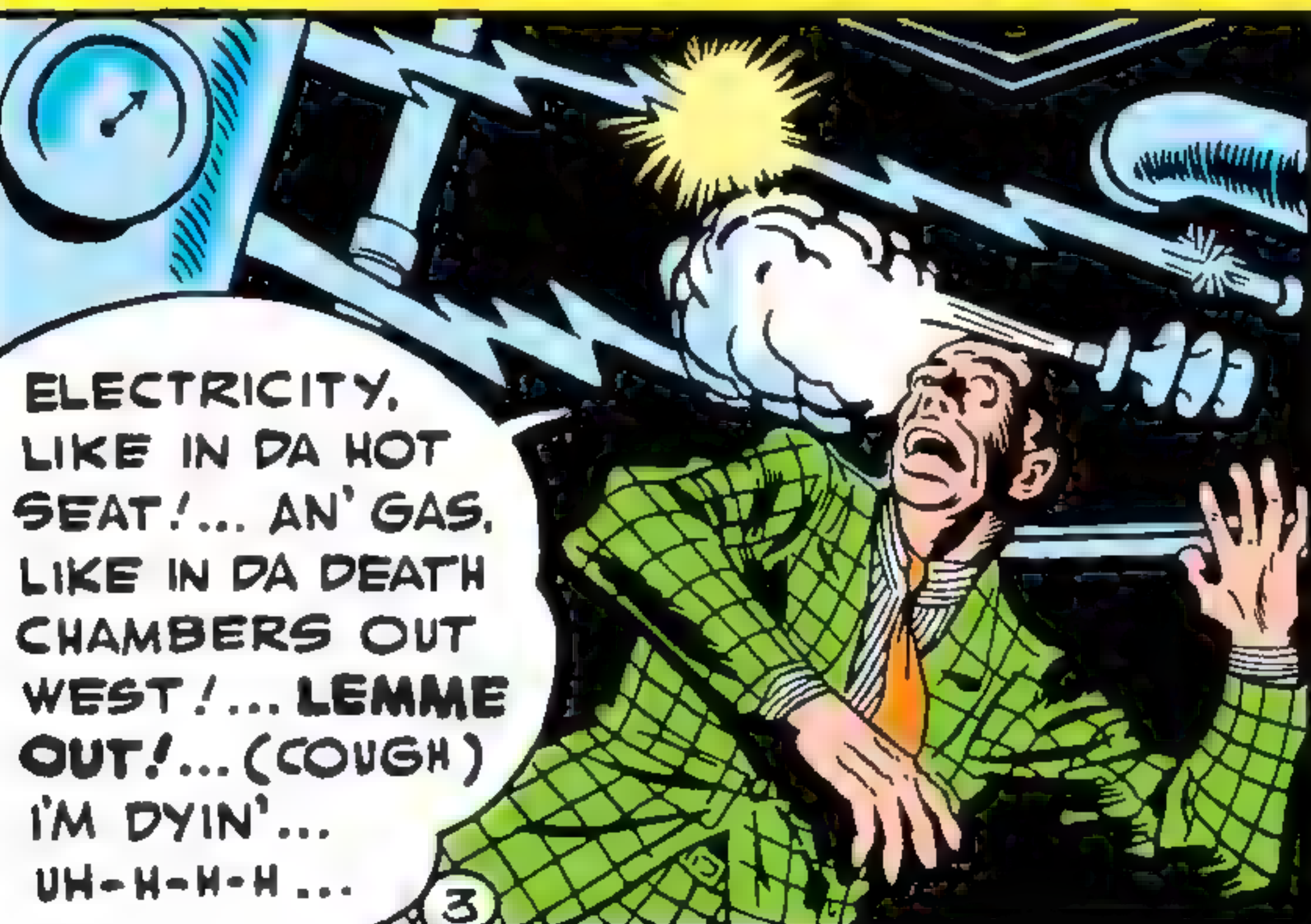
TEN THOUSAND IS RIGHT! STEP INTO THE TIME CHAMBER, MIXTER, AND DON'T BE AFRAID! I'VE TRAVELED TO THE FUTURE HUNDREDS OF TIMES!



I HOPE YA AINT KIDDIN' ME, JOKER! I CAN'T SLEEP NIGHTS FOR WORRYIN' ABOUT DA BATMAN!



LOCKED WITHIN THE DARK CHAMBER, THE JITTERY BANK ROBBER SUFFERS MISGIVINGS-- TOO LATE!



ELECTRICITY, LIKE IN DA HOT SEAT!... AN' GAS, LIKE IN DA DEATH CHAMBERS OUT WEST!... LEMME OUT!... (COUGH) I'M DYIN'... UH-H-H-H...

HE SLEEPS... AND AFTER MANY HOURS, WAKES AGAIN...

WH- WHERE AM I?... NOW I REMEMBER! I GOTTA GET OUTA HERE! HUH? DA DOOR'S OPEN!



KID GLOVE MIXER EMERGES UPON A FLAT TERRACE TO GAZE UPON SUCH A SIGHT AS FEW MEN OF OUR GENERATION HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO SEE!

DA JOKER WASN'T KIDDIN', AFTER ALL! I'M A T'OUSAND YEARS AWAY FROM DA BATMAN-- AN' DIS BOIG LOOKS LIKE RICH PICKIN'S!

CHEE, HE LOOKS SORTA FAMILIAR -- BUT I GUESS IT'S MY IMAGINATION! AS SOON AS I LOCATE DA UNDERWOILD, I'LL BE OKAY!

HI, PAL!

AND NOW WE RETURN TO GOTHAM CITY AND THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, TO THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE, SOCIETY PLAYBOY...

MR. PRUITT TO SEE YOU, SIR!

WELL, WELL, PRUITT! THIS IS A SURPRISE!

JUST DROPPED IN TO ASK YOU TO LOOK OUT FOR MY INTERESTS AT THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE STATE BANK TOMORROW... I'LL BE OUT OF TOWN FOR A FEW DAYS!

THAT'S RIGHT-- I AM A DIRECTOR OF THE BANK! I'D FORGOTTEN!... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

ER-- IT'S A SECRET, BUT I'M SO EXCITED, I'VE GOT TO TELL SOMEBODY! I'M GOING A THOUSAND YEARS INTO THE FUTURE TO MAKE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS!

AN INVENTOR I KNOW HAS BUILT A SUCCESSFUL TIME MACHINE! FOR TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, HE IS GOING TO PROJECT ME INTO THE FUTURE -- AND WHEN I COME BACK, I'LL BE THE RICHEST MAN ON EARTH!

SOUNDS EXCITING! COULD YOU GIVE ME THE INVENTOR'S ADDRESS?

YOU'RE -- WHAT?

PRUITT HAS HARDLY DEPARTED WHEN ALFRED-- THE ONLY LIVING PERSON WHO KNOWS THAT BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON ARE BATMAN AND ROBIN -- AIDS IN A LIGHTNING CHANGE OF COSTUME...

OF ALL THE DIZZY IDEAS!

ON THE CONTRARY, DICK, I'M AFRAID IT'S A VERY SHREWD IDEA AND A VERY CROOKED ONE!

MOMENTS LATER, A CAPED AND MASKED FIGHTING TEAM RACES OVER ROOFTOPS!

HOW COULD A SMART BUSINESSMAN LIKE PRUITT FALL FOR SUCH A FANTASTIC STORY, BATMAN?

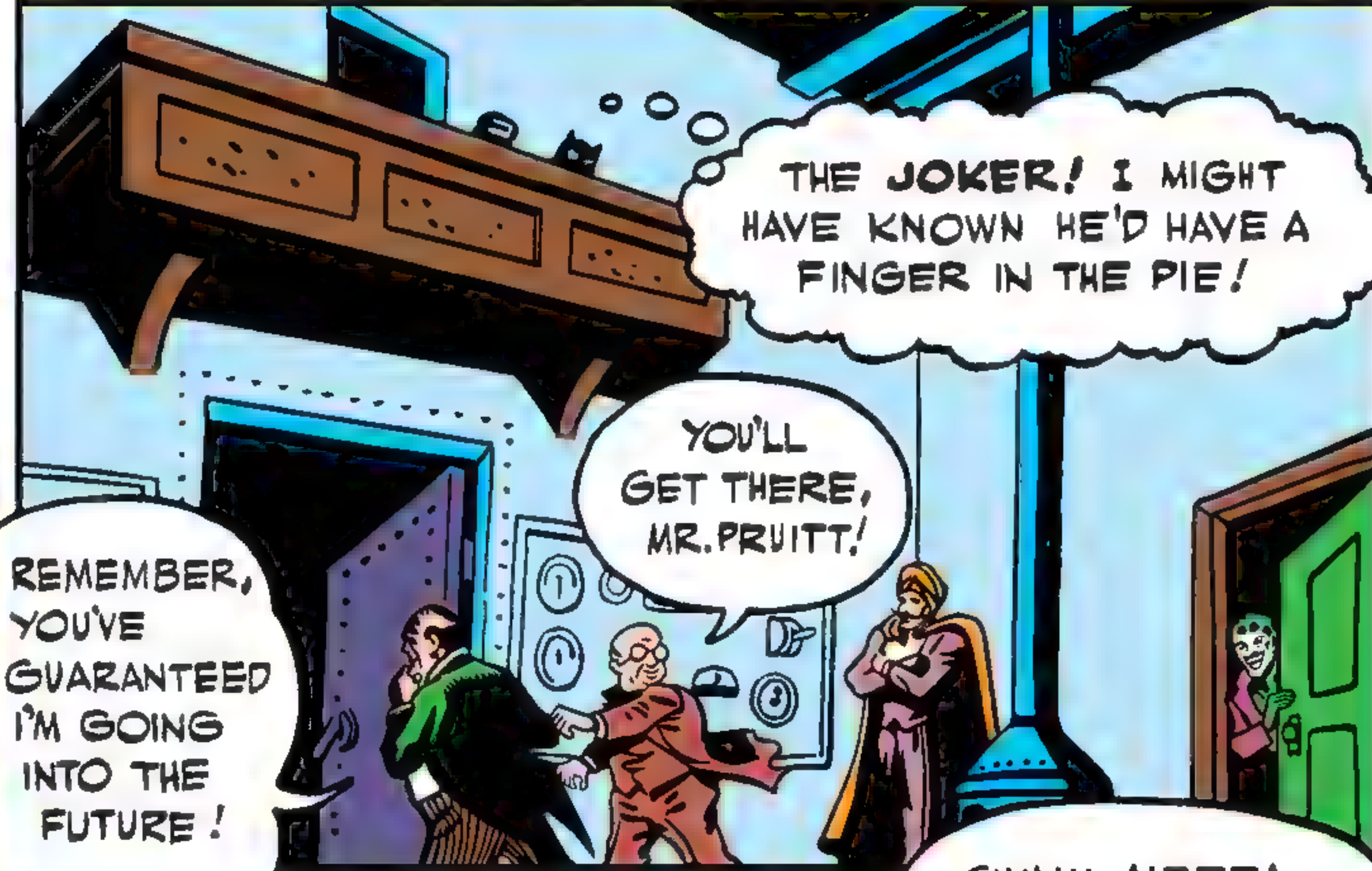
BECAUSE HE'S THE GREED- IEST MAN I EVER MET, ROBIN-- AND GREED BLINDS PEOPLE TO ALL BUT THE PROSPECT OF MONEY!

PRESENTLY... THIS IS THE ADDRESS PRUITT GAVE US, AND HERE'S A HANDY WAY IN!



I'VE GONE THROUGH SO MANY SKYLIGHTS, I FEEL OUT OF PLACE IN A DOORWAY!

THE INTREPID PAIR IS IN TIME TO WITNESS THE START OF PERCIVAL PRUITT'S VENTURE INTO THE UNKNOWN...



REMEMBER, YOU'VE GUARANTEED I'M GOING INTO THE FUTURE!

THE JOKER! I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN HE'D HAVE A FINGER IN THE PIE!

YOU'LL GET THERE, MR. PRUITT!

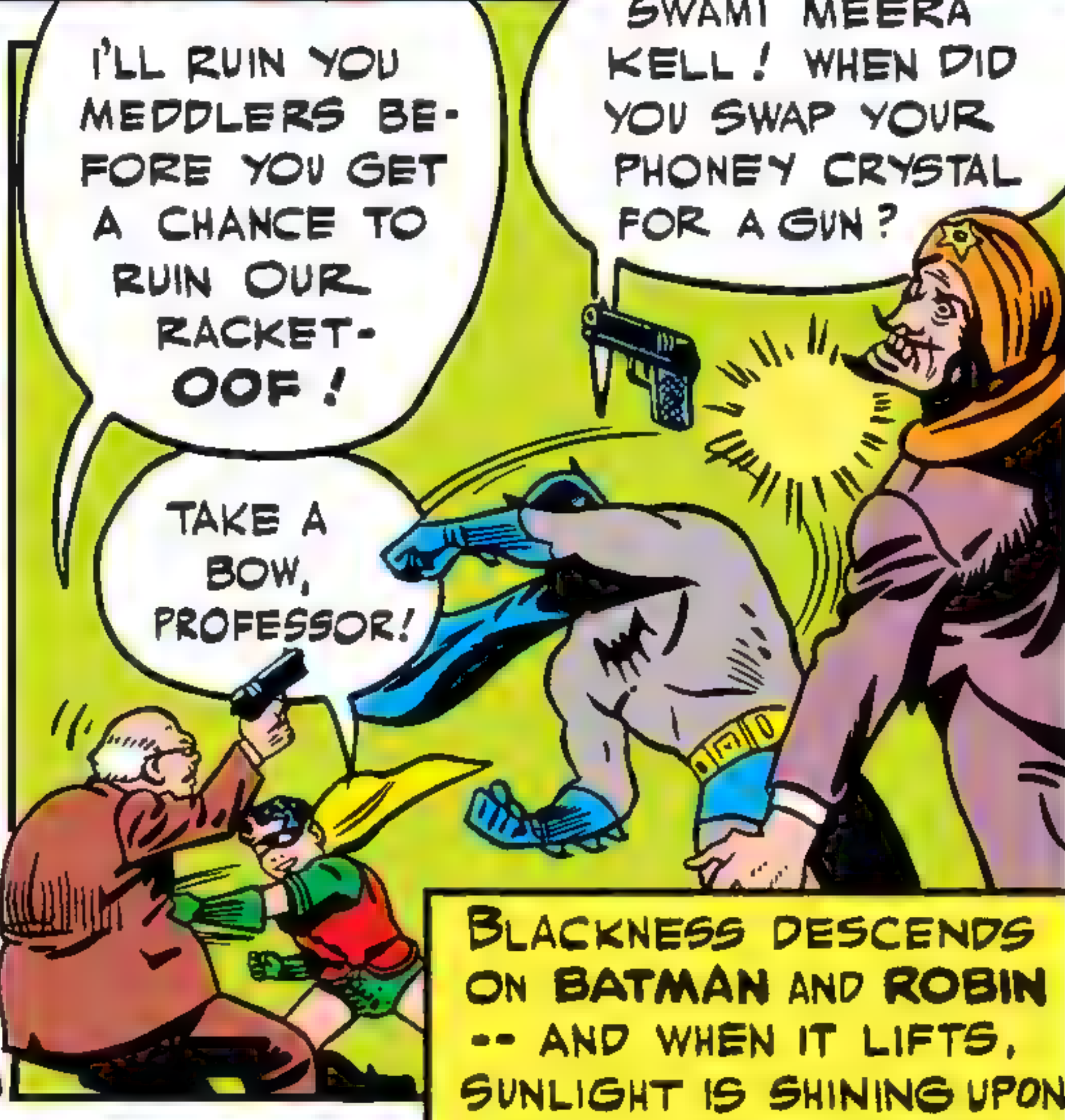
THE NEXT INSTANT...



I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THE FUTURE -- BUT YOUR PAST HAS CAUGHT UP WITH YOU SWINDLERS!

THE BATMAN!

WHA--! IF IT ISN'T MY OLD SPARRING PARTNERS!



I'LL RUIN YOU MEDDLERS BEFORE YOU GET A CHANCE TO RUIN OUR RACKET-OOF!

TAKE A BOW, PROFESSOR!

SWAMI MEERA KELL! WHEN DID YOU SWAP YOUR PHONEY CRYSTAL FOR A GUN?



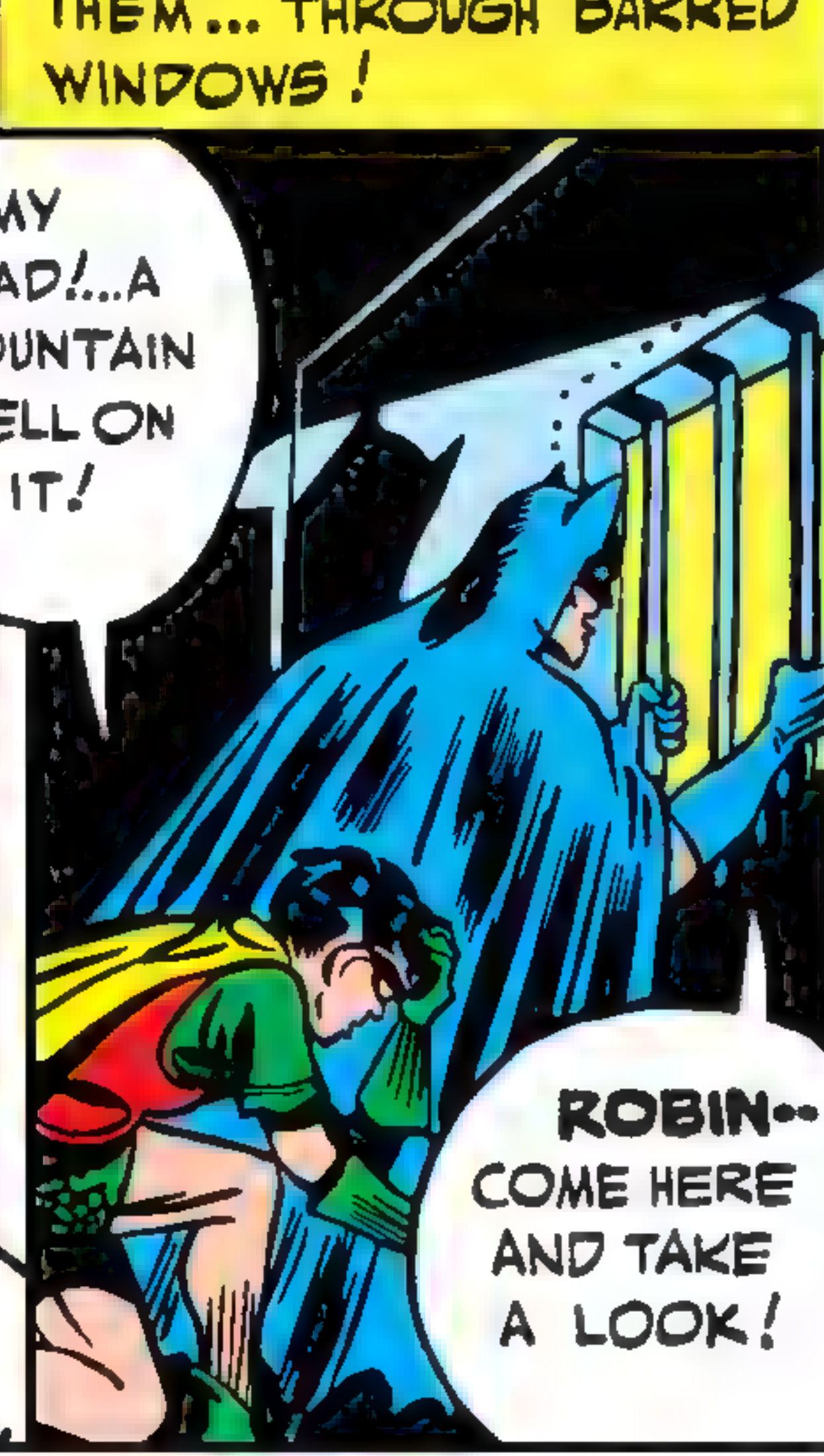
AND NOW, YOU GRINNING WEASEL--

ONE STEP NEARER, BATMAN!... THAT'S IT...



YOU FOOLS-- DID YOU THINK THE JOKER WOULD FORGET TO HAVE AN ACE UP HIS SLEEVE? NOW YOU'LL GET A PEEK AT THE FUTURE -- AND IT WON'T COST YOU A CENT!

MY HEAD!...A MOUNTAIN FELL ON IT!



BLACKNESS DESCENDS ON BATMAN AND ROBIN -- AND WHEN IT LIFTS, SUNLIGHT IS SHINING UPON THEM... THROUGH BARRED WINDOWS!

ROBIN-- COME HERE AND TAKE A LOOK!

CALL ME A BUTTERFLY IF THE JOKER HASN'T REALLY DONE IT, FOR ONCE IN HIS LIFE! OR AM I DREAMING?

YOU'RE NOT DREAMING... THERE'S PRUITT, TALKING TO ONE OF THE CITIZENS, --AND HE SEEMS WORRIED!

WORRIED IS TOO MILD A WORD FOR WHAT PRUITT IS AT THIS MOMENT OF SHARP DISILLUSIONMENT!

LISTEN, MY GOOD MAN-- I'VE LOOKED, BUT CAN'T FIND EITHER A BANK OR A REAL ESTATE BROKER'S OFFICE!

WE AIN'T GOT NO BANKS! ALL OF 'EM WAS ROBBED IN DA TWENTIETH CENTURY AND HAD TO GO OUTA BUSINESS. NOW DA CITY OWNS ALL DA REAL ESTATE, AN' NOBODY BUYS OR SELLS IT!

WHAT AN AGE! PEOPLE HERE ARE FOOLS! THEY DON'T SEEM TO CARE FOR MONEY! I MUST GET BACK TO 1943 AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

THAT OTHER TIME-TRAVELER, KID GLOVE MIXTER ALSO FINDS HIMSELF SUDDENLY YEARNING FOR THE GOOD OLD DAYS!

WONDER WHAT JERNTS ARE WORTH ROBBIN' IN DIS TOWN?... WOT'S UP PERE?... WHY, IT LOOKS LIKE DA BATMAN AN' ROBIN!

LOOK, ROBIN-- IT'S KID GLOVE MIXTER, AND HE'S SPOTTED US!

DEY FOLLERED ME ALL DESE T'OUSAND YEARS! WOT AM I GONNA DO NOW?

LOOK AT HIM RUN, BATMAN! GUESS HE DOESN'T REALIZE WE'RE PRISONERS, AND THESE BARS ARE TOO TOUGH TO BEND!

IN A MODERNISTIC OFFICE, NEAR ANOTHER "TIME CHAMBER"...

SO YOU WANT TO GO BACK? CERTAINLY! IT WILL COST YOU HALF A MILLION DOLLARS APIECE!

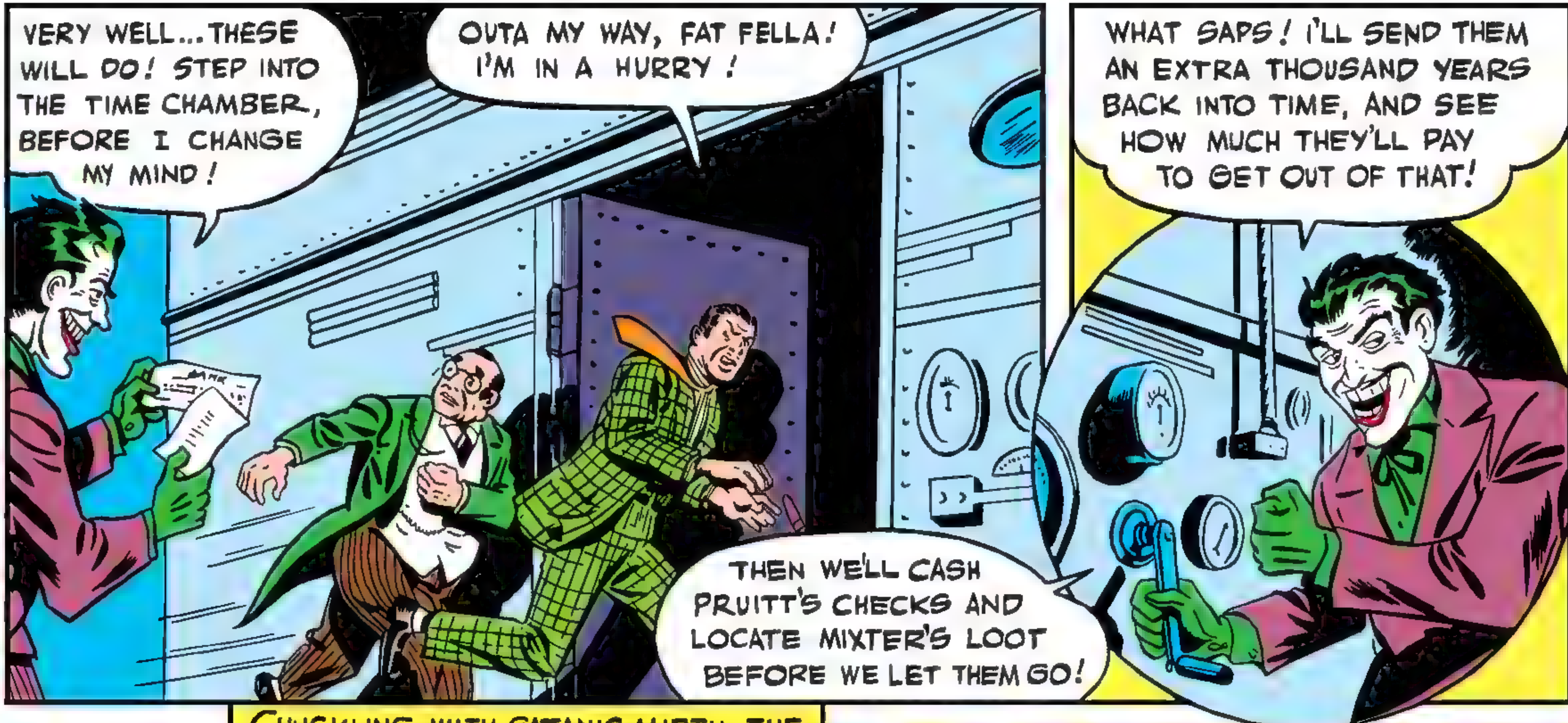
HALF A --! NOW I RECOGNIZE YOU! YOU'RE THE JOKER! YOU BROUGHT ME INTO THE FUTURE JUST TO EXTORT MONEY FROM ME!

HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY!... MY FRIENDS AND I ARE RETURNING AND WON'T BE COMING BACK, AND YOU CAN SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIVES HERE!

NO! ANYTHING BUT THAT! I'LL WRITE YOU A CHECK!

'AN I'LL WRITE OUT DIRECTIONS TO DA HIDIN' PLACE O' HALF A MILLION IN LOOT!

HAVE A HEART, JOKER! I ONLY BRUNG A FEW GRAND ALONG!

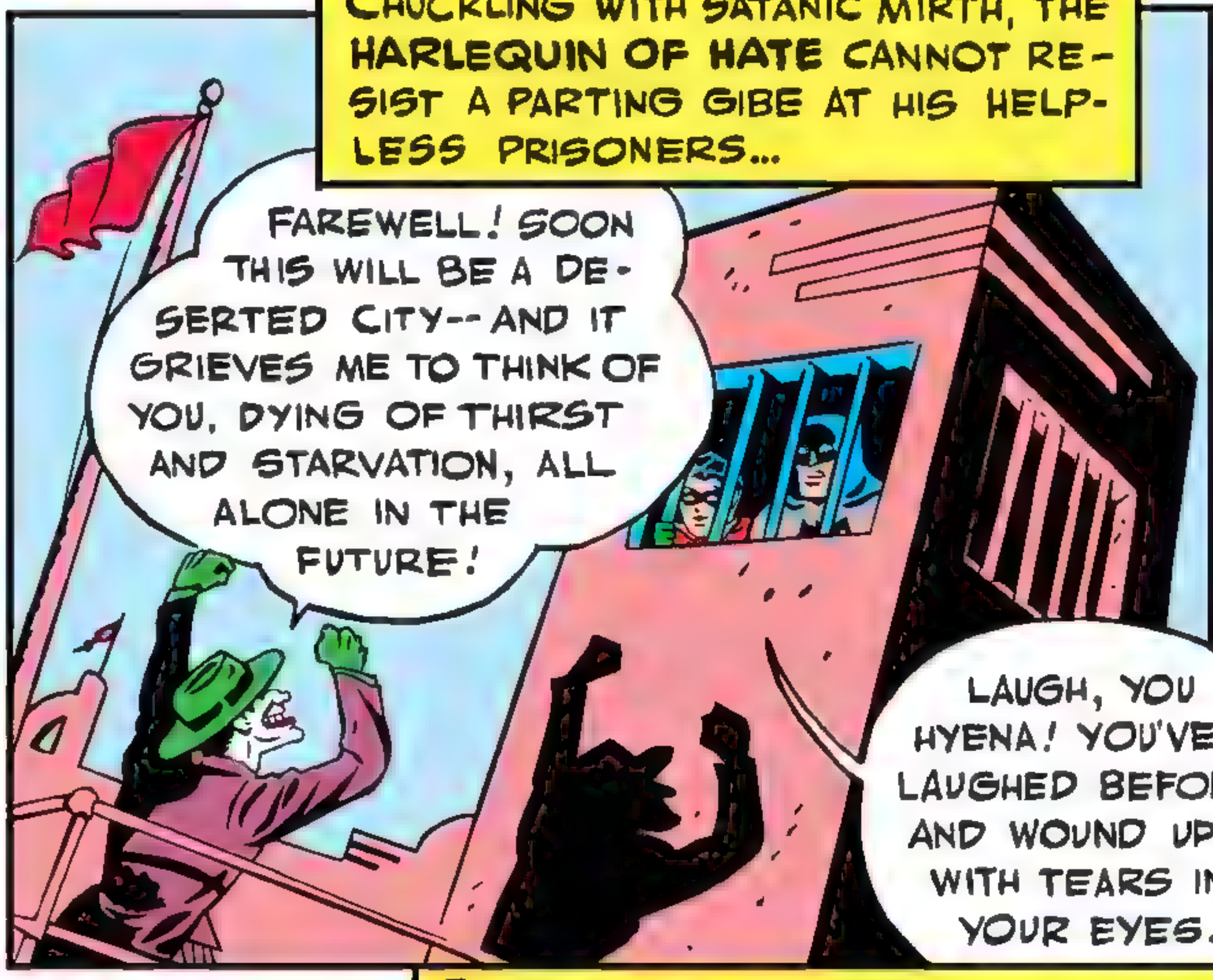


VERY WELL...THESE WILL DO! STEP INTO THE TIME CHAMBER, BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND!

OUTA MY WAY, FAT FELLA! I'M IN A HURRY!

WHAT SAPS! I'LL SEND THEM AN EXTRA THOUSAND YEARS BACK INTO TIME, AND SEE HOW MUCH THEY'LL PAY TO GET OUT OF THAT!

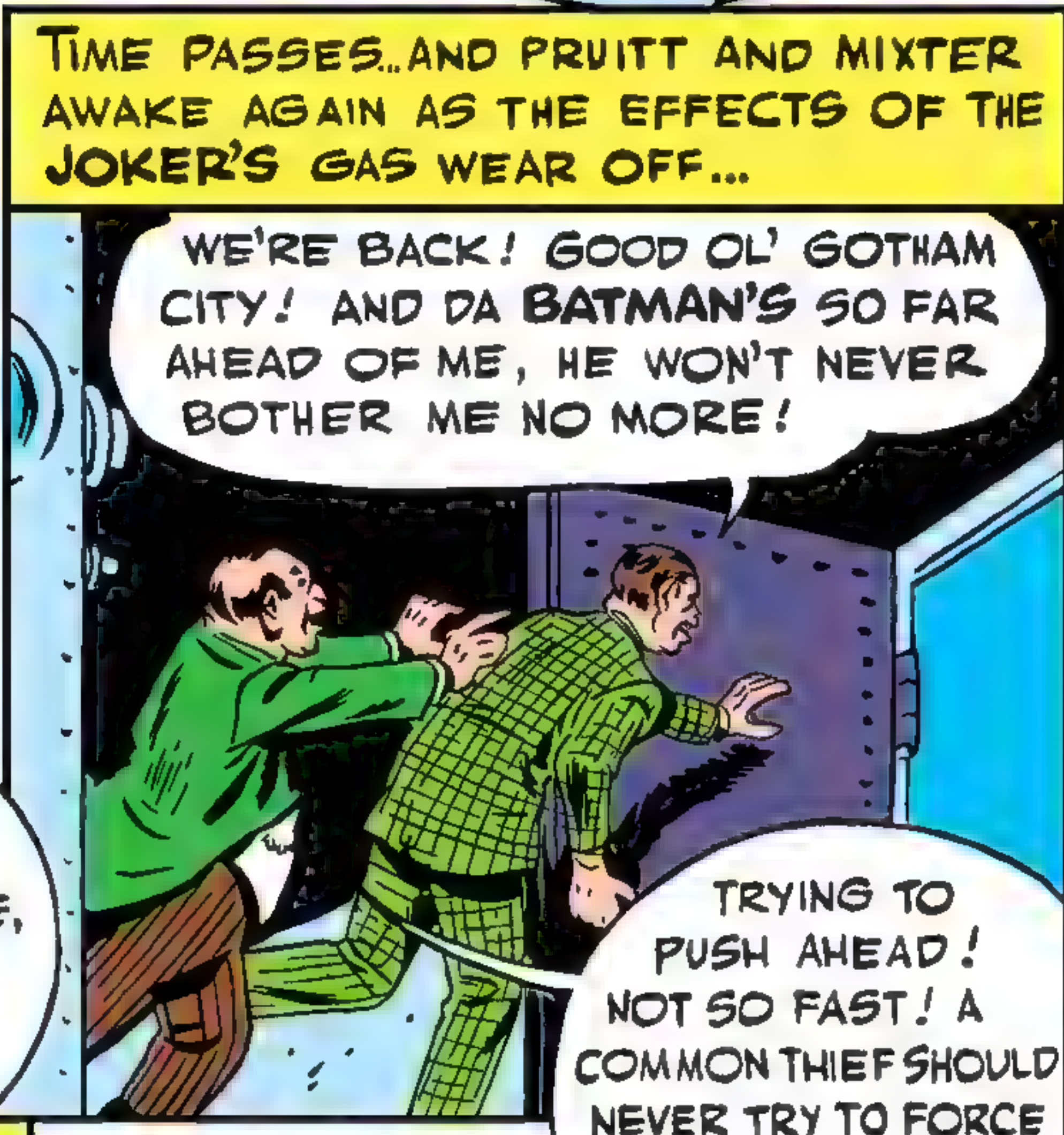
THEN WE'LL CASH PRUITT'S CHECKS AND LOCATE MIXTER'S LOOT BEFORE WE LET THEM GO!



CHUCKLING WITH SATANIC MIRTH, THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE CANNOT RESIST A PARTING GIBE AT HIS HELPLESS PRISONERS...

FAREWELL! SOON THIS WILL BE A DESERTED CITY--AND IT GRIEVES ME TO THINK OF YOU, DYING OF THIRST AND STARVATION, ALL ALONE IN THE FUTURE!

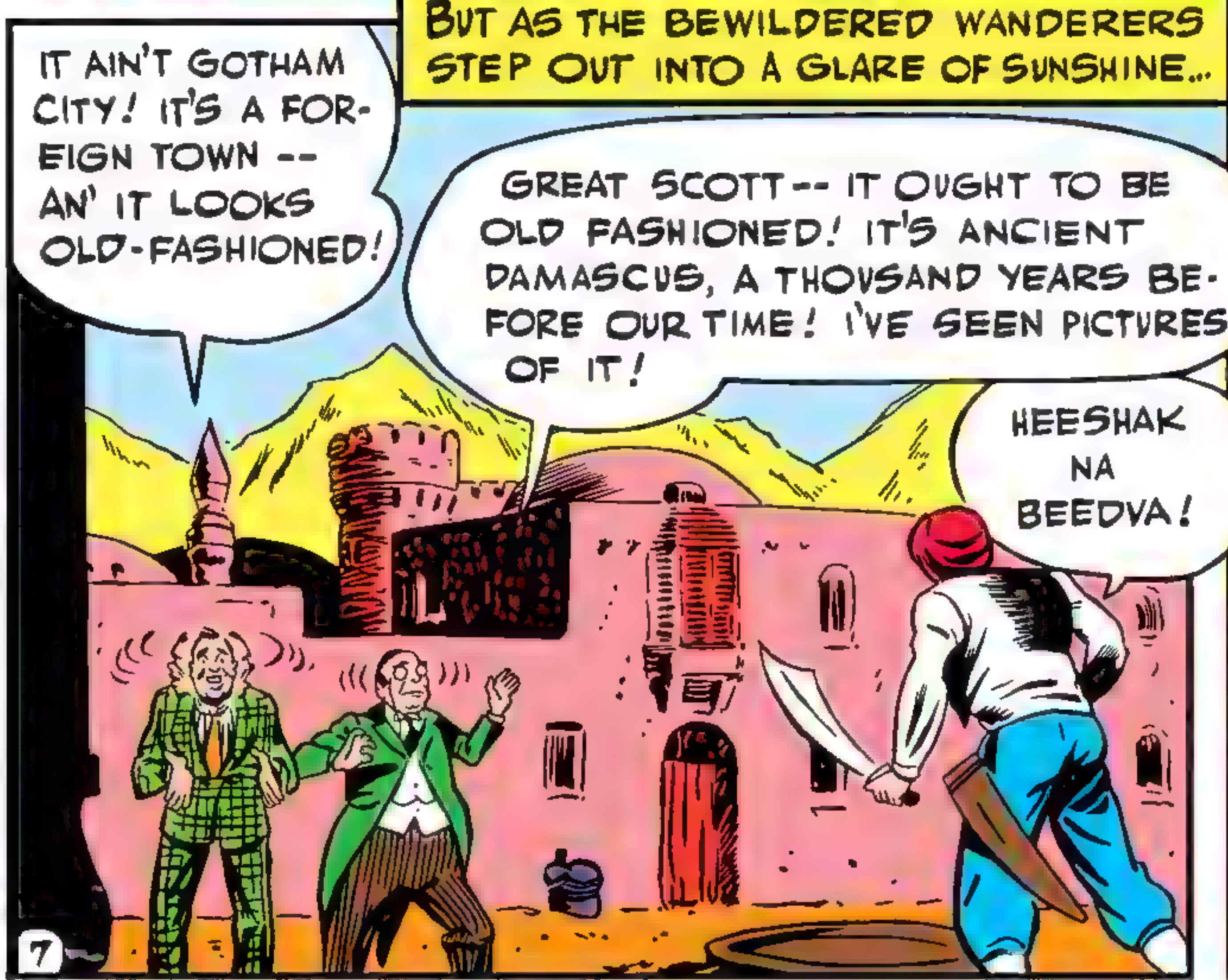
LAUGH, YOU HYENA! YOU'VE LAUGHED BEFORE, AND WOUND UP WITH TEARS IN YOUR EYES!



TIME PASSES..AND PRUITT AND MIXTER AWAKE AGAIN AS THE EFFECTS OF THE JOKER'S GAS WEAR OFF...

WE'RE BACK! GOOD OL' GOTHAM CITY! AND DA BATMAN'S SO FAR AHEAD OF ME, HE WON'T NEVER BOTHER ME NO MORE!

TRYING TO PUSH AHEAD! NOT SO FAST! A COMMON THIEF SHOULD NEVER TRY TO FORCE HIMSELF AHEAD OF AN IMPORTANT MAN LIKE ME!



BUT AS THE BEWILDERED WANDERERS STEP OUT INTO A GLARE OF SUNSHINE...

IT AIN'T GOTHAM CITY! IT'S A FOREIGN TOWN -- AN' IT LOOKS OLD-FASHIONED!

GREAT SCOTT-- IT OUGHT TO BE OLD FASHIONED! IT'S ANCIENT DAMASCUS, A THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE OUR TIME! I'VE SEEN PICTURES OF IT!

HEESHAK NA BEEDVA!

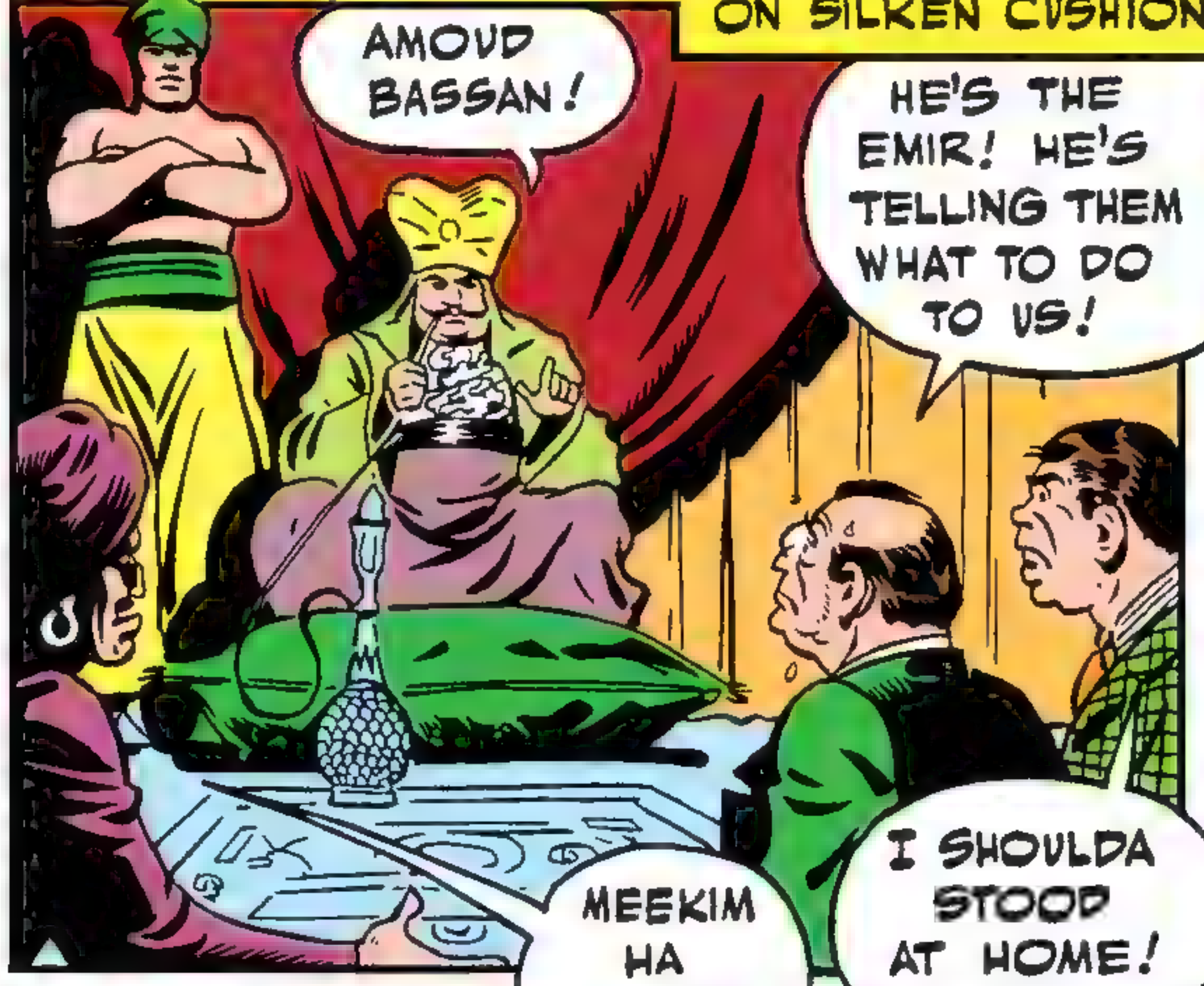


NIX! I'M YOUR PAL--SEE?

PUL-NAB SID!

THEY CAN'T UNDERSTAND YOU! OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO BE QUIET AND DO WHAT THEY SAY!

THE NEWCOMERS ARE HUSTLED INTO A SPLENDID AUDIENCE HALL, WHERE A FAT MAN RECLINES ON SILKEN CUSHIONS...



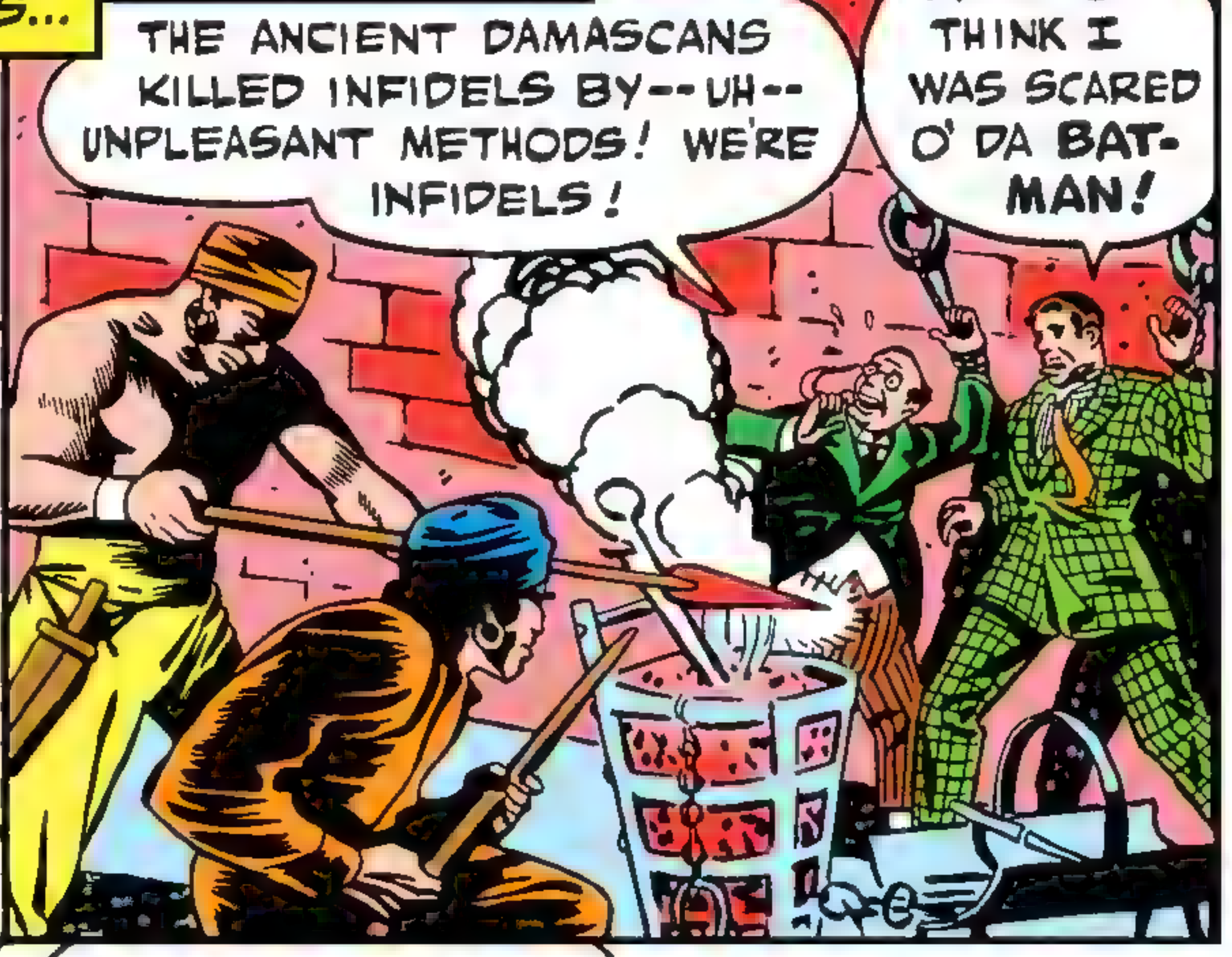
AMOUD BASSAN!

HE'S THE EMIR! HE'S TELLING THEM WHAT TO DO TO US!

MEEKIM HA OLNUD!

I SHOULDA STOOD AT HOME!

SOON AFTERWARD, IN A DUNGEON UNDERGROUND...



THE ANCIENT DAMASCANS KILLED INFIDELS BY--UH-- UNPLEASANT METHODS! WE'RE INFIDELS!

AND TO THINK I WAS SCARED O' DA BAT-MAN!



SISTA!... WELL, GENTLEMEN, I ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO SPARE YOU CONSIDERABLE DIS-COMFORT!

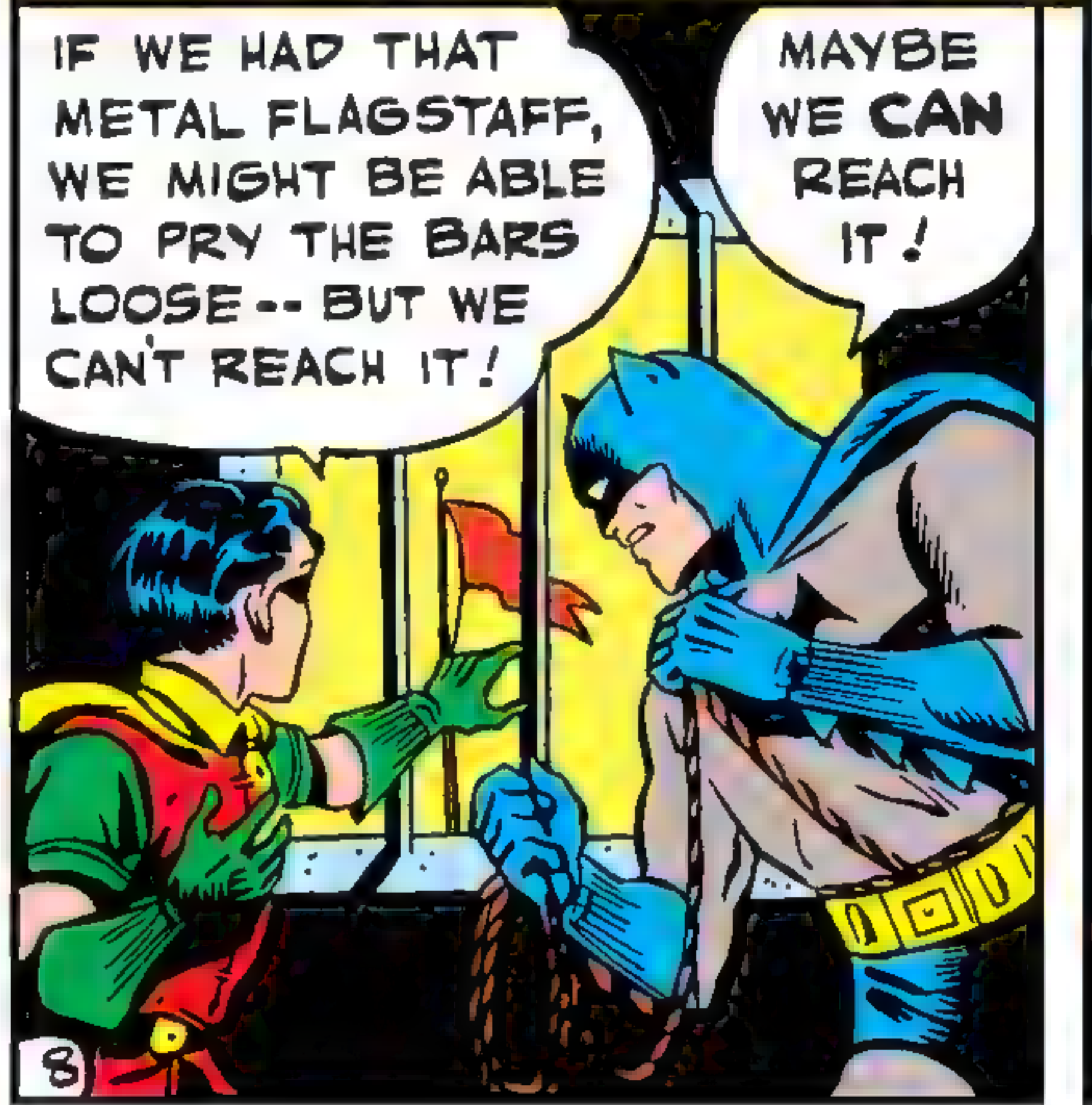
JOKER! ME OL' PAL! I WAS NEVER SO GLAD TO SEE ANYBODY!

GET ME OUT OF THIS! I'LL PAY ANYTHING!

THE TIME MACHINE OVERSHOT ITS MARK-- BUT I HAVE VISITED THE PAST SO OFTEN, I'M CHUMMY WITH THE EMIR! I'LL SAVE YOU FOR ANOTHER HALF-MILLION APIECE!

IT WILL RUIN ME-- BUT ANYTHING IS BETTER THAN DYING THIS WAY!

WHILE BACK IN THEIR ULTRA-MODERN PRISON, BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE BEEN EVOLVING A PLAN OF ESCAPE...



IF WE HAD THAT METAL FLAGSTAFF, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PRY THE BARS LOOSE-- BUT WE CAN'T REACH IT!

MAYBE WE CAN REACH IT!



THROWING A NOOSE THIS WAY WILL BE A GOOD TRICK--IF IT WORKS!

HERE'S HOPING!



YOU CAN HAVE THE REST O' MY LOOT! IT WON'T TAKE ME LONG TO MAKE IT UP, ONCE I GET BACK HOME!

IT'S PULLING LOOSE! WE'VE GOT IT!

A MIGHTY HEAVE OF THE BATMAN'S SHOULDERS -- AND IRON BARS NO LONGER MAKE A CAGE FOR THE DYNAMIC DUO!



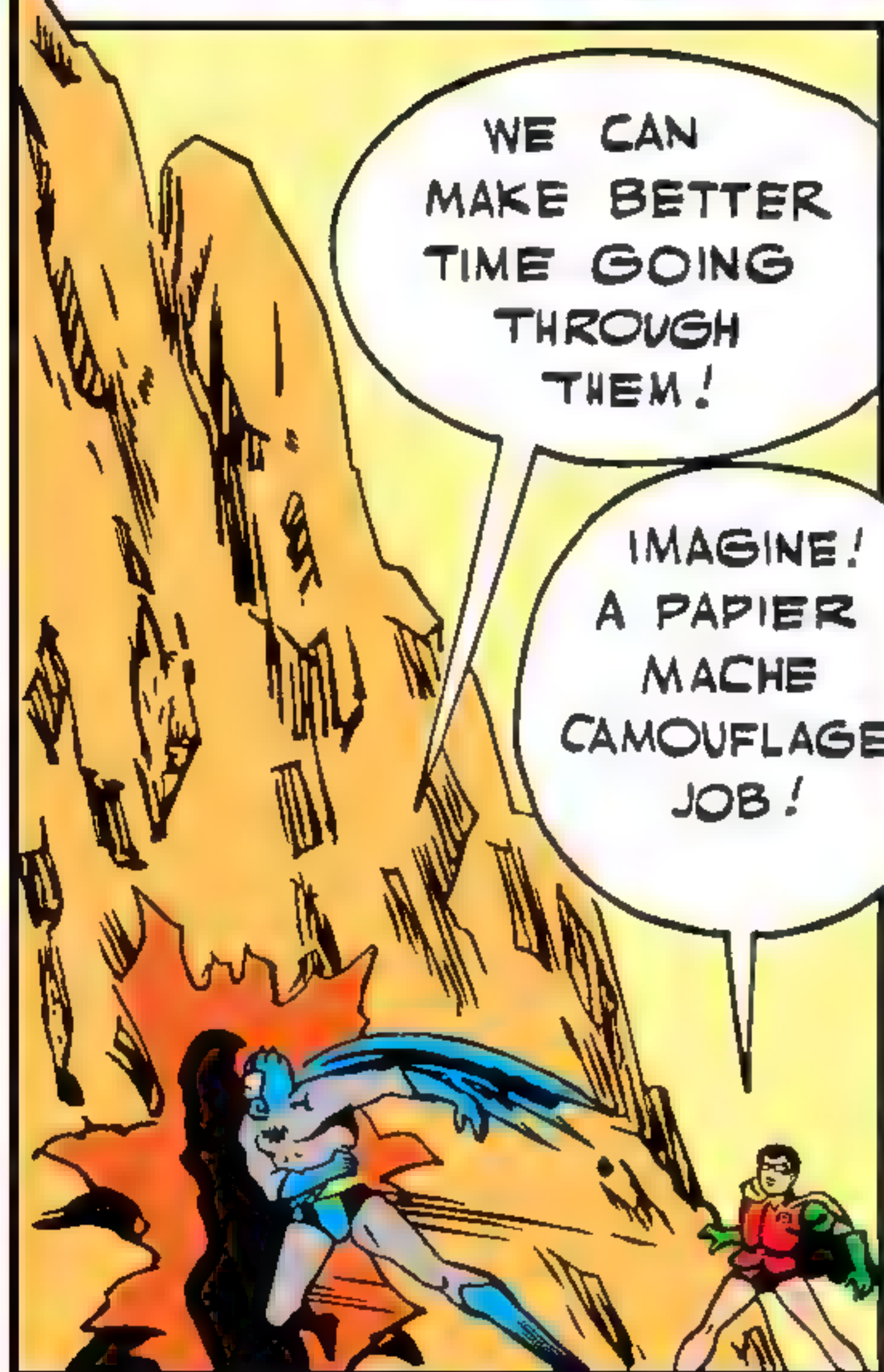
AT FIRST I THOUGHT I COULDN'T MAKE IT... AND THEN I THOUGHT OF THE JOKER, AND GOT SO MAD IT WAS EASY!

YIPPEE! WE'RE ON OUR OWN AGAIN!



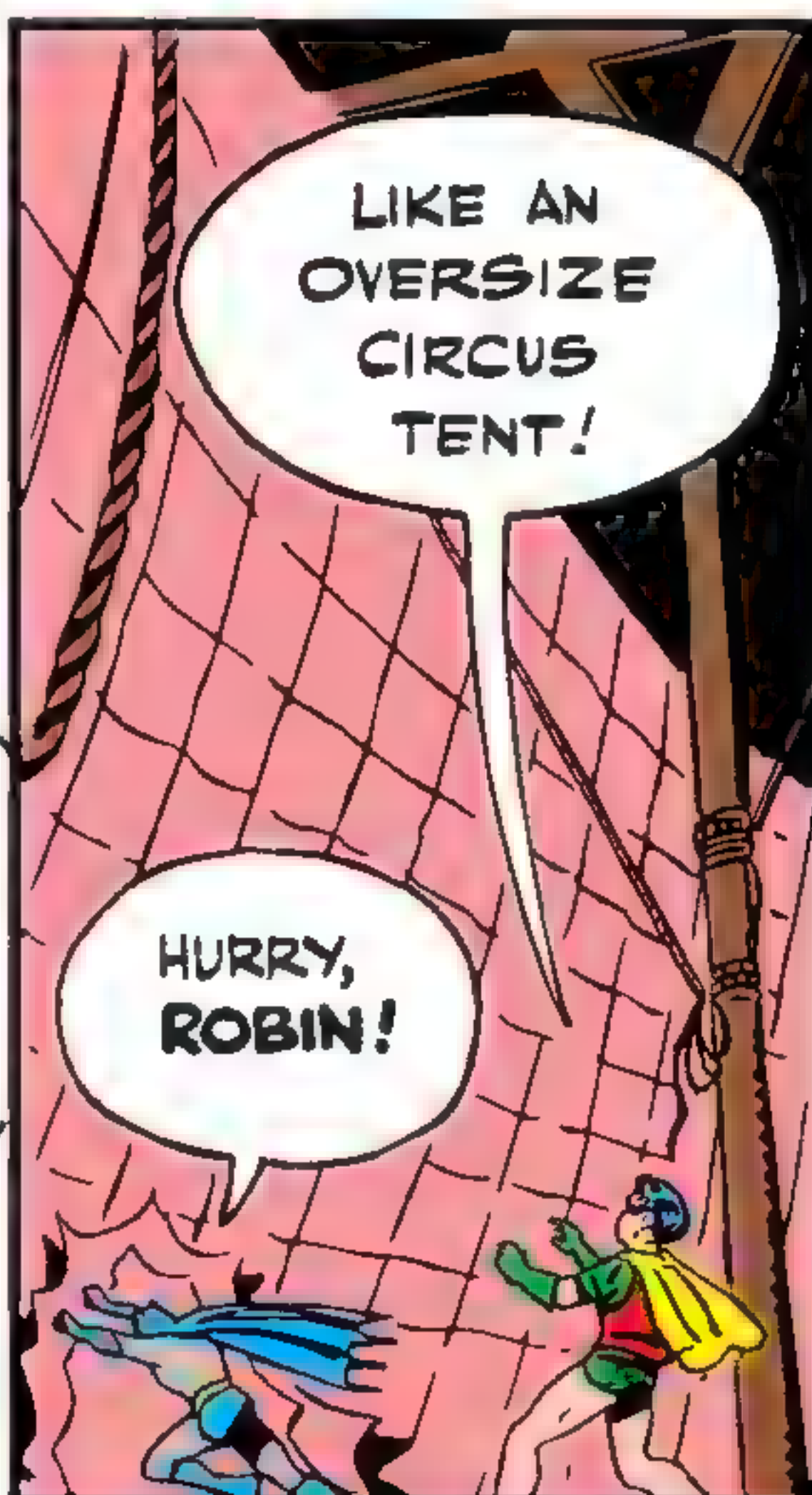
DO WE HAVE TO CLIMB THOSE MOUNTAINS?

NOT EXACTLY...



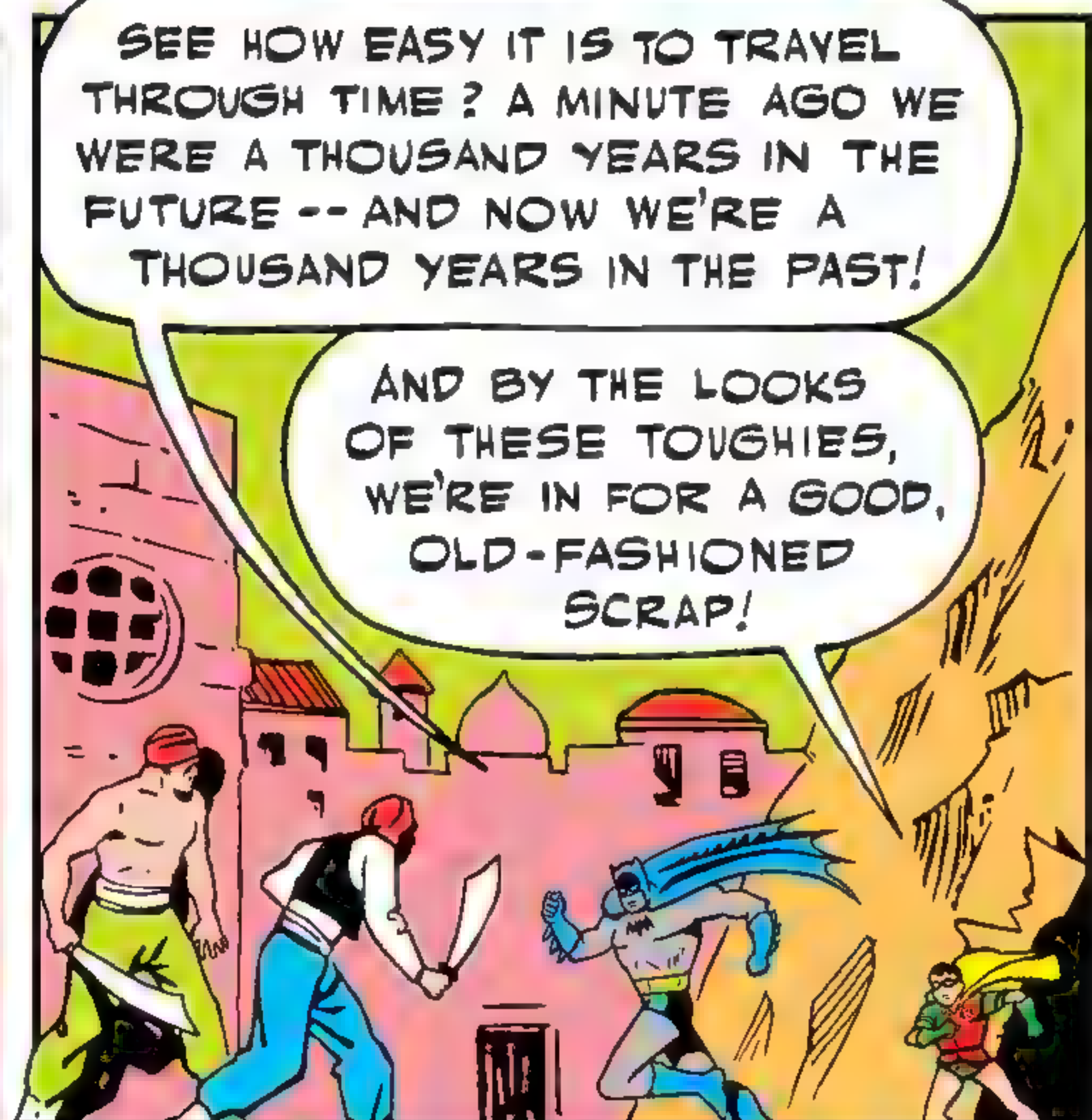
WE CAN MAKE BETTER TIME GOING THROUGH THEM!

IMAGINE! A PAPIER MACHE CAMOUFLAGE JOB!



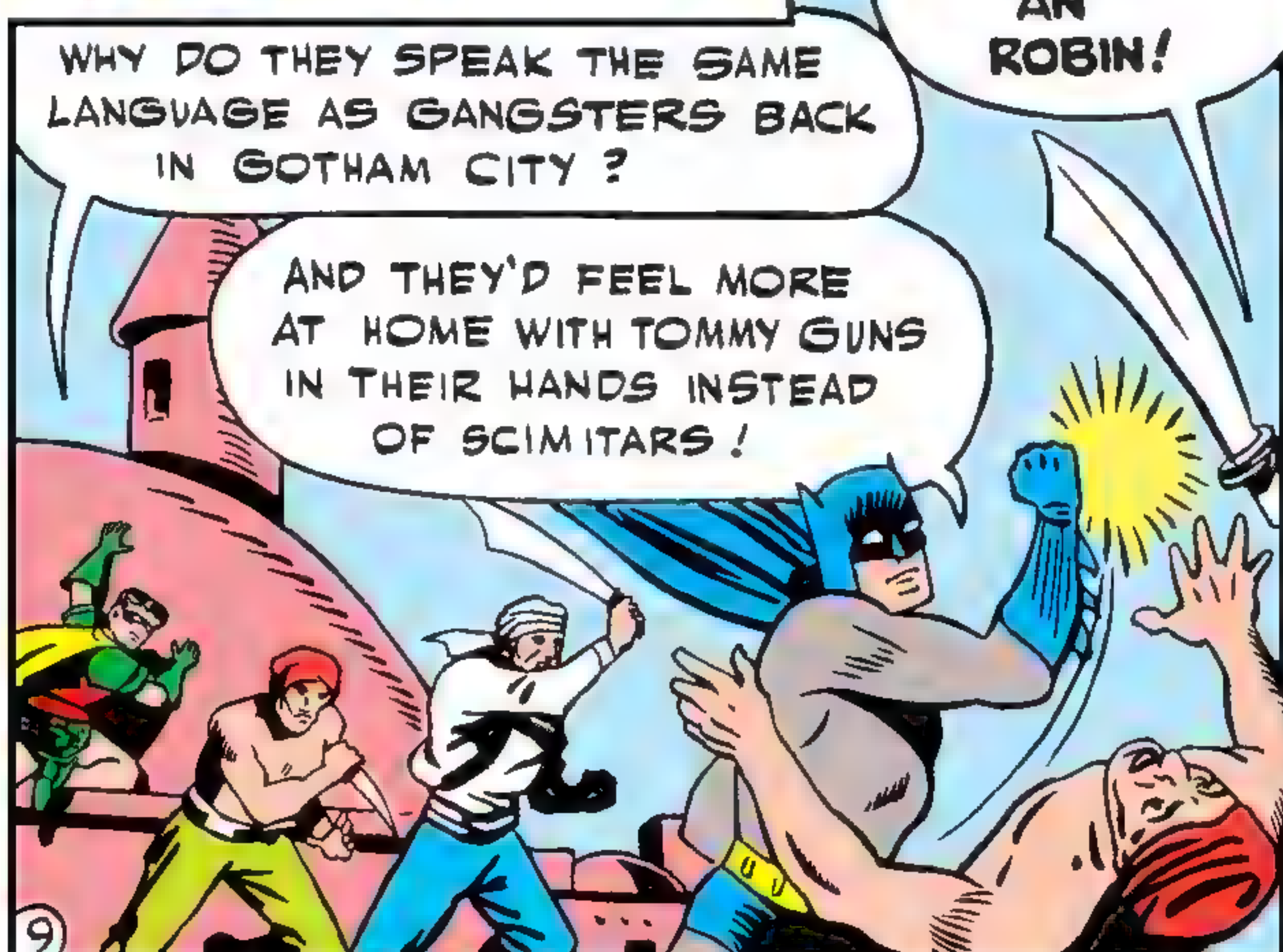
LIKE AN OVERSIZE CIRCUS TENT!

HURRY, ROBIN!



SEE HOW EASY IT IS TO TRAVEL THROUGH TIME? A MINUTE AGO WE WERE A THOUSAND YEARS IN THE FUTURE -- AND NOW WE'RE A THOUSAND YEARS IN THE PAST!

AND BY THE LOOKS OF THESE TOUGHIES, WE'RE IN FOR A GOOD, OLD-FASHIONED SCRAP!



WHY DO THEY SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE AS GANGSTERS BACK IN GOTHAM CITY?

AND THEY'D FEEL MORE AT HOME WITH TOMMY GUNS IN THEIR HANDS INSTEAD OF SCIMITARS!

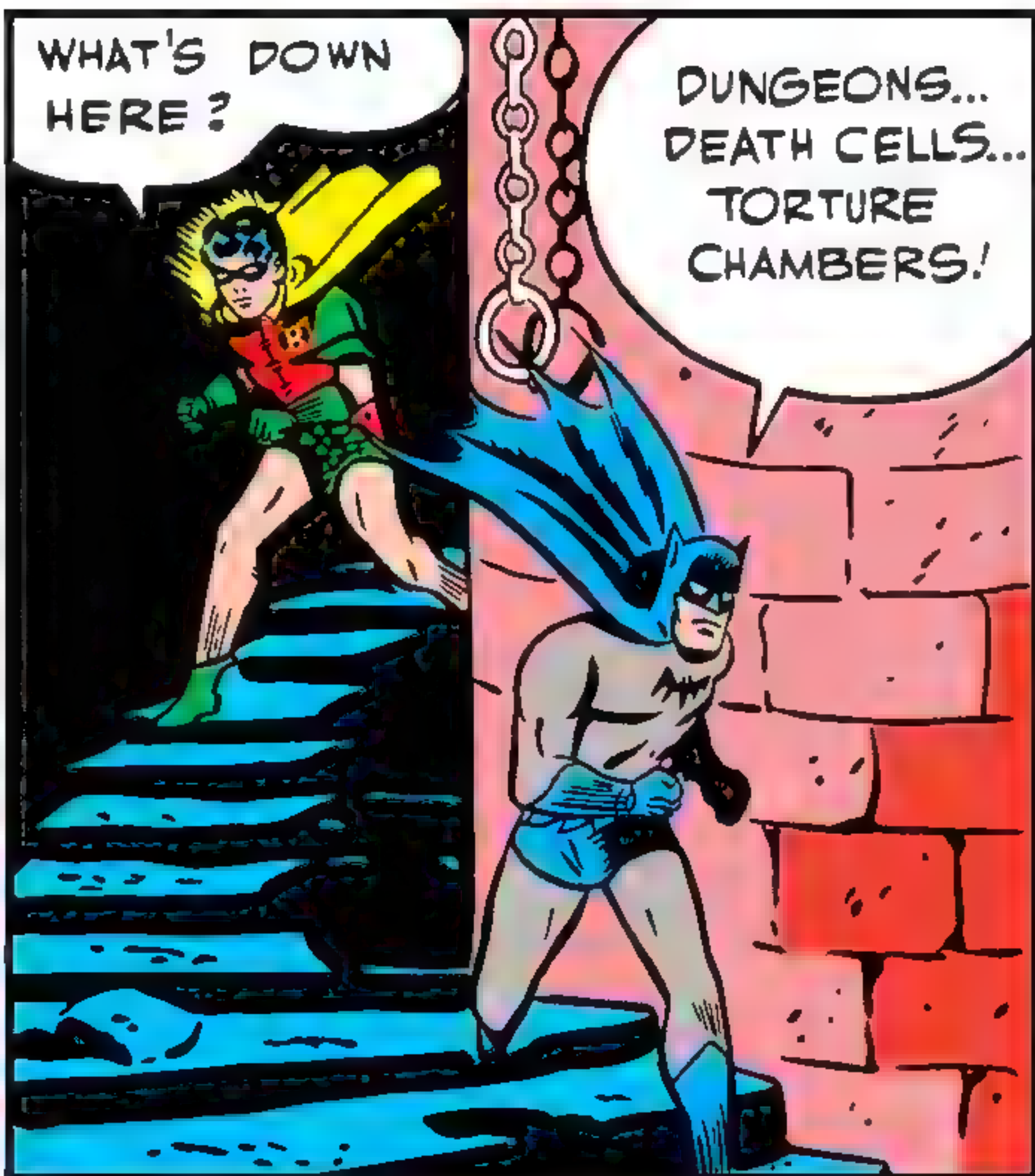
DA BATMAN AN' ROBIN!



HAM ACTORS, EH? LET'S SEE YOU PRETEND YOU'RE SLEEPING BEAUTIES!

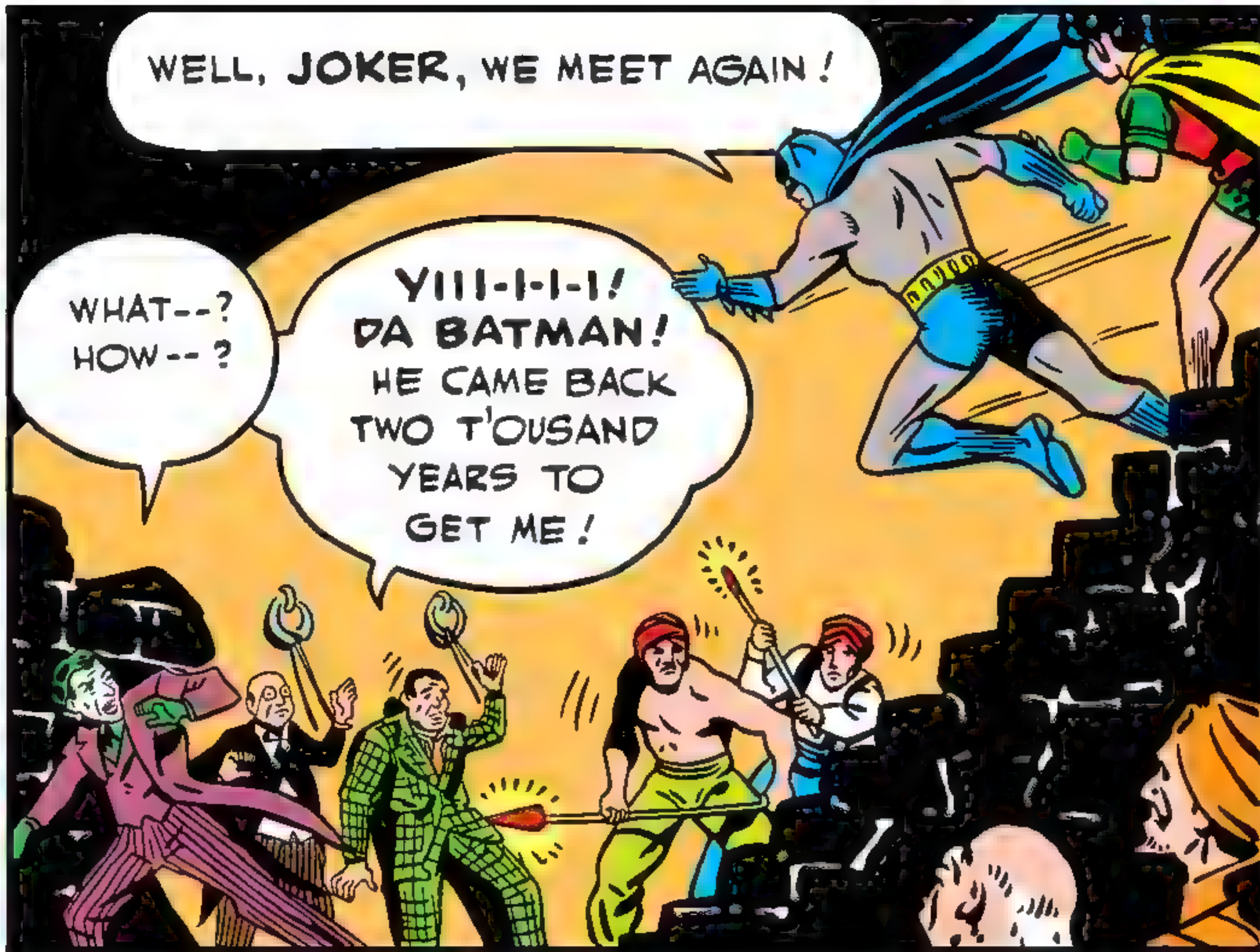
I'M STABBED!

THIS WAY, FELLA!



WHAT'S DOWN HERE?

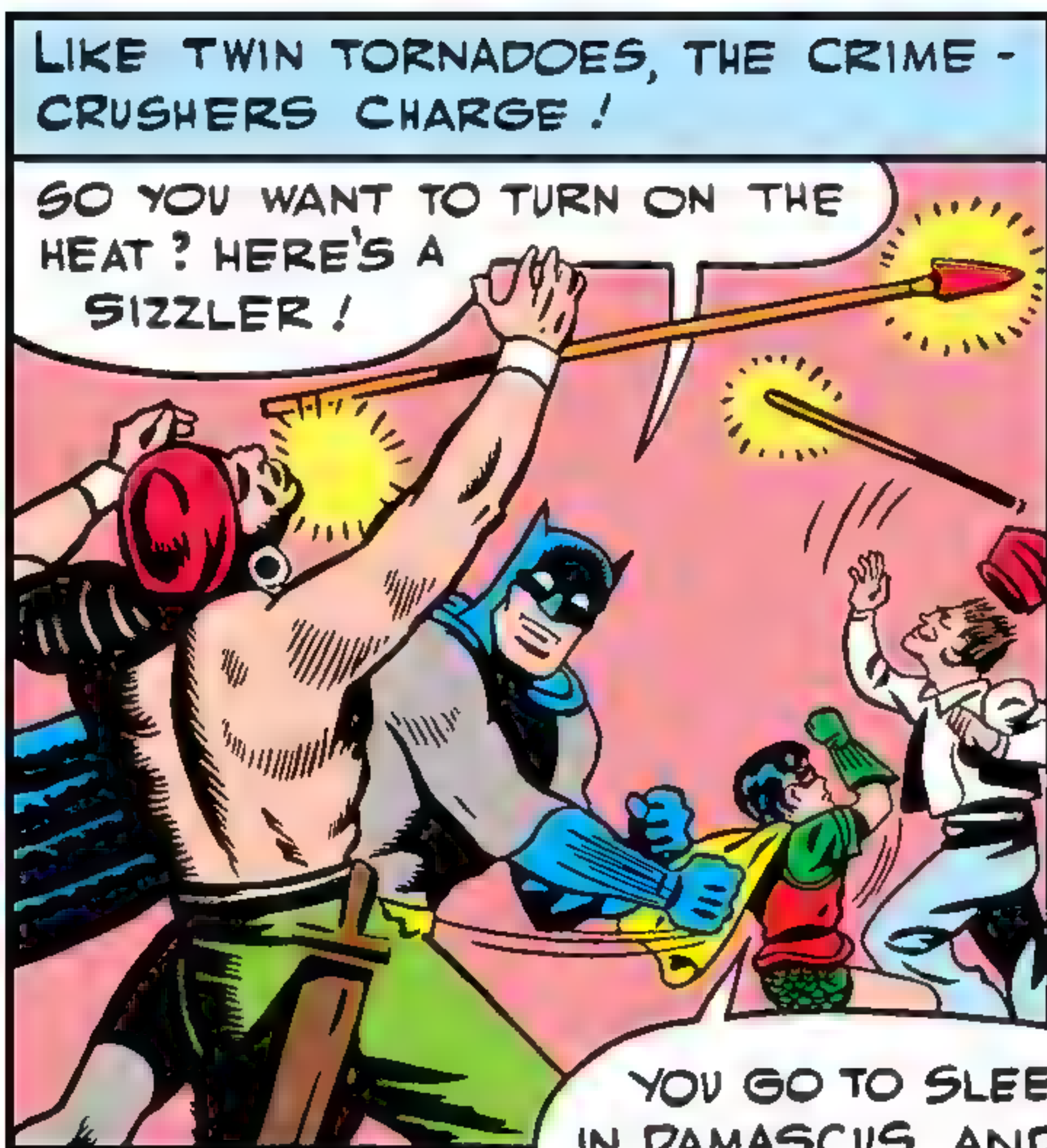
DUNGEONS...
DEATH CELLS...
TORTURE
CHAMBERS!



WELL, JOKER, WE MEET AGAIN!

WHAT--?
HOW--?

YIII-I-I-I!
DA BATMAN!
HE CAME BACK
TWO T'OUSAND
YEARS TO
GET ME!



LIKE TWIN TORNADOES, THE CRIME -
CRUSHERS CHARGE!

SO YOU WANT TO TURN ON THE
HEAT? HERE'S A
SIZZLER!

HERE'S
WHERE THE
SWOOMI
SWANS -- I
MEAN, THE
SWAMI
SWOONS!

BETTER IN-
VENT A GUARD FOR
THAT GLASS JAW
OF YOURS BEFORE
YOU GO LOOKING
FOR TROUBLE
AGAIN!



YOU GO TO SLEEP
IN DAMASCUS AND
WAKE UP IN JAIL,
CHUM!

I'VE GOT YOU WHERE I
WANTED YOU FOR A LONG
TIME! HOT LEAD FOR YOU,
BATMAN!
HA, HA, HA!

THIS WILL
DO AS WELL AS
ANYTHING!

BANG!



OW!...I'LL GET YOU
FOR THAT!

YOU'RE LUCKY
MY HAND WAS STEADY
AND THE SHARP
END DIDN'T HIT
YOU!

NICE
WORK,
ROBIN! HE
COULDN'T HAVE
MISSED
FOREVER!

SNATCHING UP THE SPEAR, THE ENRAGED JOKER MENACES ROBIN WITH THE GLOWING POINT...

HOT STEEL FOR YOU, BRAT!

NOT TODAY, THANKS!

THAT'S A GAME TWO CAN PLAY AT!

I'VE TRAILED YOU THROUGH THE CENTURIES, JOKER -- AND AT LAST THE TRAIL IS GETTING WARM!

THAT'S THE FUNNIEST THING I'VE SEEN YET, CLOWN! WHY DON'T YOU LAUGH?

EEE-OW - OOO!

OH, WELL, IF IT HURTS THAT MUCH, HERE'S AN ANESTHETIC!

DON'T TRY TO WISH HIM OFF ON ME!

RIGHT BACK AT YOU -- AND THANKS FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY!

MAYBE HE'D BETTER LIE DOWN...

...LIKE THAT!

BAM

AS THE PRISONERS ARE RELEASED, PRUITT'S SELF-CONFIDENCE RETURNS...

YOU WERE TERRIFIC, BATMAN! WHY DON'T YOU LET ME BACK YOU FINANCIALLY, AND GO AROUND THE COUNTRY GIVING EXHIBITIONS WITH ROBIN? WE COULD CLEAN UP HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS --

PRUITT, I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU!

LOOK HOW YOUR GREED HAS TRICKED YOU! YOU BELIEVED AN INCREDIBLE STORY, BECAUSE YOU WERE ONLY THINKING OF PROFITS! THE JOKER WOULD HAVE STRIPPED YOU CLEAN IF I HADN'T INTERFERED! YOU COULD PUT YOUR WEALTH TO BETTER ADVANTAGE!

I-I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...

ME, I LOINT A LESSON TOO, **BATMAN!** I SHOULDA KNOWN EITHER YOU OR DA COPS'D CATCH ME SOME DAY, NO MATTER IF I LAMMED INTO DA FUTURE, OR DA PAST, OR DA NORT' POLE!

KID GLOVE, I THINK I CAN SEE A RAY OF HOPE FOR YOU, IF YOU EVER REALLY MAKE UP YOUR MIND TO REFORM!

AND SO, AT LAST, IT SEEMS THAT EVERYBODY WILL FINALLY GET BACK TO GOTHAM CITY, 1943. WITHOUT FURTHER MISHAPS...

THE **JOKER** BROUGHT US HERE IN THIS TRANSPORT PLANE WHILE WE WERE UN-CONSCIOUS, **ROBIN!** IT WILL GET US HOME WITH OUR PRISONERS AND THE DIRECTIONS FOR FINDING MIXTER'S SWAG!

AND I'M GOING TO GIVE HALF THE MONEY I WOULD HAVE LOST TO ALLIED WAR RELIEF!

GOOD FOR YOU, MR. PRUITT!

THE **JOKER**'S "TIME MACHINE," OF COURSE, WAS ONLY A CHAMBER IN WHICH HE GASSED HIS VIC-TIMS SO HE COULD FLY THEM THREE HUNDRED MILES INTO THE PRAIRIE WITHOUT THEM KNOWING IT!

THAT'S CLEAR ENOUGH, **BATMAN**, BUT...

...BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW THESE MOUNTAINS WERE PHONEY? HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE DUNGEONS?

IT ALL DATES BACK TO THE TIME I INVESTED SOME MONEY IN A MOVIE COMPANY THAT WANTED TO MAKE A FILM CALLED "THROUGH THE AGES".

THE COMPANY BOUGHT CHEAP LAND IN THE PRAIRIE, PUT UP THOSE STAGE SETS, WITH ONLY TWO OR THREE SOLID BUILDINGS -- AND THEN WENT BROKE!

I SUPPOSE THE **JOKER** CAME ACROSS THEM, GOT HIS BIG IDEA, AND BOUGHT THEM CHEAP!

EXACTLY! HE GOT SOME THUGS TO TAKE THE PART OF CITIZENS, GOT THE SWAMI AND THE PROFESSOR TO RUSTLE UP EASY MARKS AND WENT TO TOWN!

I DON'T KNOW WHO TO BLAME MOST-- SWINDLERS OR THE PEOPLE WHO ARE STUPID ENOUGH TO BE SWINDLED!

DAYS LATER...

SO ALL HIS "TIME" MACHINE GOT HIM WAS A LONG "TIME" BE-HIND BARS!

MIGHT I MAKE SO BOLD AS TO SUGGEST, SIR, THAT HIS PAST SEEMS AT PRESENT TO BE DE-TERMINING HIS FUTURE?

WHY, ALFRED-- I DIDN'T THINK YOU HAD IT IN YOU!

GOHAMPH GAZETTE
JOKER GETS LIFE SENTENCE
SWEARS HE WON'T SERVE IT
HYH H TIME

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

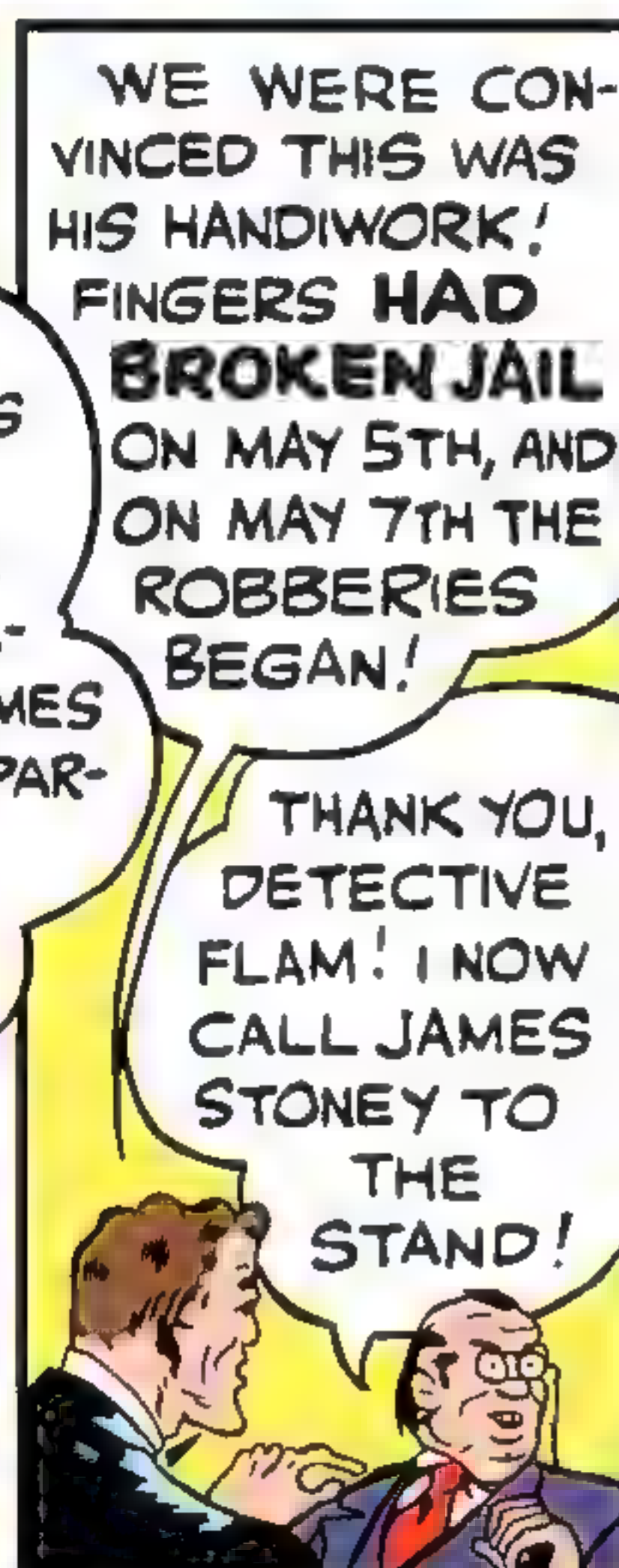
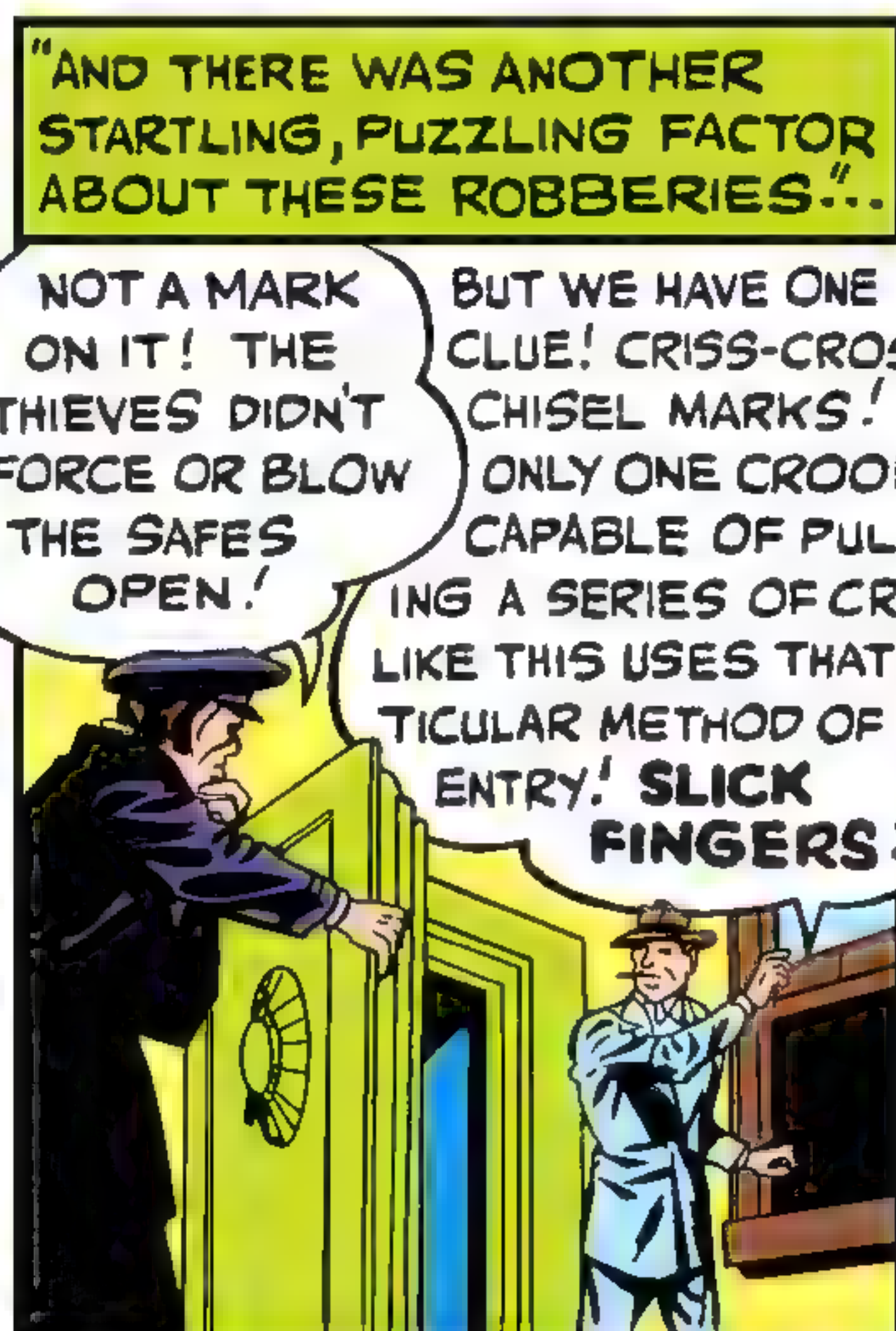
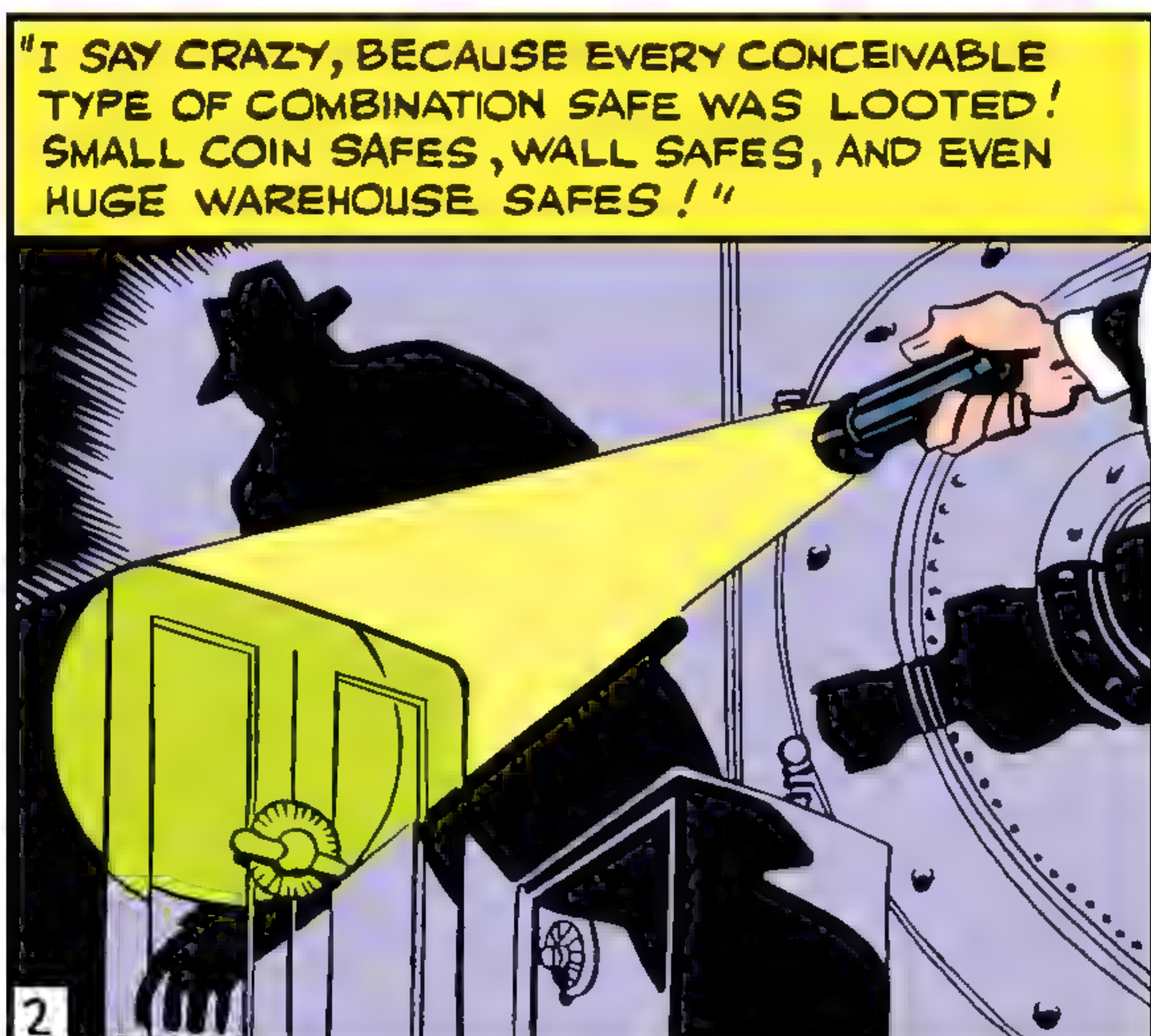
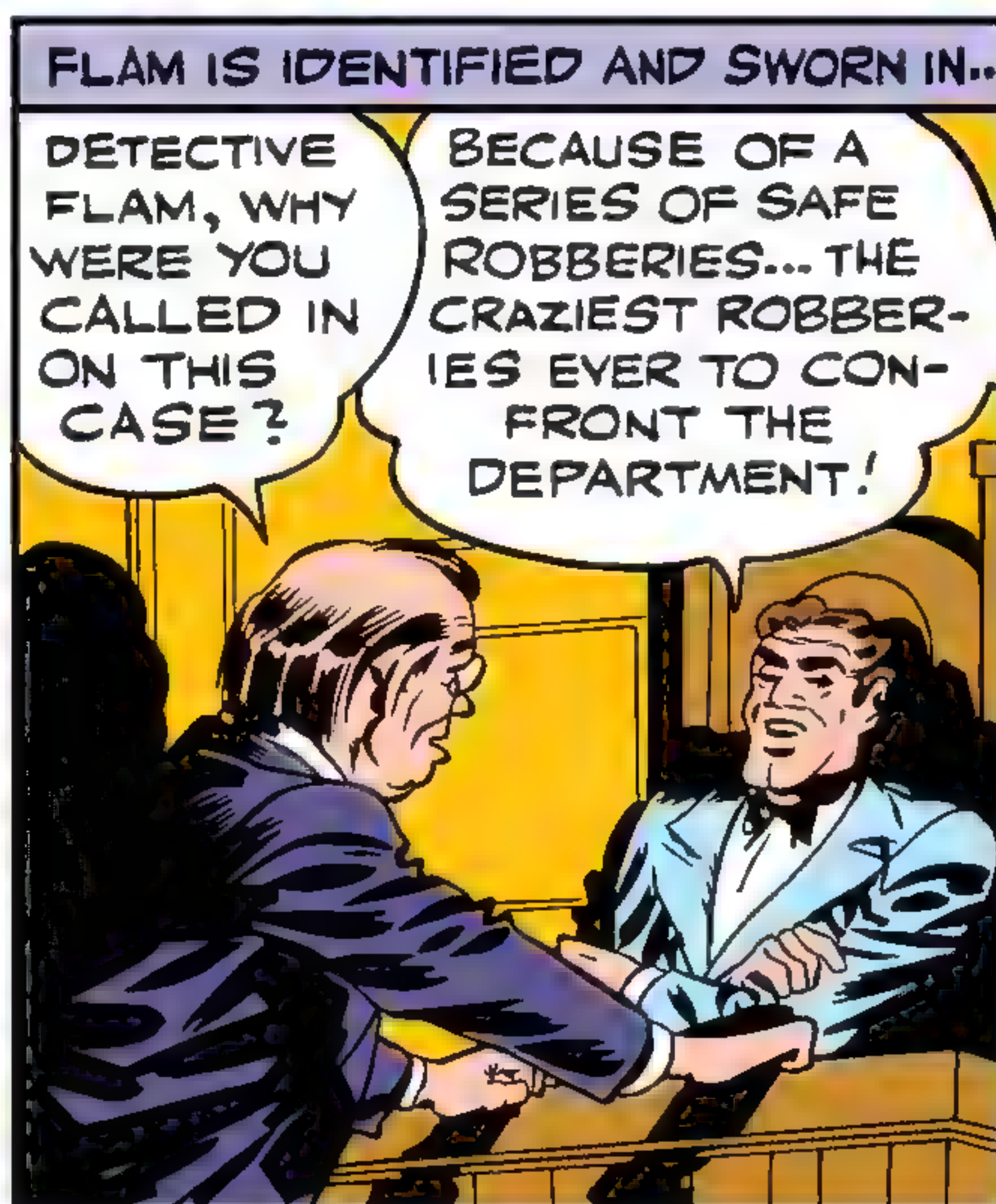
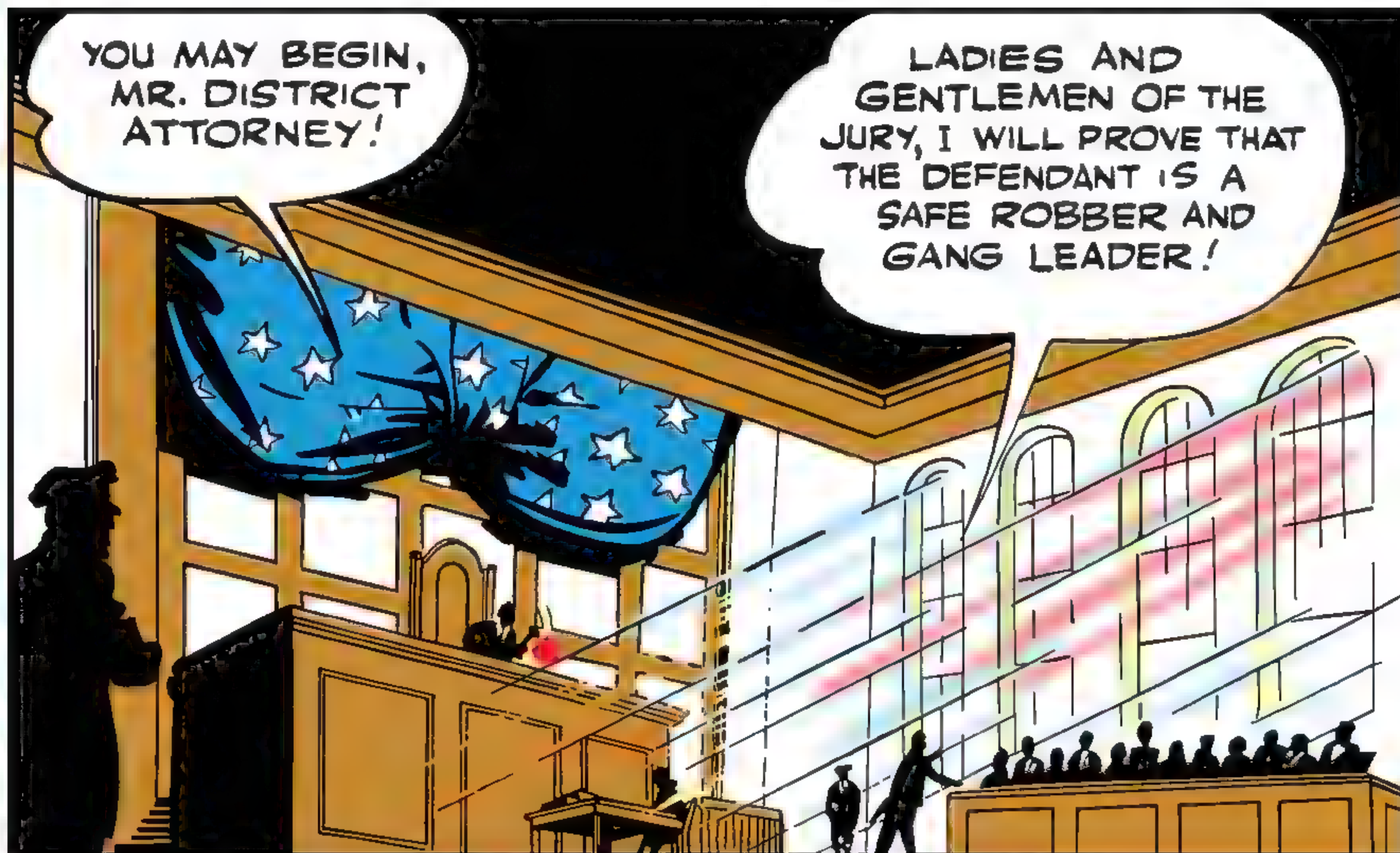
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

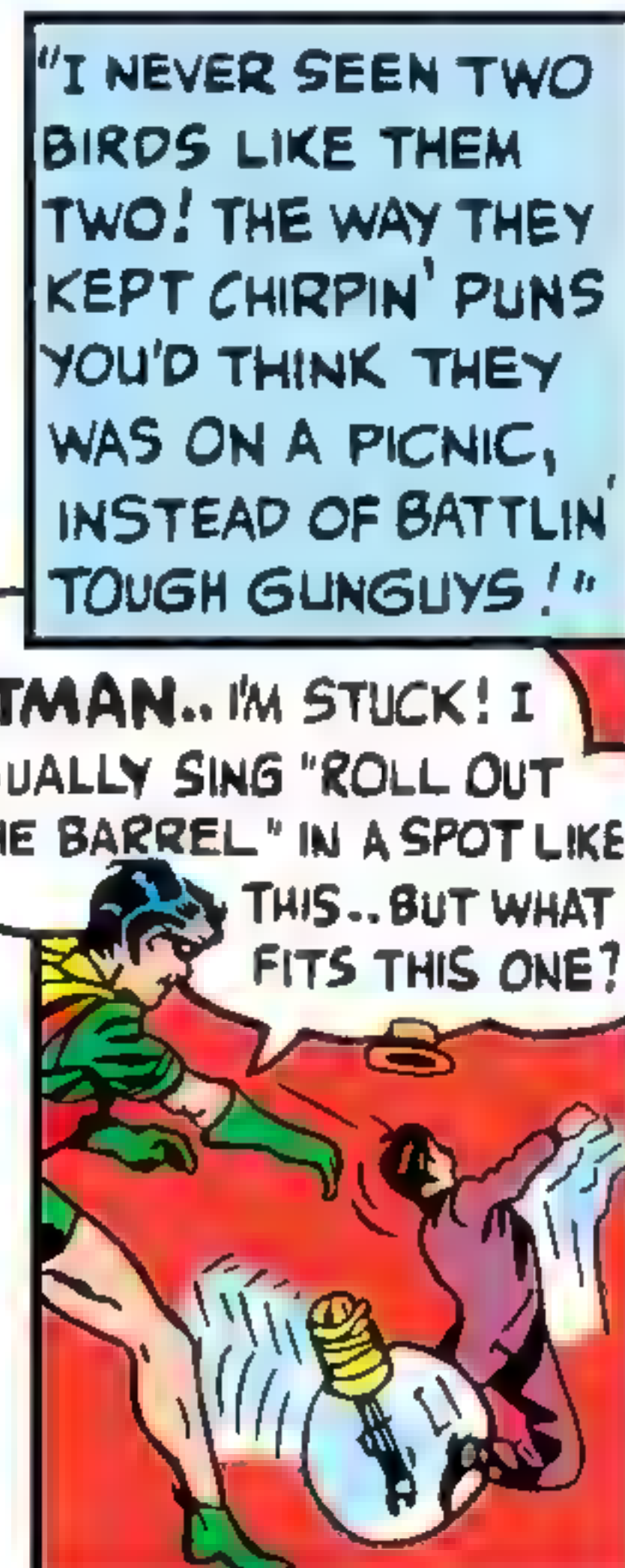
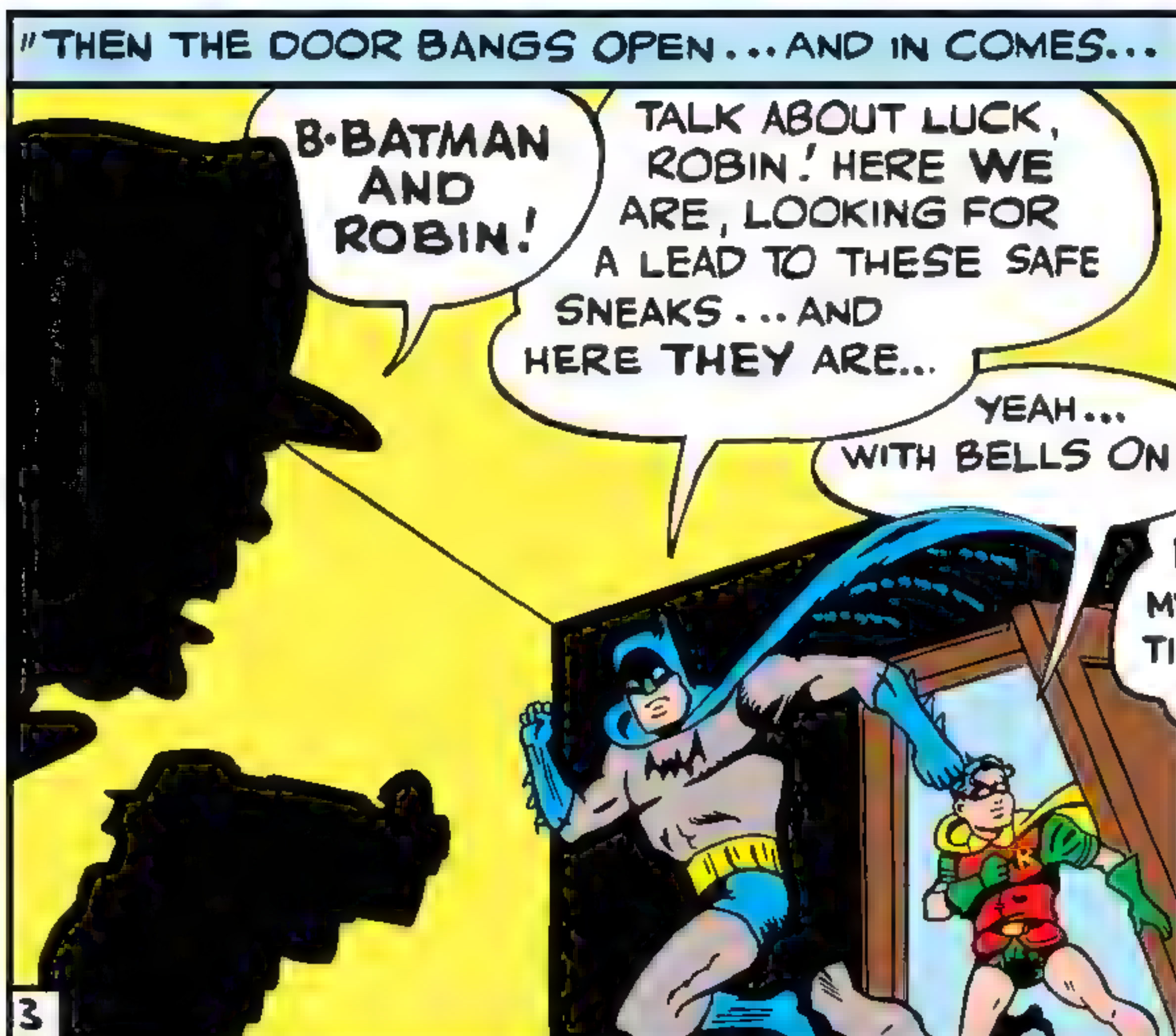
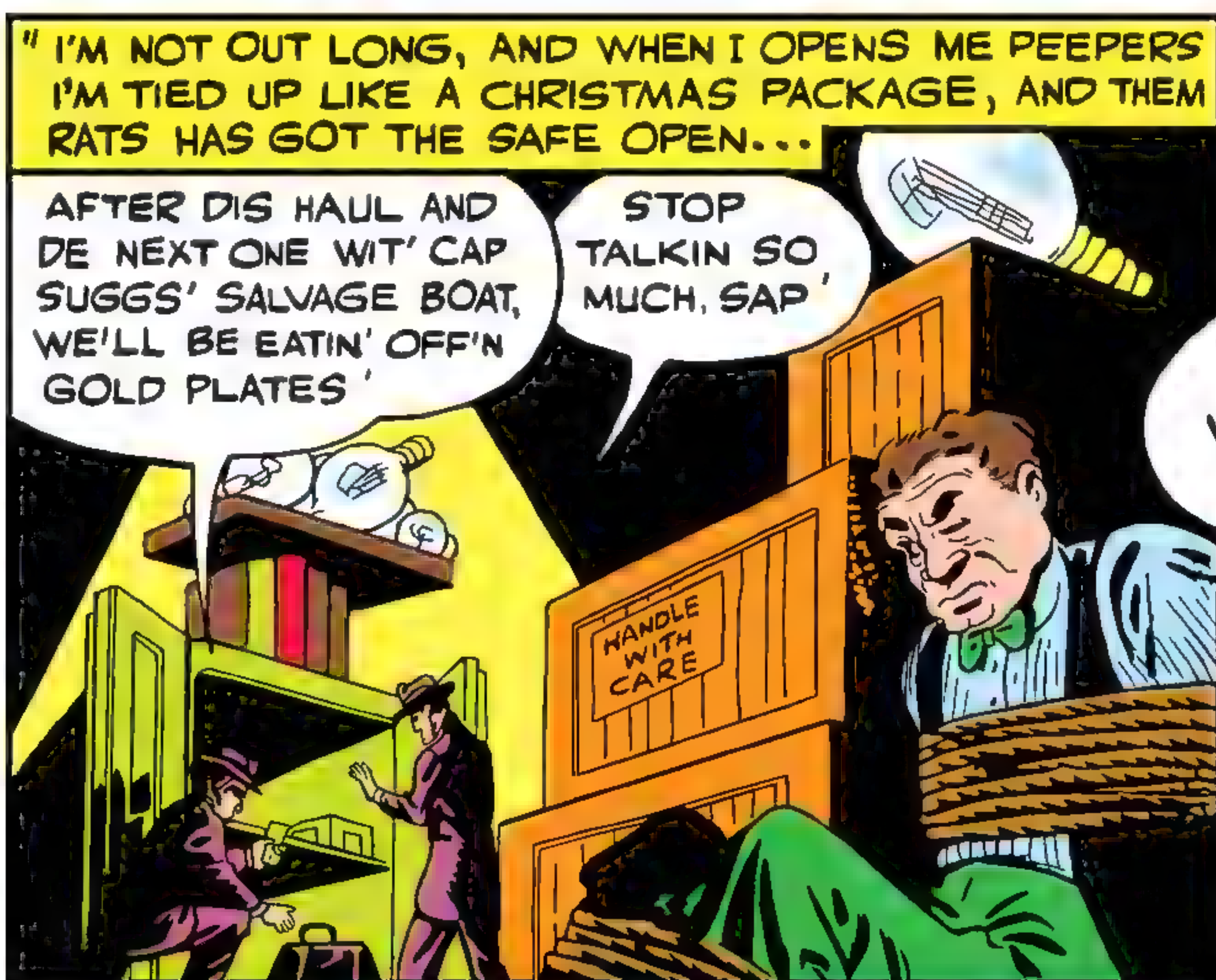
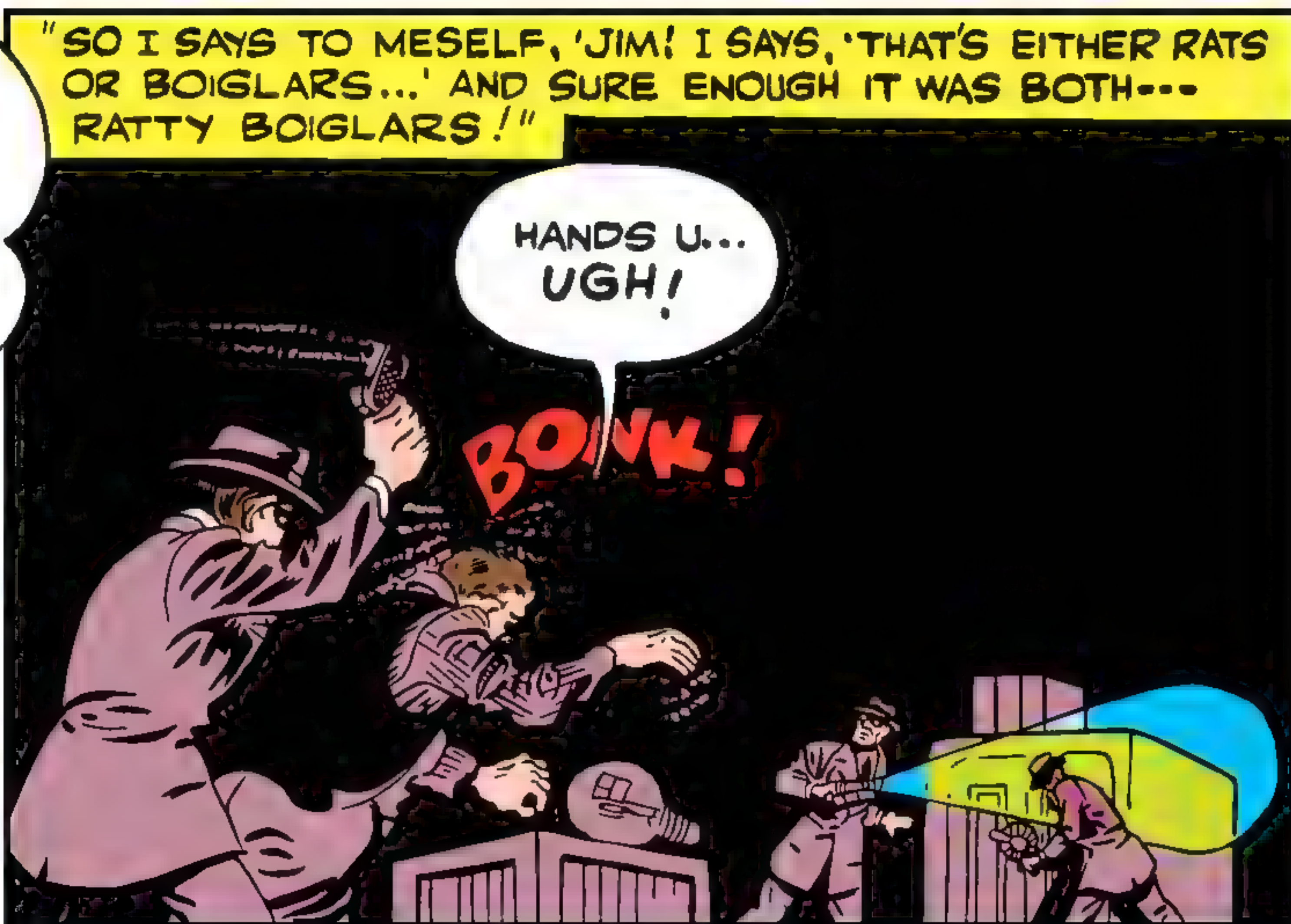
BY
BOB KANE

THIS IS A BATMAN STORY, BUT IT'S NOT TOLD IN OUR USUAL MANNER! IT CAN'T BE, FOR IT WAS UNFOLDED TO US BY MANY PEOPLE ...PEOPLE WHO PERSONALLY SAW ITS EVENTS TRANSPIRE! IT-- BUT WE MUST STOP NOW, FOR THE COURT-ROOM DOORS ARE OPENING ...THE JUDGE ENTERS... AND ALL IS IN READINESS! SO, TAKE A SEAT AND LISTEN TO THE EVIDENCE IN...

**"THE TRIAL OF
TITUS KEYES!"**









① "THERE THEY WERE...IN THE FLESH...
BATMAN AND ROBIN!"

HELLO, THERE,
OFFICER 'ROBIN AND
I EXPECT TO HAVE A
LITTLE SET-TO WITH SOME
WATER RATS. WE COULD
USE AN EXTRA PAIR OF
FISTS...

SPAKE NO
MORE! JUST
LEAD THE
WAY!

② "LATER WE PULLED UP TO A SALVAGE BOAT AT WORK!
BATMAN AN' ROBIN HOPPED ABOARD LIKE TWO RING-
TAILED MONKEYS..."

LOOK!
IT'S THEM
AGAIN!

BRIGHT LAD, ISN'T HE,
ROBIN?

③ "'TIS SURE I AM THAT THERE'S IRISH BLOOD IN
THIM TWO, FOR THE **BATMAN AND ROBIN** LOVE
A GOOD FIGHT!"

CHIN UP!

STOMACH IN! SAY... THAT
SOUNDS LIKE A SERGEANT
DRILLING SOME
PRIVATES!

④ "'T WAS A PLEASURE TO WATCH THIM TWO,
BUT I COULDN'T STAND BY WITHOUT LENDIN' A
HELPIN' HAND, NOW, COULD I?

BEGORRA! NOW I'M
ENJOYIN'
MESELF!

⑦ "I DIDN'T SEE WHAT HAPPENED BELOW,
BUT THIS IS THE WAY **BATMAN** DESCRIBED
IT TO ME LATER! THE WATER CLOSED OVER
HIS HEAD AND HE WENT
DOWN...DOWN...DOWN."

IT'S ABOUT TIME!
C'MON, CHARLEY,
HELP ME PULL
OFF THESE
STEEL PLATES.

⑤ "AN' THEN IT WAS
THAT WE HEARD TH'
VOICE..."

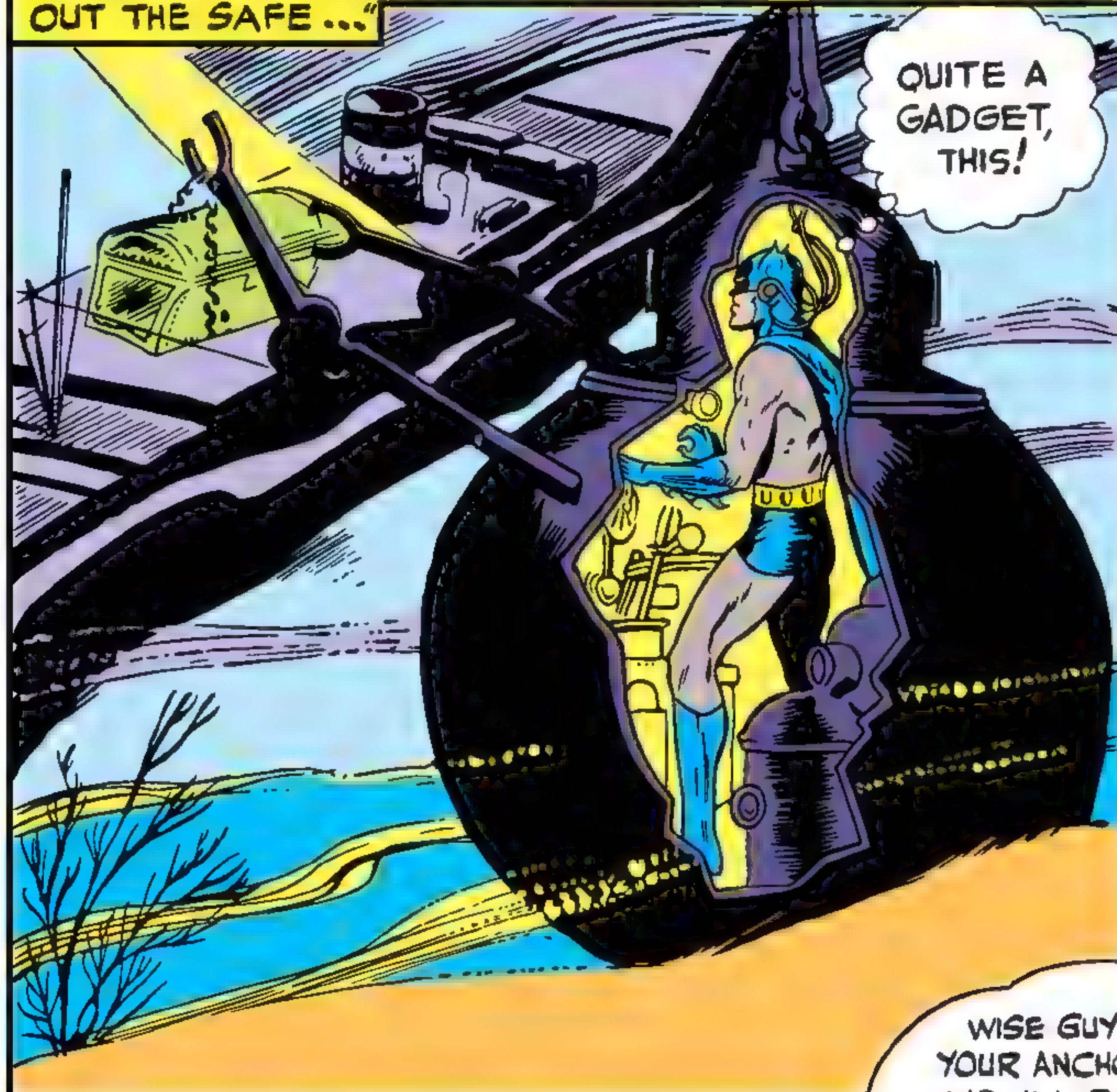
HEY
SUGGS!
I FOUND
THE GOLD,
BUT I'M
GONNA
NEED A
LITTLE
HELP WITH
IT! SEND
CHARLEY
DOWN!

AH! THAT
WOULD BE
OUR THIRD MAN..
DOWN ON THE
BOTTOM! SO HE
WANTS CHARLEY,
DOES HE? WELL..
WELL! \$60,000
WOULD BE A
NICE SUM
TO IN-
VEST IN
WAR
BONDS!

⑥ A-ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL
BE OKAY? YOU'RE GOING
DOWN OVER 1,000 FEET!
THE PRESSURE WILL BE
TERRIFIC!

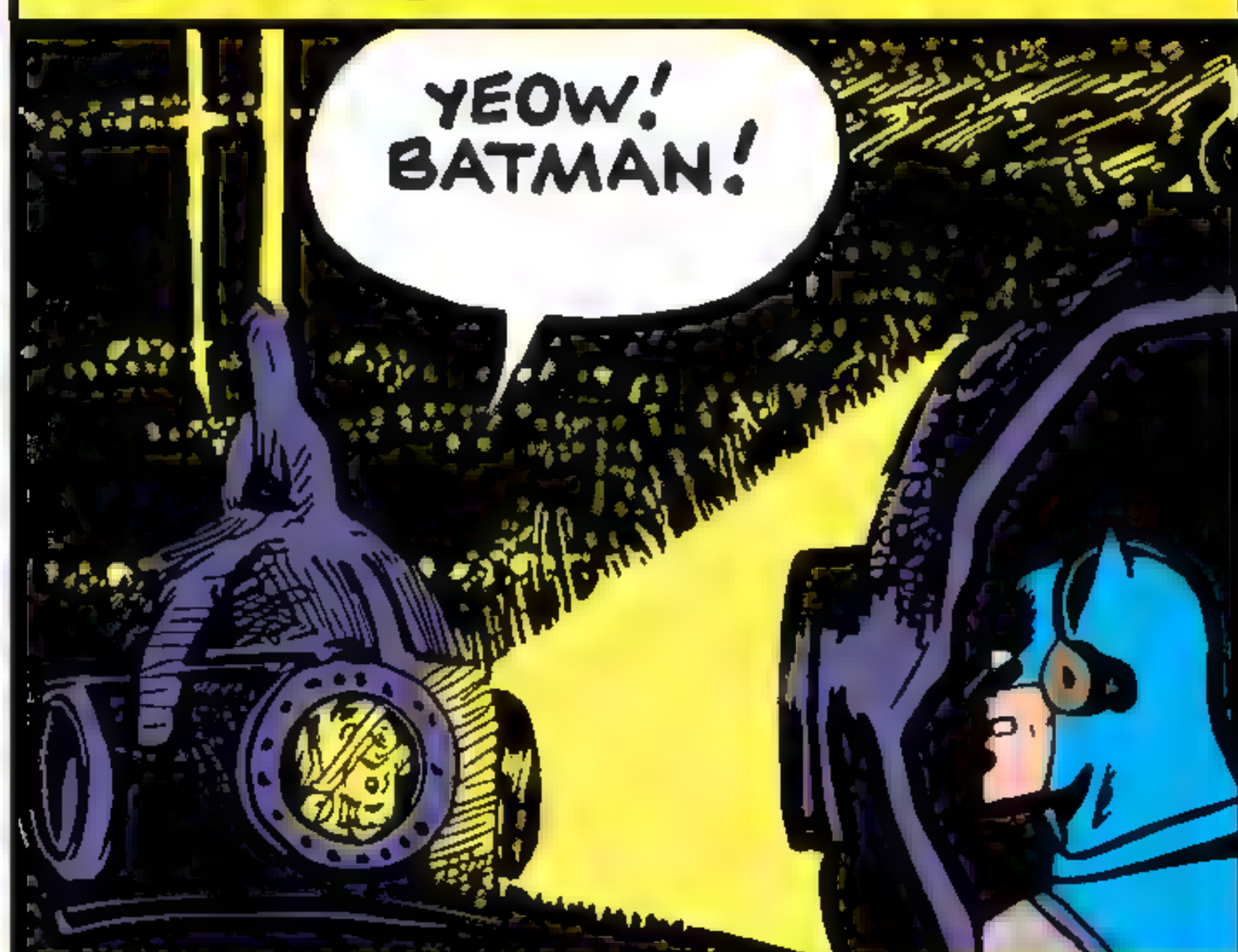
THIS NEW
DIVING-BELL CAN
STAND PRESSURE AT
25,000 FEET! YOU AND
O'BRIEN STAND
BY! I'LL DO
THE REST!

"THE BATMAN SOON GETS THE HANG O' WORKIN' THE TWO MECHANICAL ARMS AND IS HELPIN' THAT CROOK BRING OUT THE SAFE ..."



QUITE A GADGET, THIS!

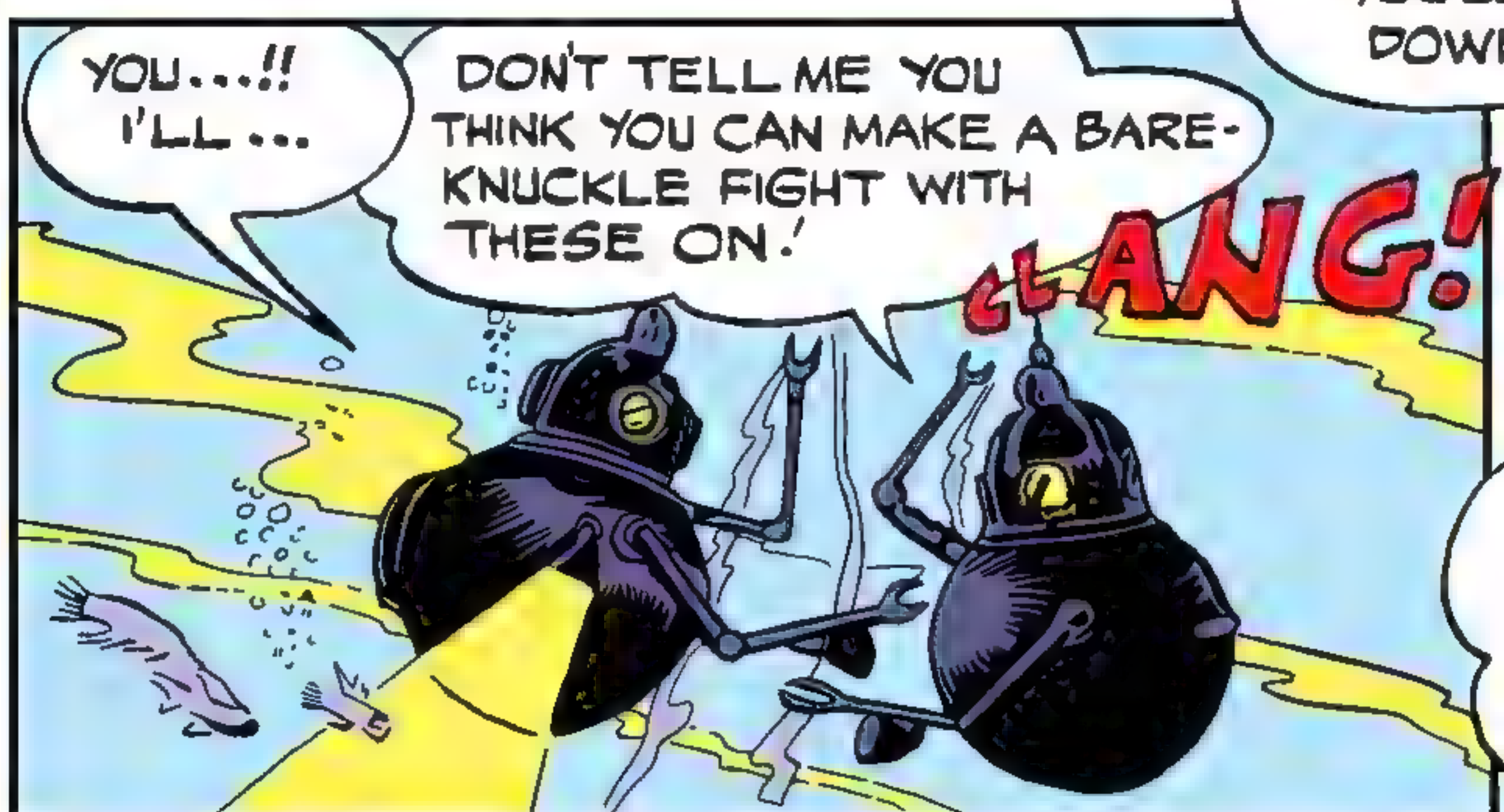
" 'TIS AFTER THE GOLD IS HEISTED UP THAT THE CROOK ACCIDENTALLY SHINES HIS SEARCHLIGHT ON THE OTHER BELL'S FACE-PLATE ..."



YEOW! BATMAN!

"WELL, HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ON SEEING YOUR WORST ENEMY... OF ALL PLACES ... ON THE OCEAN BOTTOM!"

"SUDDENLY, THE THUG'S DIVING BELL'S MECHANICAL ARM SHOOTS OUT TO SNATCH UP A HUGE UNDER-SEA PLIERS, THE ONE THAT IS USED TO CUT STEEL."



YOU...!! I'LL ...

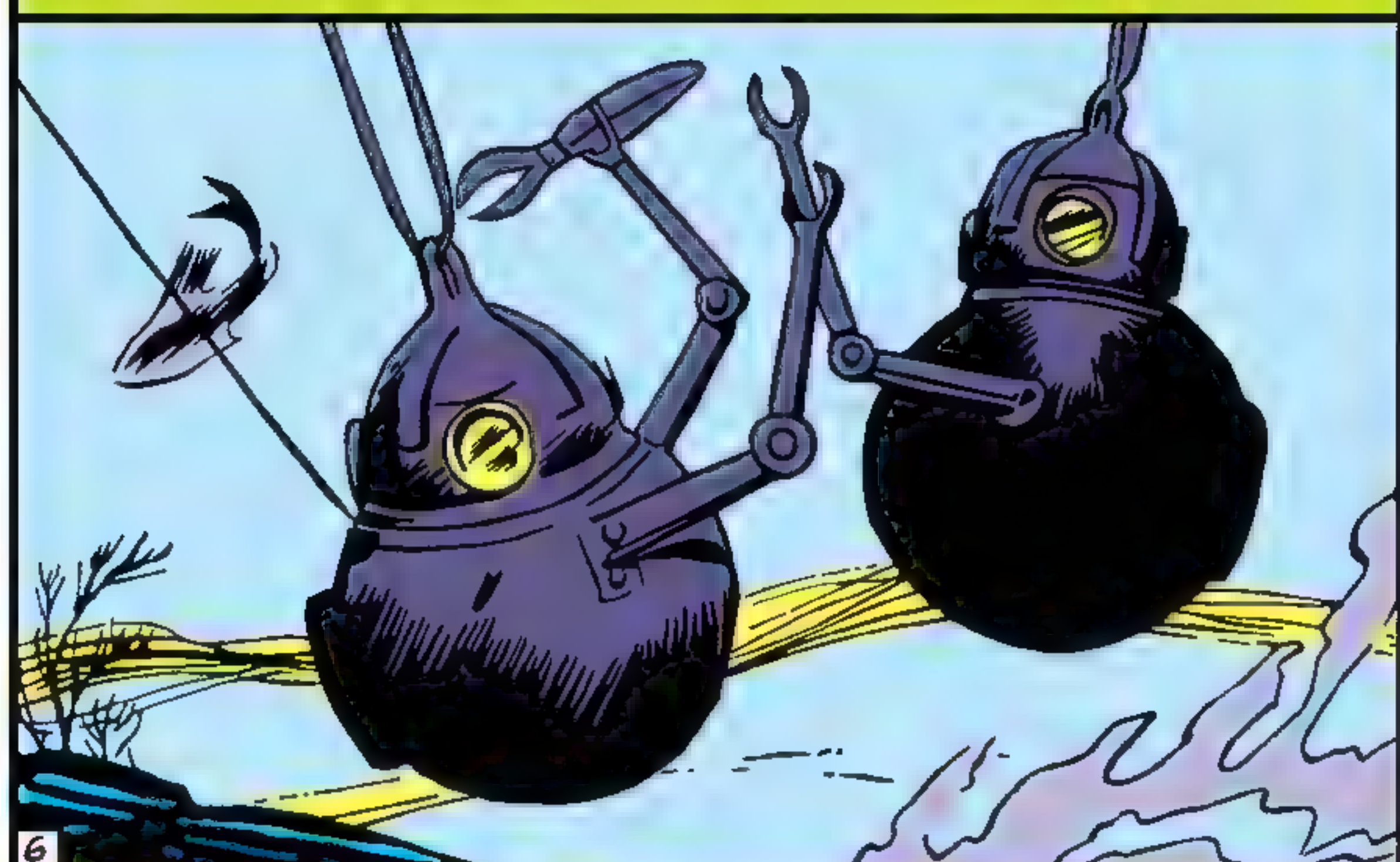
DON'T TELL ME YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE A BARE-KNUCKLE FIGHT WITH THESE ON!

CLANG!

WISE GUY, I'M GONNA CUT YOUR ANCHOR CHAIN LOOSE! YOU'LL BE STRANDED DOWN HERE, HA! HA!

A NASTY THOUGHT AND A NASTY LAUGH!

"SURE, IT MUST'VE BEEN A HAIR-RAISIN' SIGHT, THIM TWO LOOKIN' LIKE HORRIBLE SEA-MONSTERS, BATTLIN' ON THE BOTTOM O' THE SEA!"

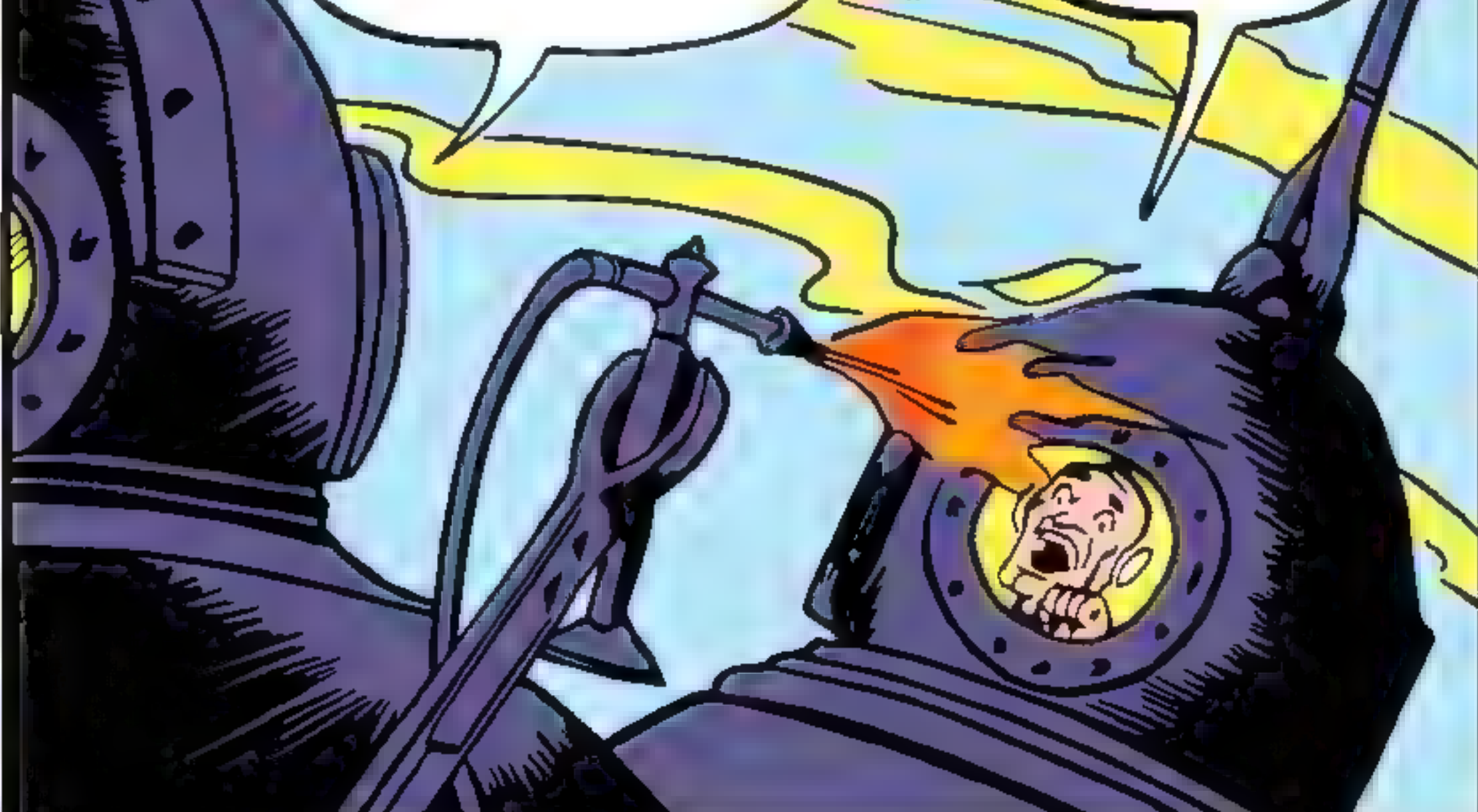


"AS NEAT AS IF HE WAS ON LAND, BATMAN DIS-ARMED THE CROOK!"

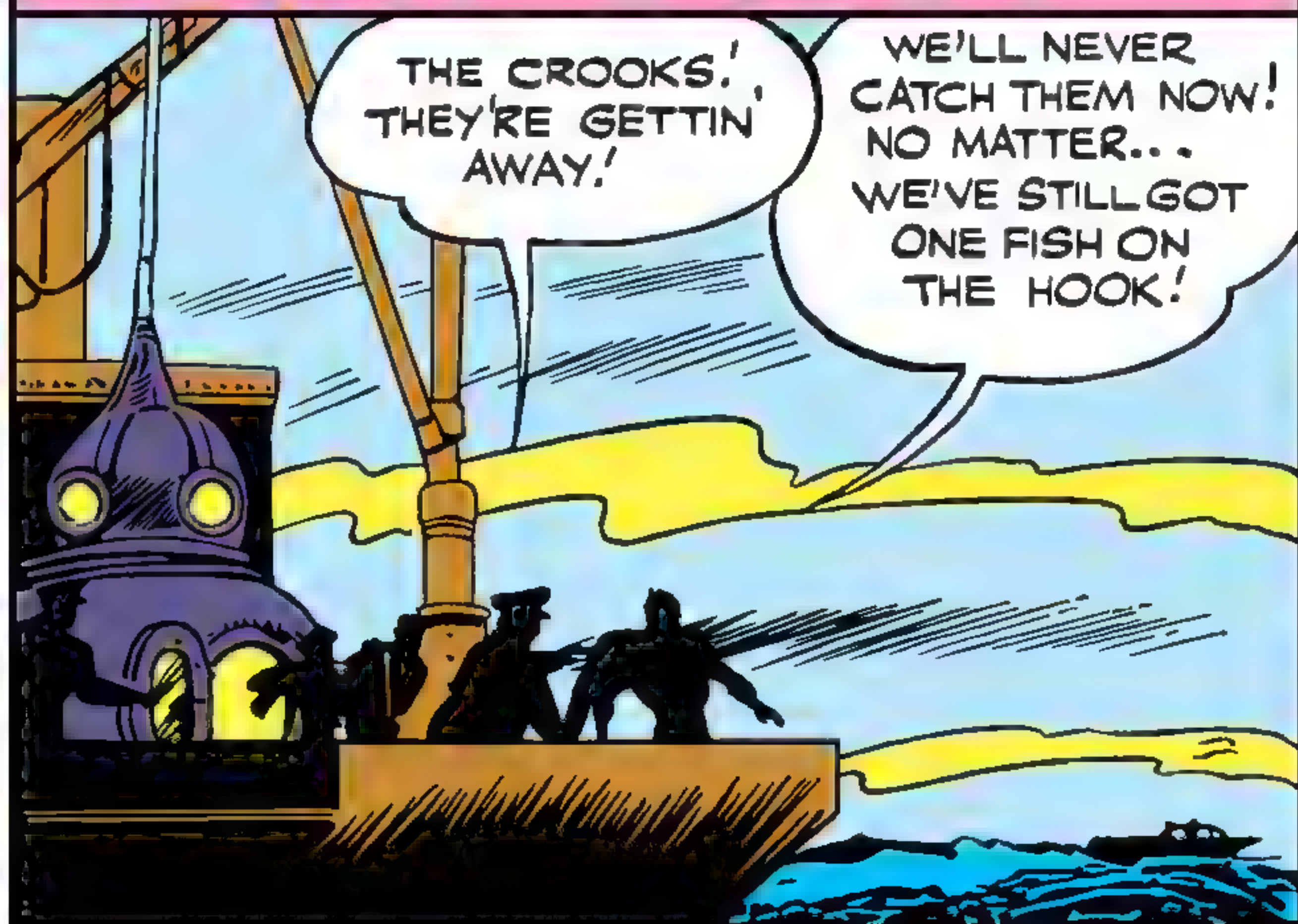
"THEN BATMAN GRABS UP AN UNDERWATER ACETYLENE TORCH..."

IF YOU DON'T BEHAVE I'LL BURN A HOLE RIGHT THROUGH THE GLASS...

NO! DON'T! THE SEA WILL RUSH IN! THE PRESSURE WILL CRUSH ME TO JELLY! DON'T!



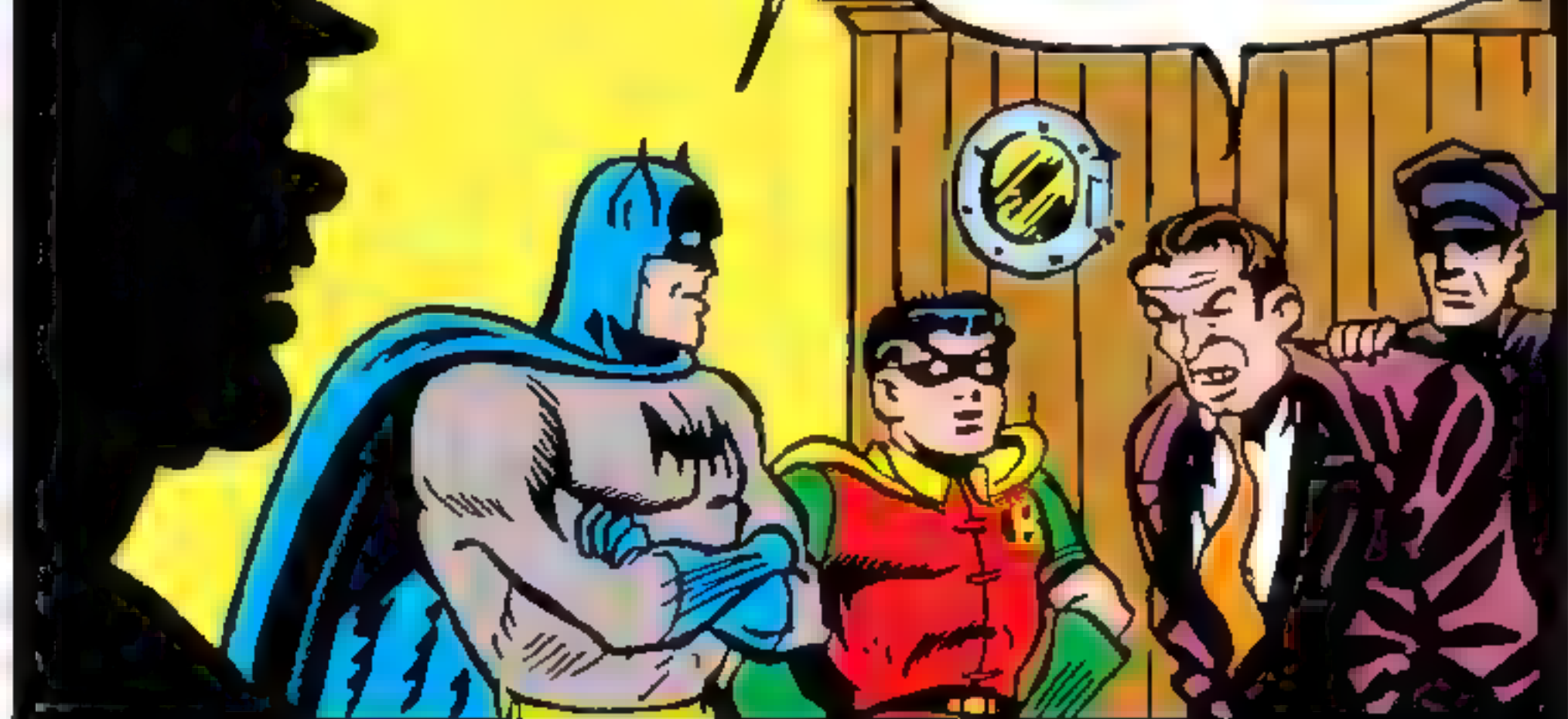
" WELL, SIR, WE HEISTED THEM ABOARD, AND WE'RE SO EXCITED WE FORGOT ALL ABOUT THE PRISONERS..!"



WELL, AN' SURE IF IT AIN'T NOODLE NOLAN... ONE OF SLICK'S OLD GANG!

NOODLE, OLD BEAN, HOW'S ABOUT BEING A NICE BOY AND TELLING US WHERE YOUR BOSS IS? HE'S SLICK FINGERS, ISN'T HE?

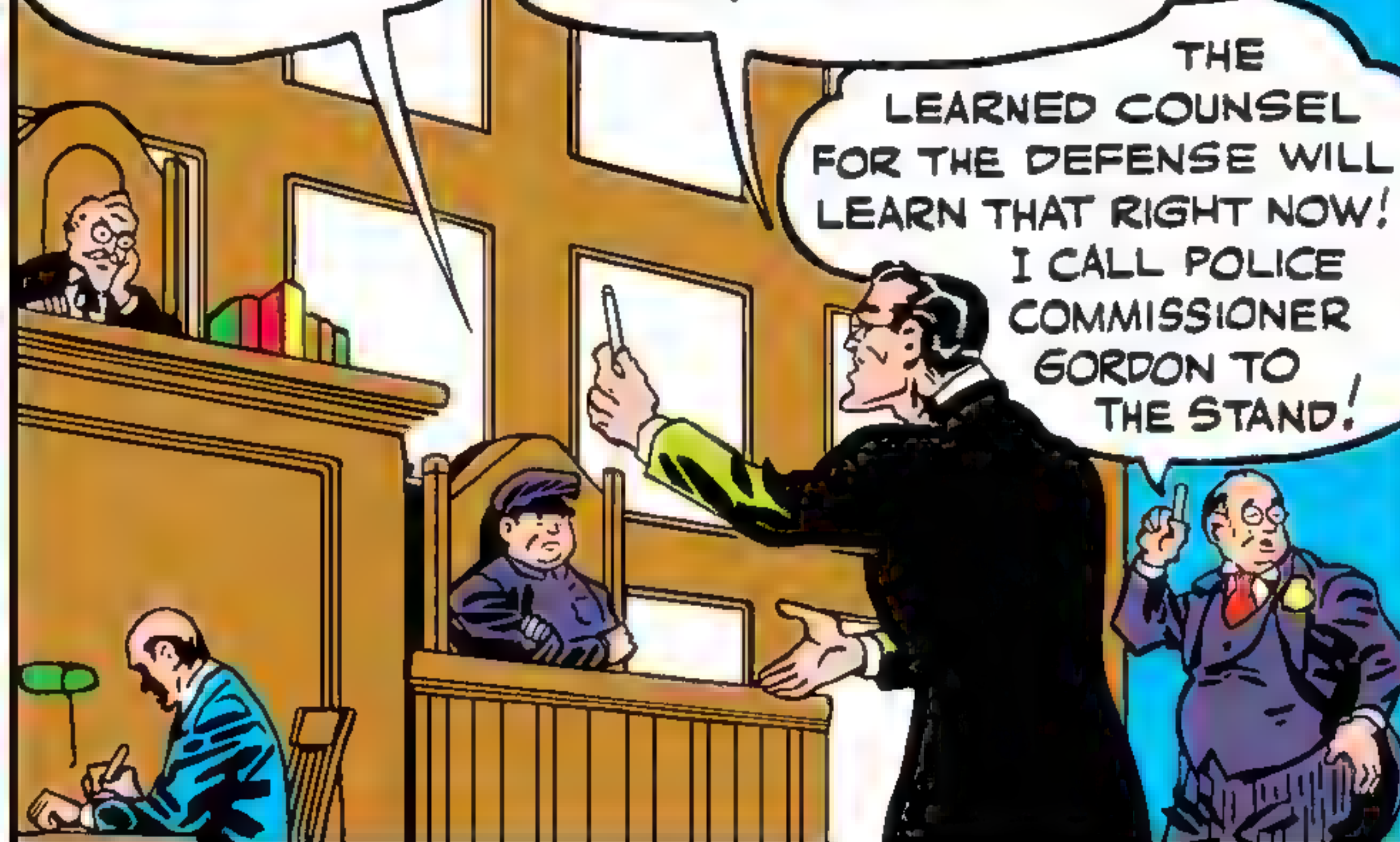
I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN'!



WE TOOK NOODLE TO HEADQUARTERS BUT HE STILL WOULDN'T TALK!

YOUR HONOR, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY IS PROVING THE GUILT OF ONE SLICK FINGERS! WHAT HAS THAT TO DO WITH MY CLIENT, TITUS KEYES?

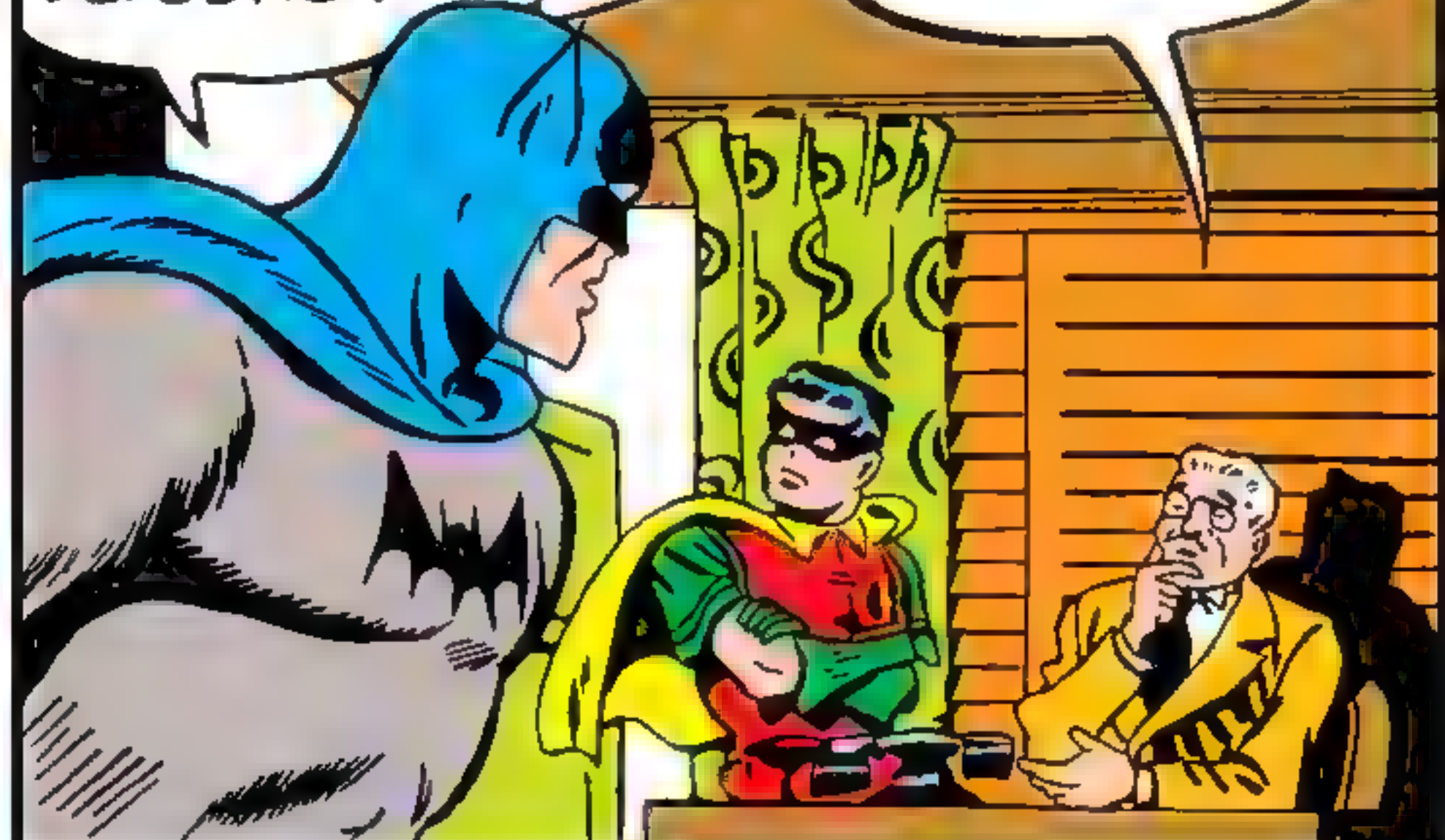
THE LEARNED COUNSEL FOR THE DEFENSE WILL LEARN THAT RIGHT NOW! I CALL POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON TO THE STAND!



GORDON RELATES HIS CONVERSATION WITH BATMAN...

ONE THING PUZZLES ME. IF THEY'RE SO ADEPT AT OPENING SAFES, WHY DON'T THEY OPEN ONLY BANK VAULTS CONTAINING HUGE DEPOSITS?

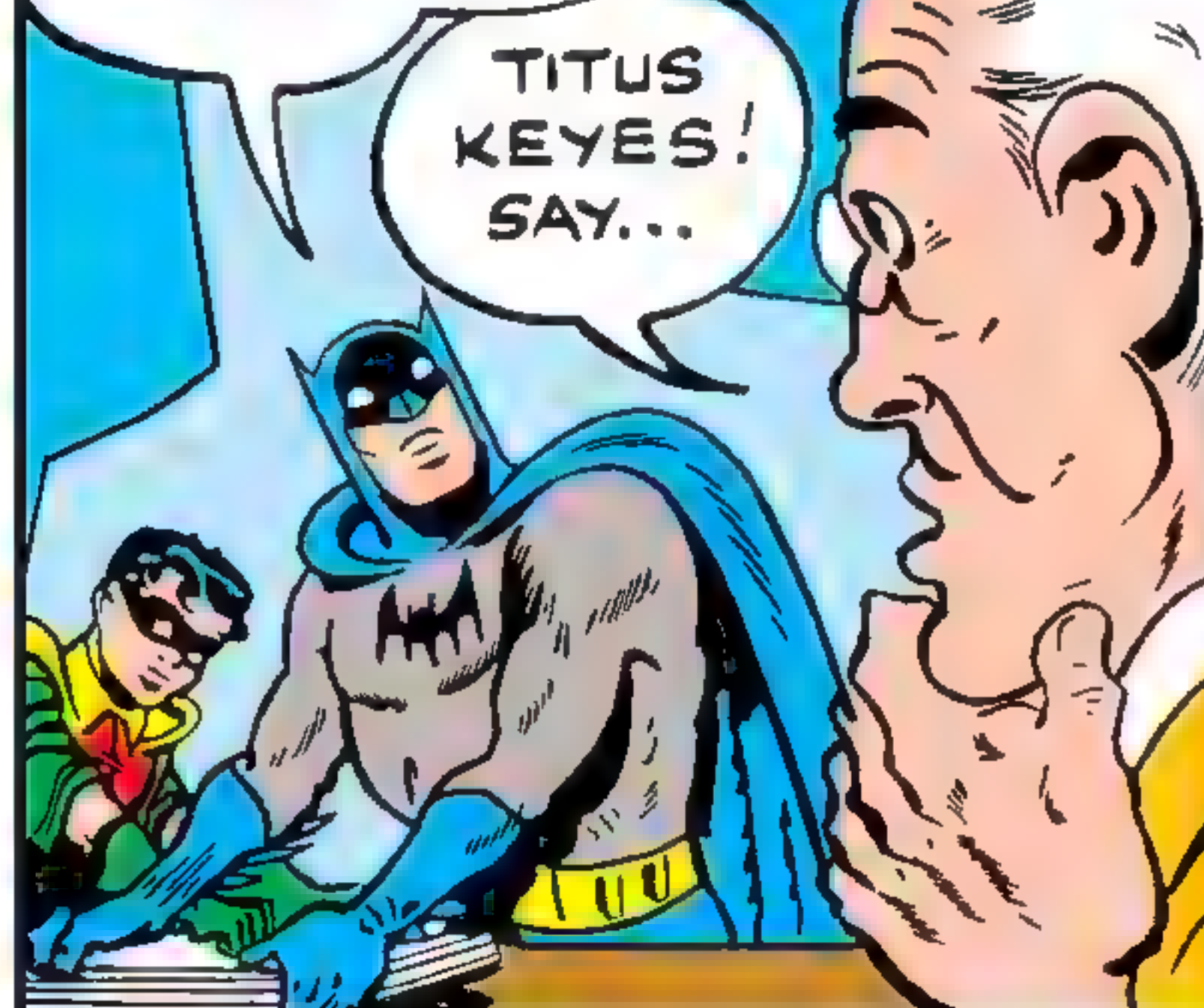
AND WHY DO THEY RISK THEIR LIVES BELOW THE SEA WHEN THEY CAN MAKE A BIGGER AND SAFER HAUL ON LAND?



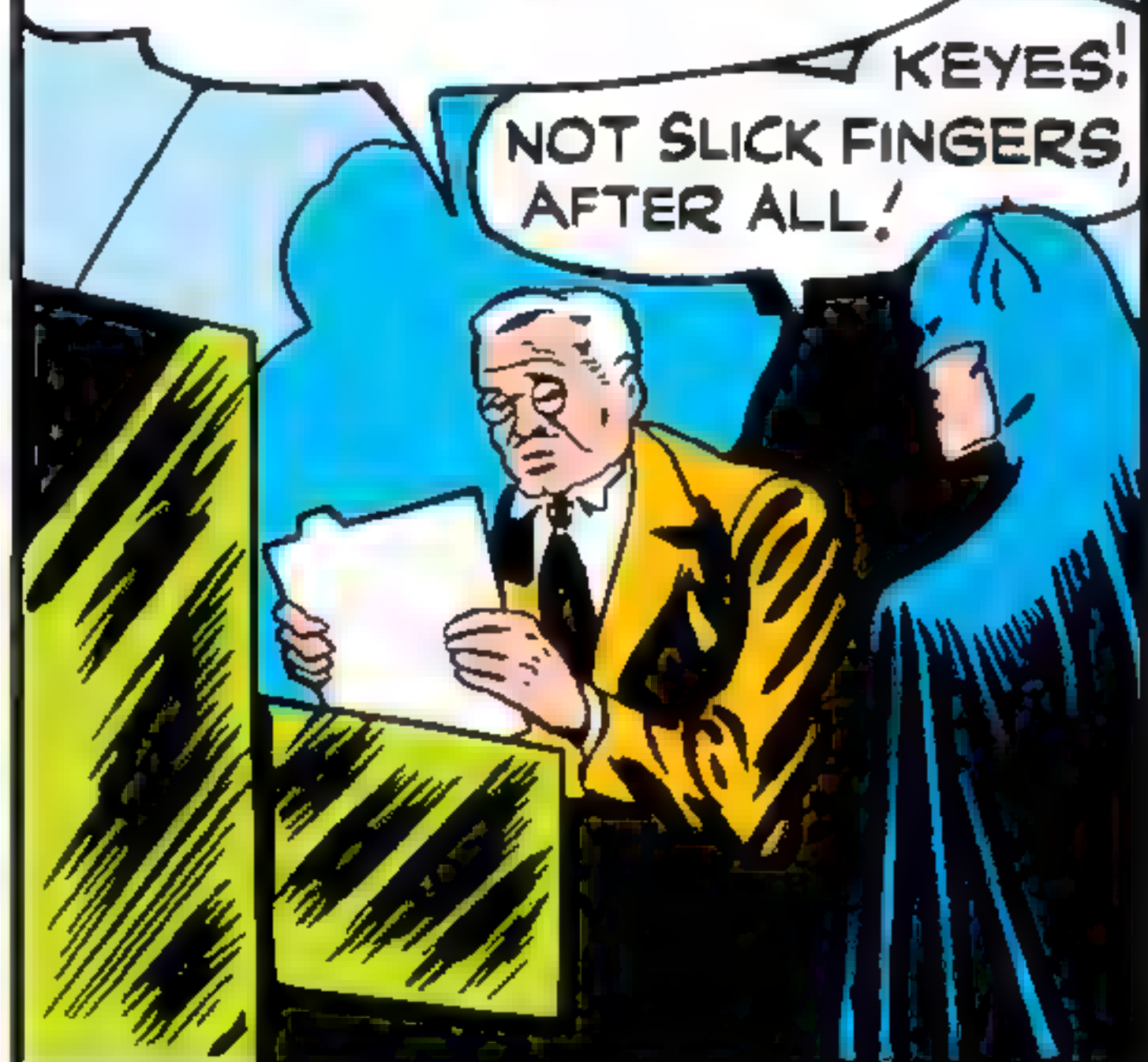
AND REMEMBER, NO CHISELS OR NITROGLYCERIN FORCED OPEN THOSE SAFES! THEY WERE OPENED AS EASILY AS IF THE PERSON KNEW THE COMBINATIONS! SAY... THAT'S AN IDEA...!!



I THOUGHT SO! THE DOLPHIN'S SAFE AND EVERY SAFE THAT WAS ROBBED WAS MADE BY ONE CONCERN--THE TITUS KEYES SAFE COMPANY! A COMPANY THAT WENT OUT OF BUSINESS IN 1929!



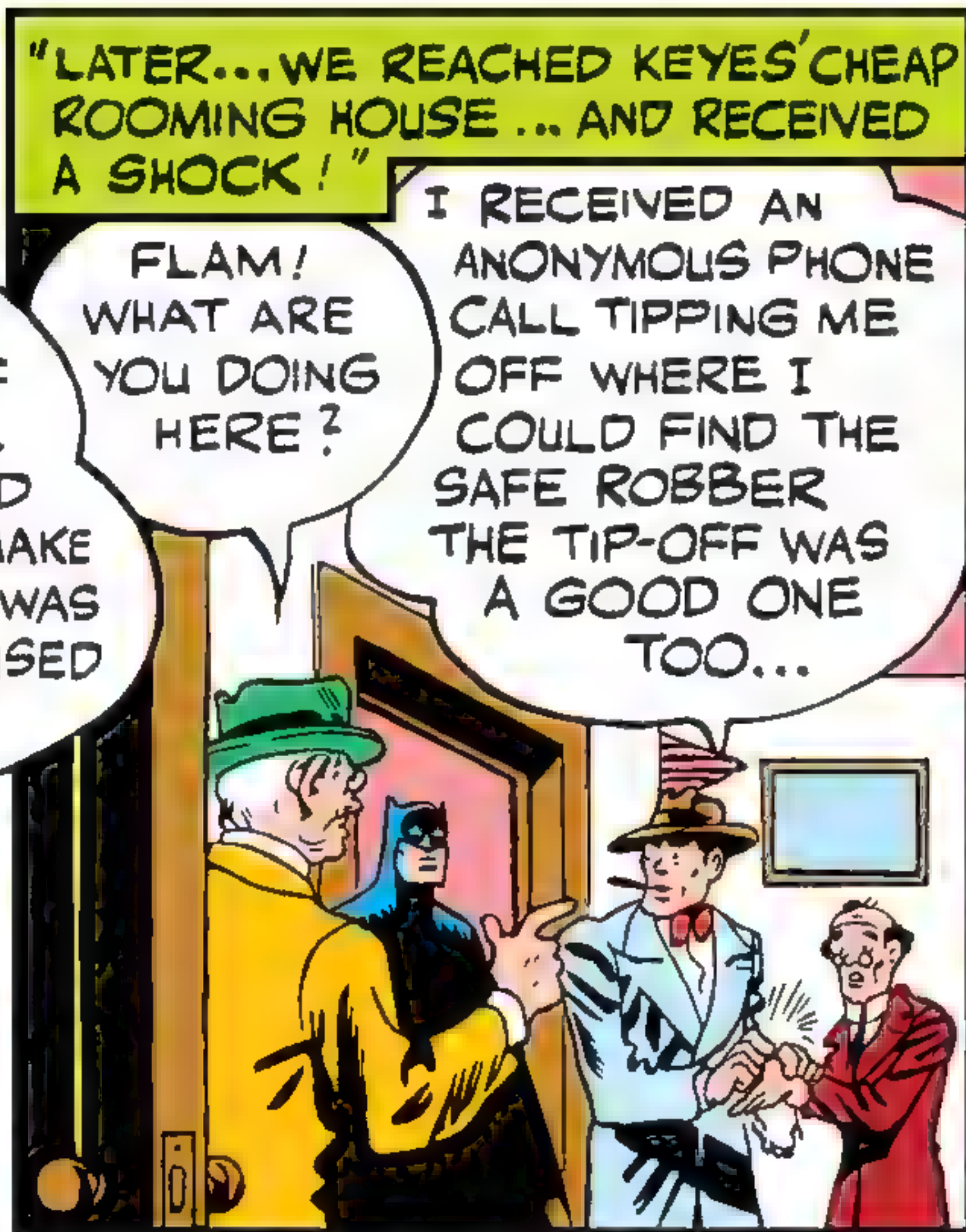
HERE IT IS! "TITUS KEYES CONVICTED OF ATTEMPTED ROBBERY! CAUGHT EMPLOYING COMBINATION OF SAFE MADE FOR LOAN CONCERN! CONVICTED APRIL 26, 1929 -- RELEASED MAY 1, 1943!"





KEYES, THE SAFE MAKER, ALONE KNEW THE COMBINATIONS! UPON RELEASE FROM JAIL, HE EASILY OPENED THE VERY SAFES HE ONCE MANUFACTURED!

AND WHEN HE READ OF SLICK'S JAIL BREAK, HE HIRED SLICK'S MEN TO MAKE IT APPEAR SLICK WAS BEHIND IT ALL, AND USED SLICK'S METHOD OF ENTRY!



"LATER...WE REACHED KEYES' CHEAP ROOMING HOUSE ... AND RECEIVED A SHOCK!"

FLAM! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

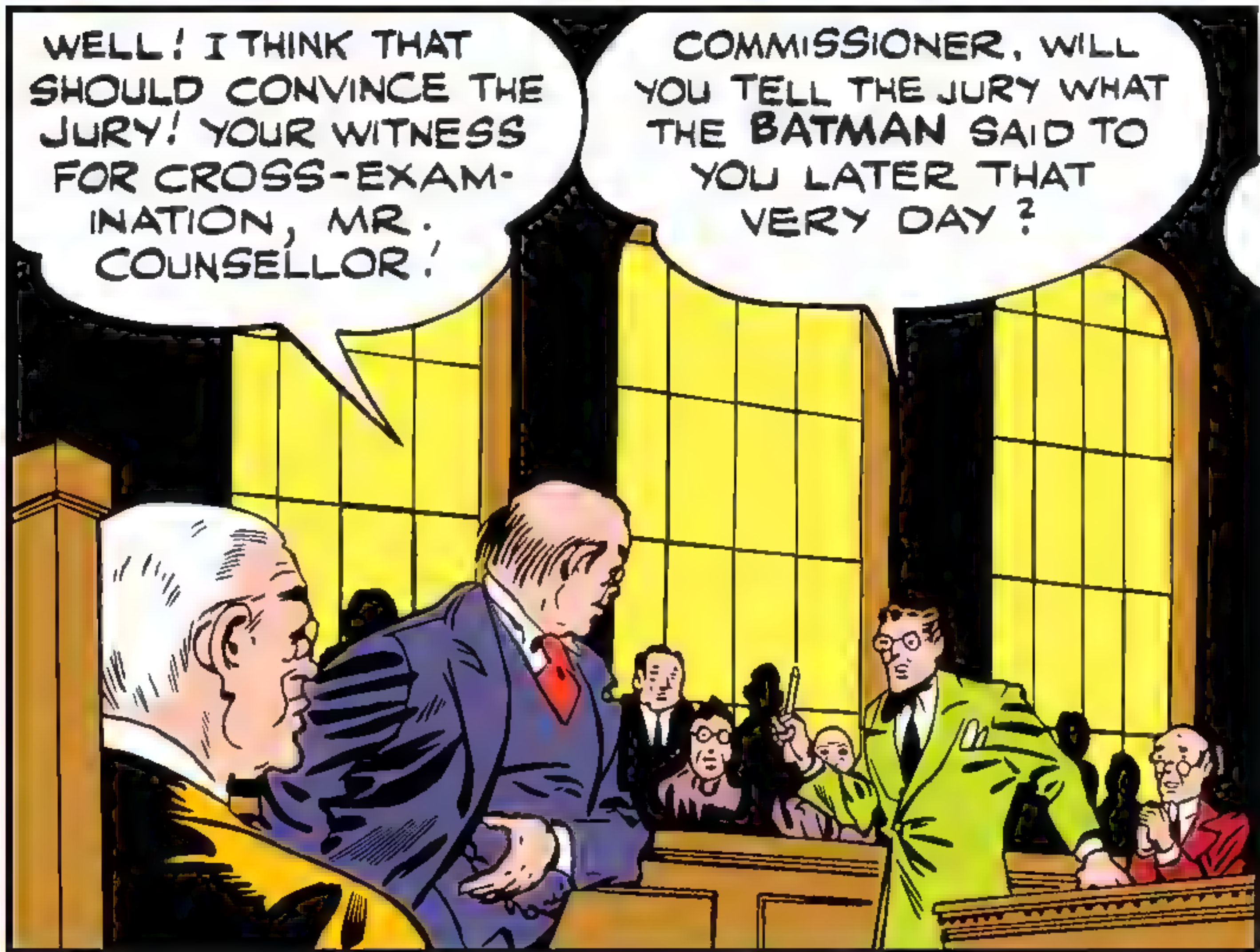
I RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL TIPPING ME OFF WHERE I COULD FIND THE SAFE ROBBER THE TIP-OFF WAS A GOOD ONE TOO...



LOOK HERE, SIR! SOME OF THE LOOT MENTIONED STOLEN FROM SAFES!

THE VANDER-HOFF NECKLACE! THAT PROVES IT!

NO... NO!



WELL! I THINK THAT SHOULD CONVINCE THE JURY! YOUR WITNESS FOR CROSS-EXAMINATION, MR. COUNSELLOR!

COMMISSIONER, WILL YOU TELL THE JURY WHAT THE BATMAN SAID TO YOU LATER THAT VERY DAY?



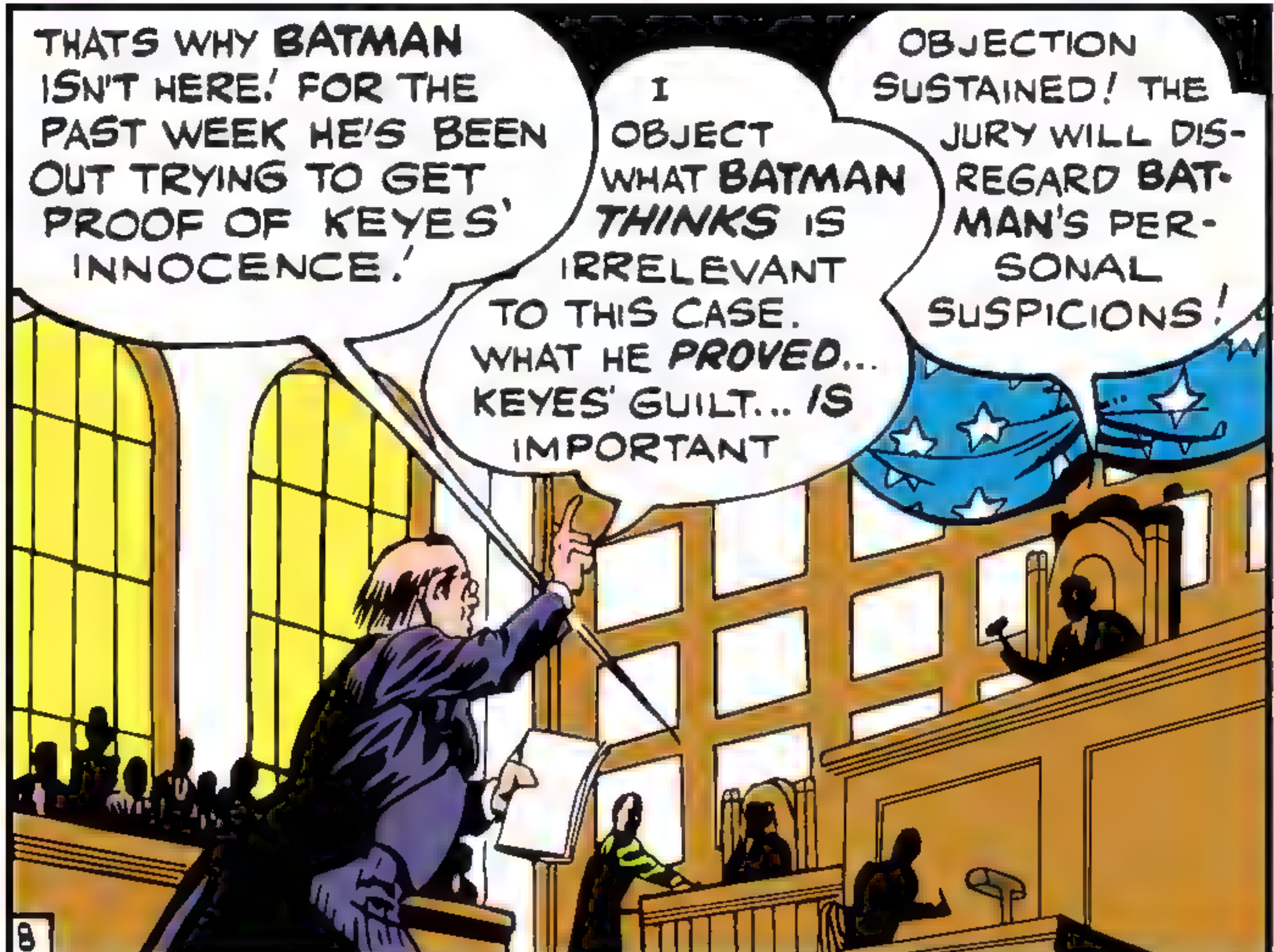
"WELL, BATMAN SEEMED TROUBLED..."

THIS CASE

WHAT'S WRONG, BATMAN?

AGAINST KEYES!

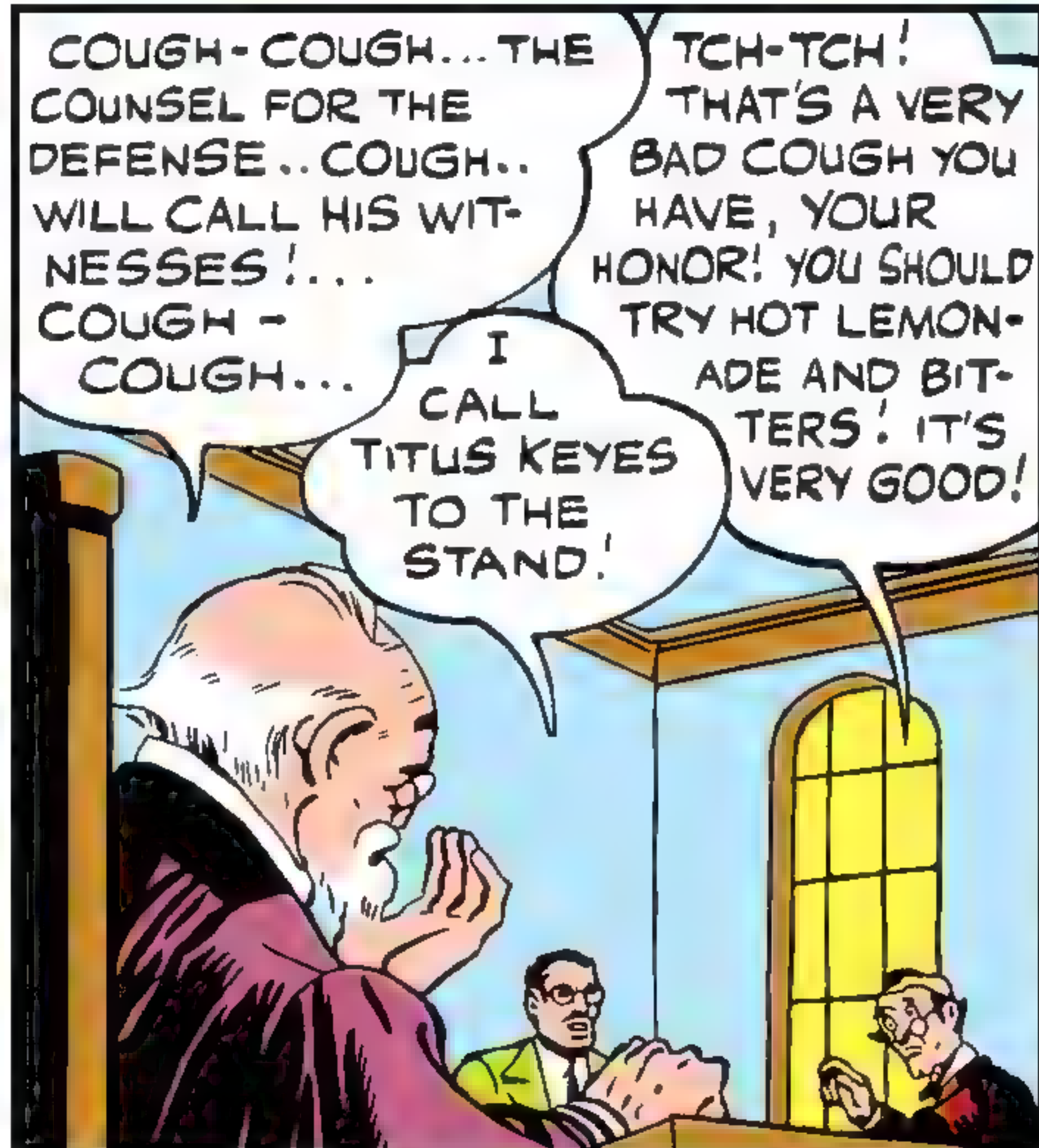
IT'S TOO PAT! WHY SHOULD A SMART CROOK LEAVE LOOT AROUND TO BE FOUND! I'M NOT GOING TO REST TILL I FIND OUT WHO MADE THAT ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL. I THINK KEYES WAS FRAMED!



THAT'S WHY BATMAN ISN'T HERE! FOR THE PAST WEEK HE'S BEEN OUT TRYING TO GET PROOF OF KEYES' INNOCENCE!

I OBJECT WHAT BATMAN THINKS IS IRRELEVANT TO THIS CASE. WHAT HE PROVED... KEYES' GUILT... IS IMPORTANT

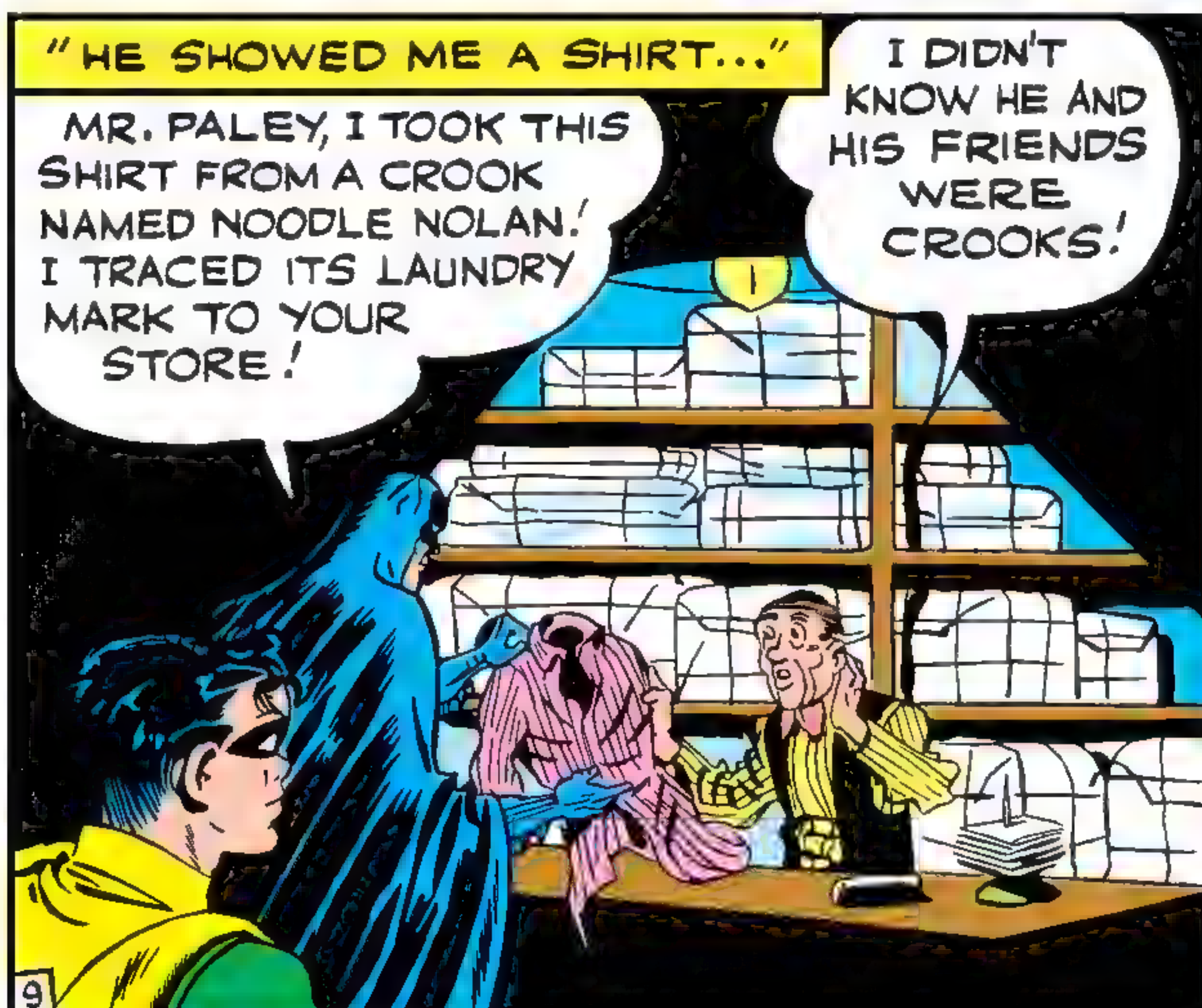
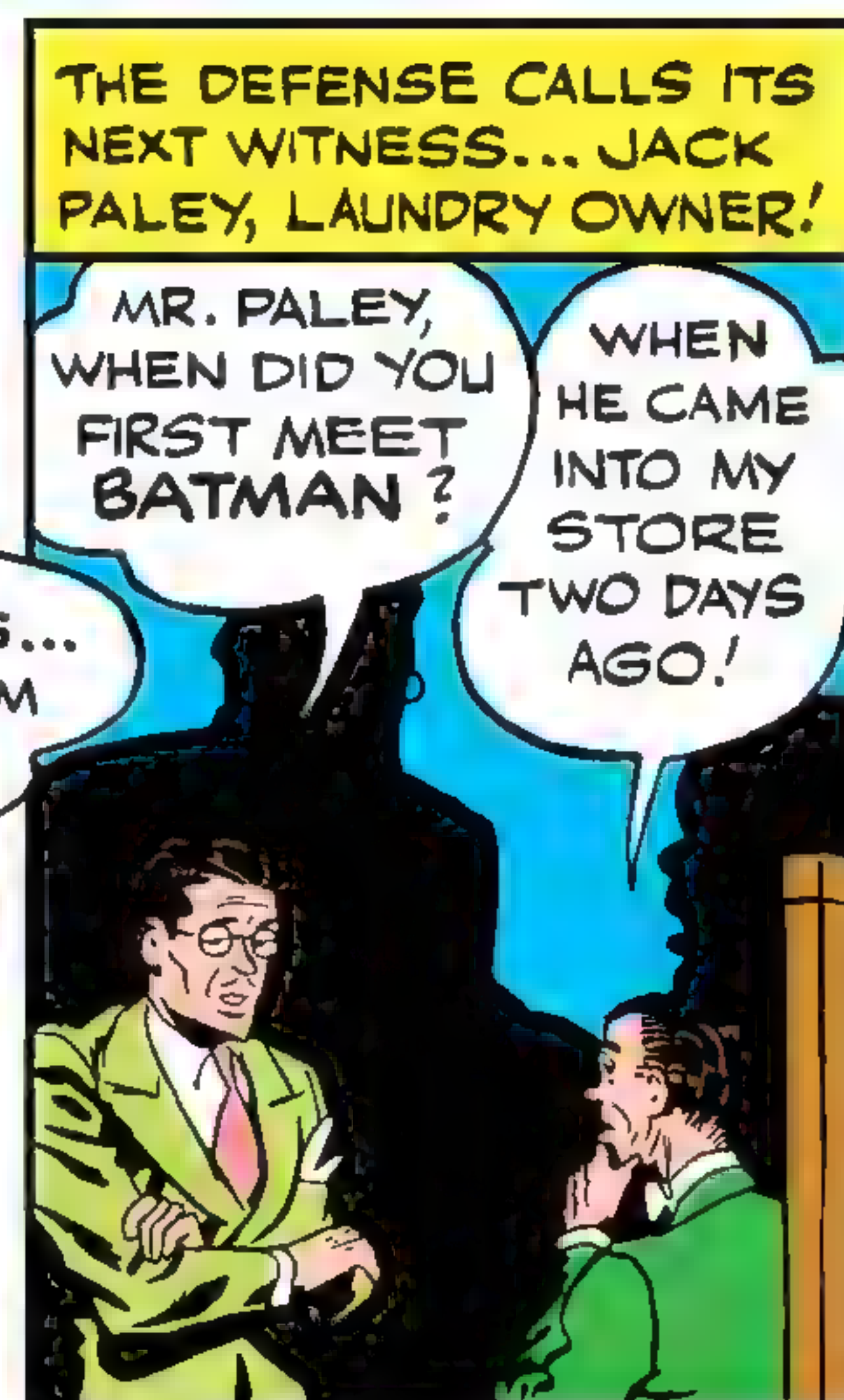
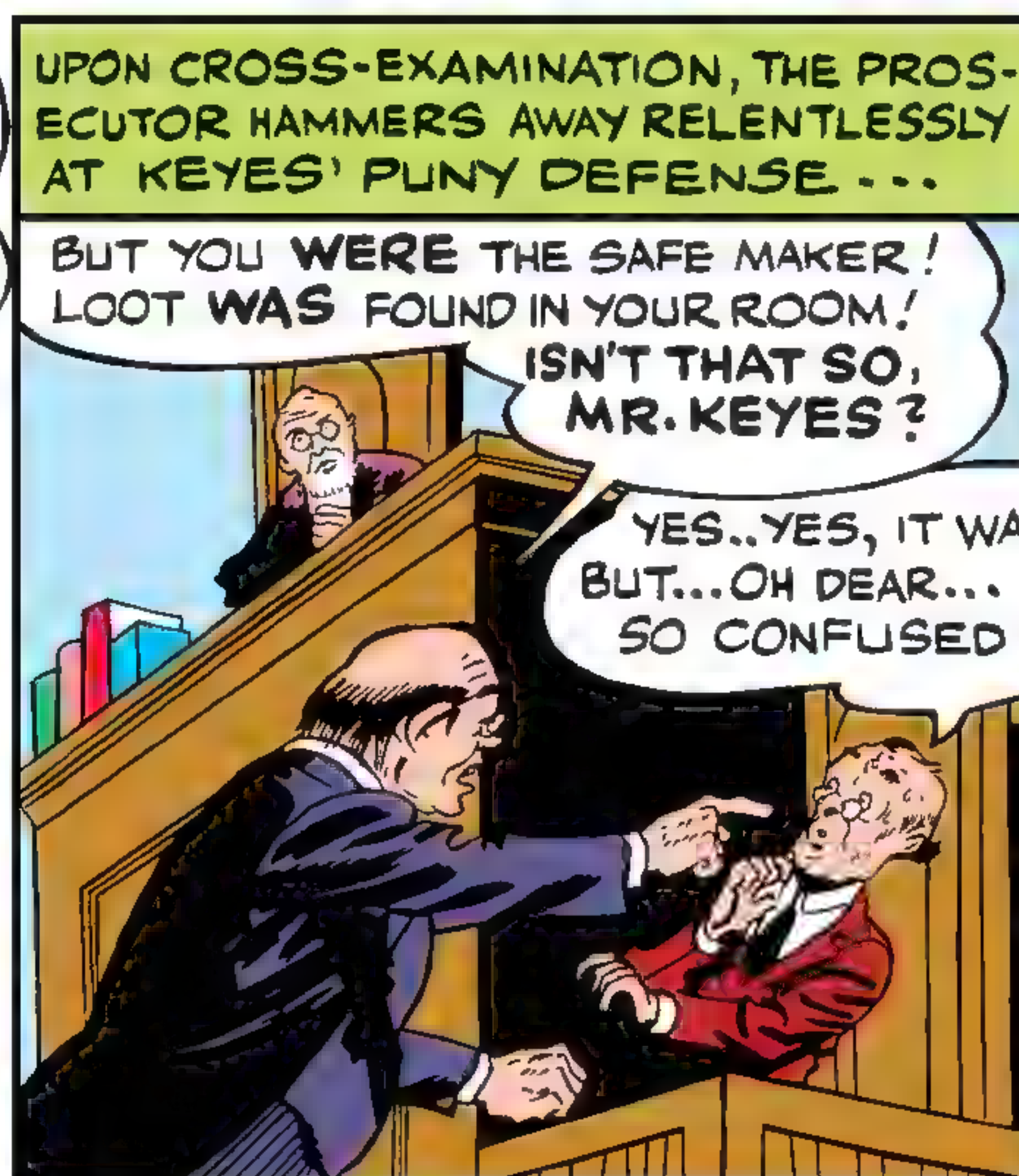
OBJECTION SUSTAINED! THE JURY WILL DISREGARD BATMAN'S PERSONAL SUSPICIONS!

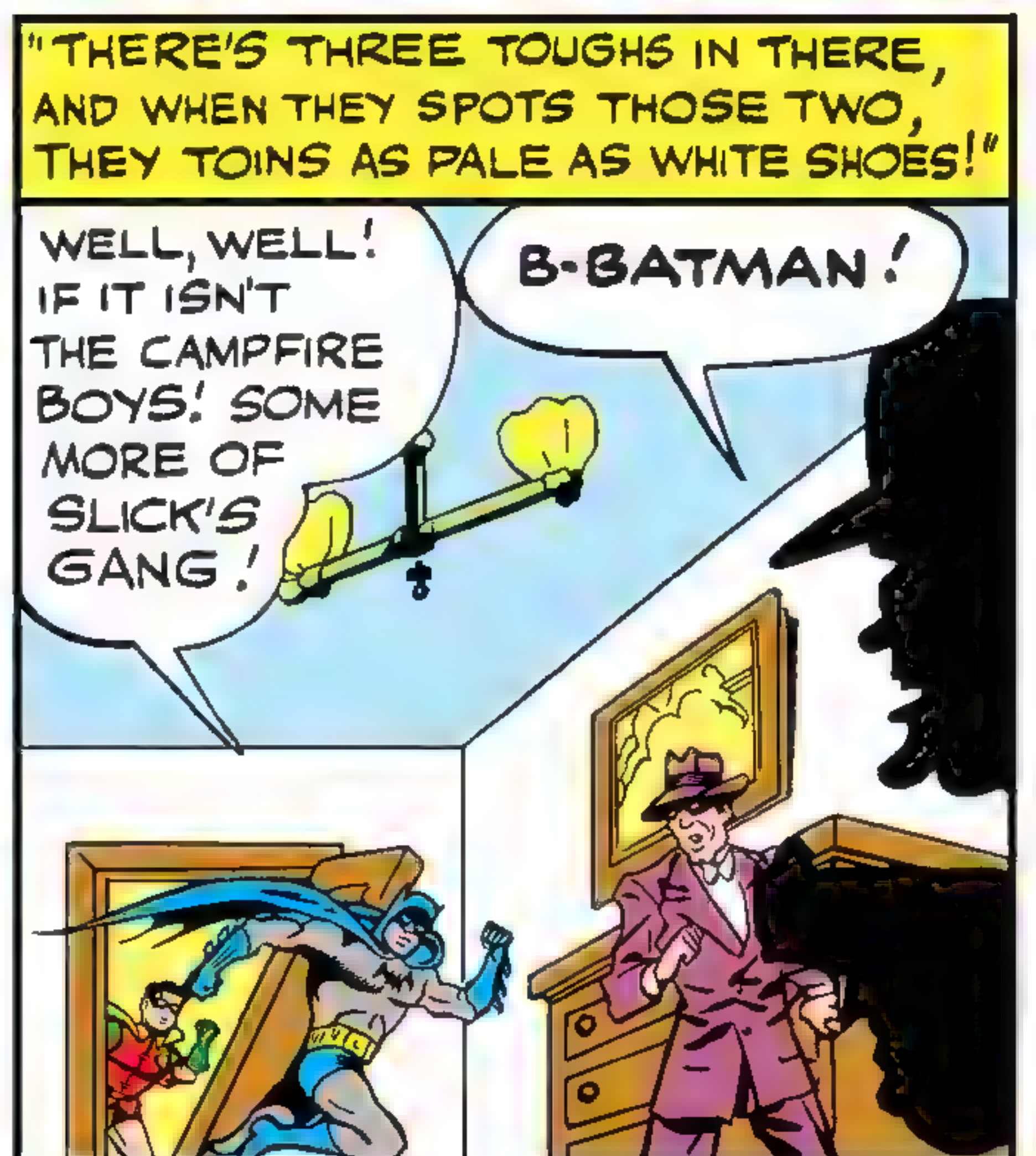
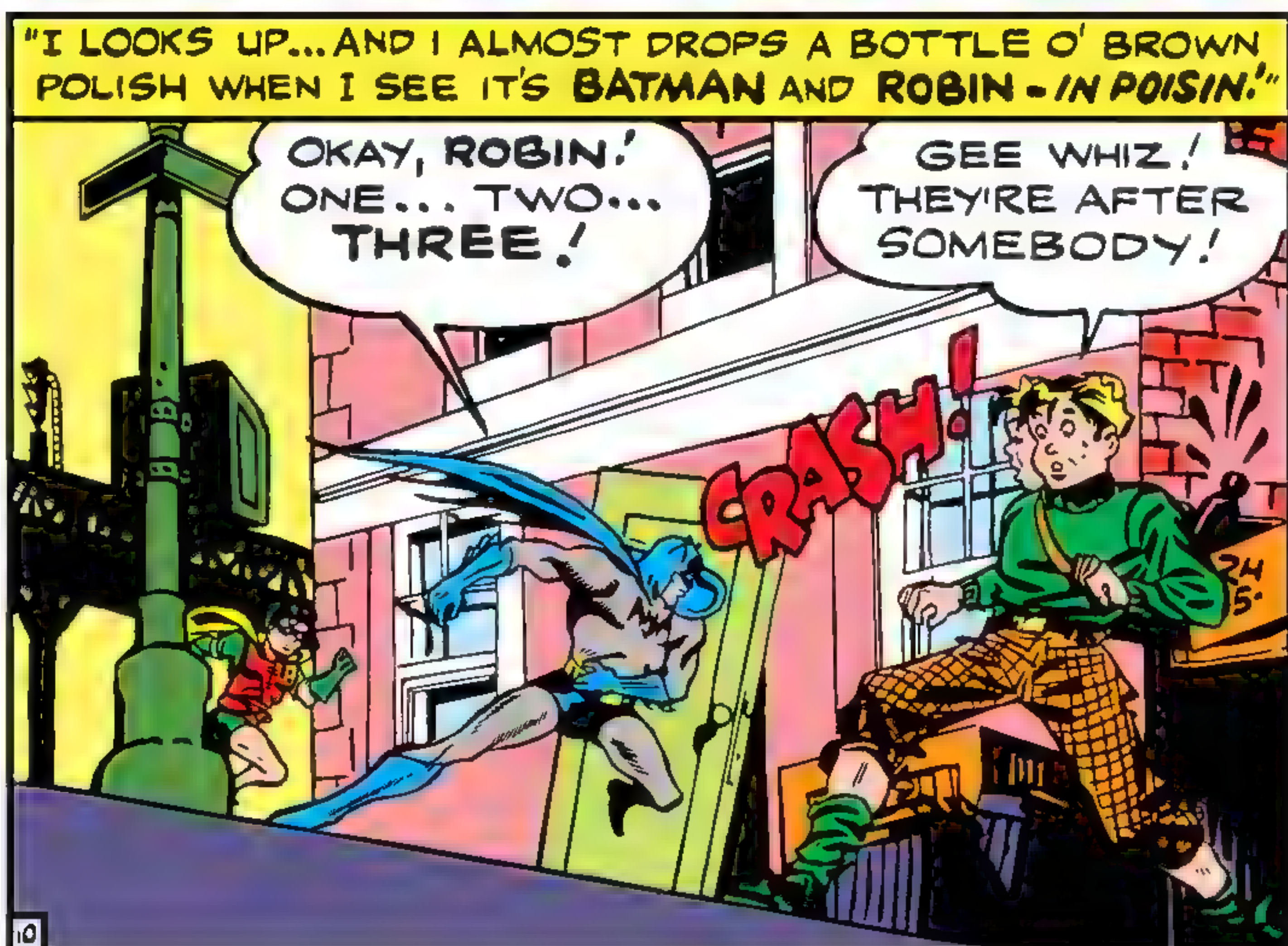
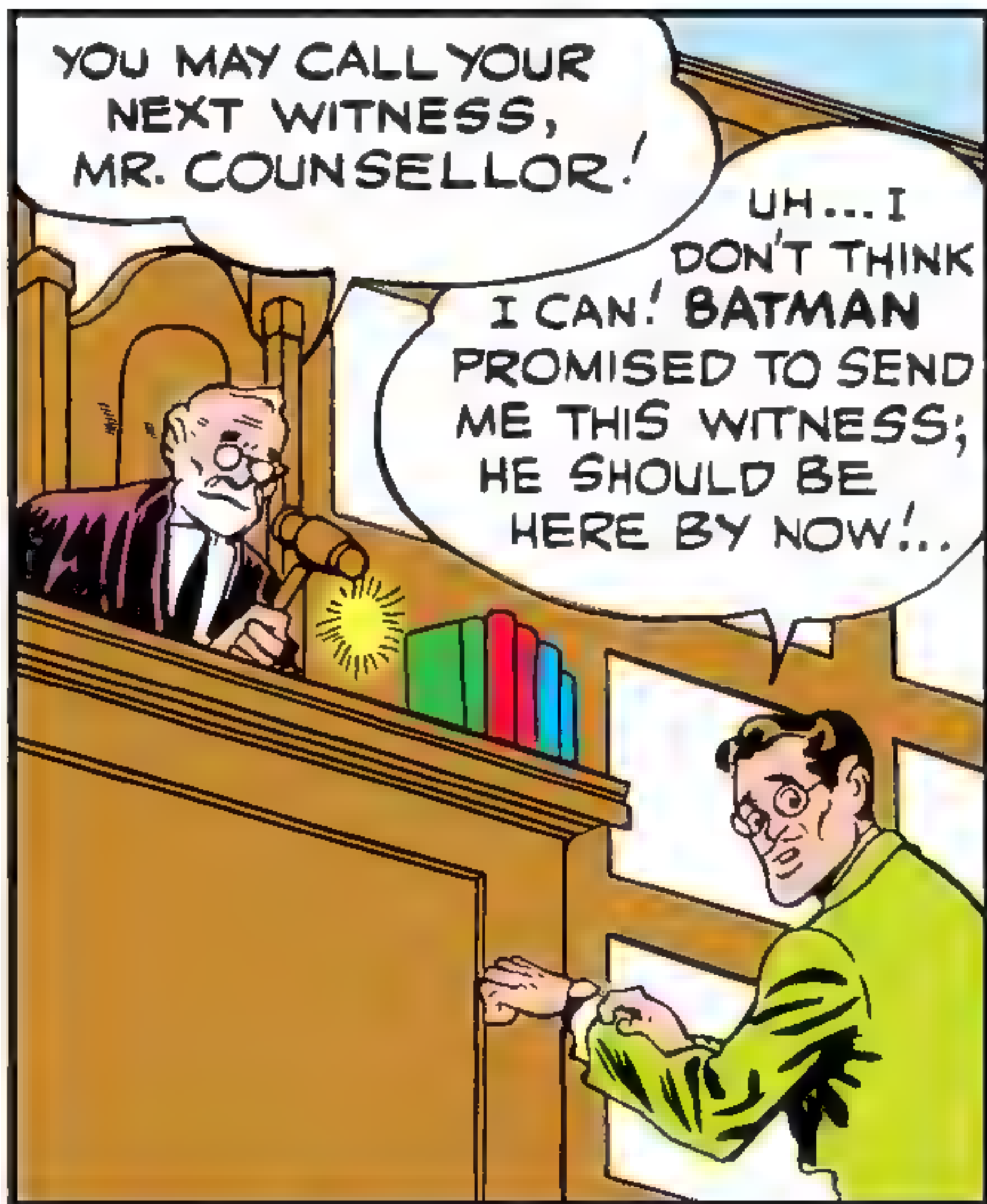


COUGH-COUGH... THE COUNSEL FOR THE DEFENSE.. COUGH.. WILL CALL HIS WITNESSES!... COUGH-COUGH...

I CALL TITUS KEYES TO THE STAND!

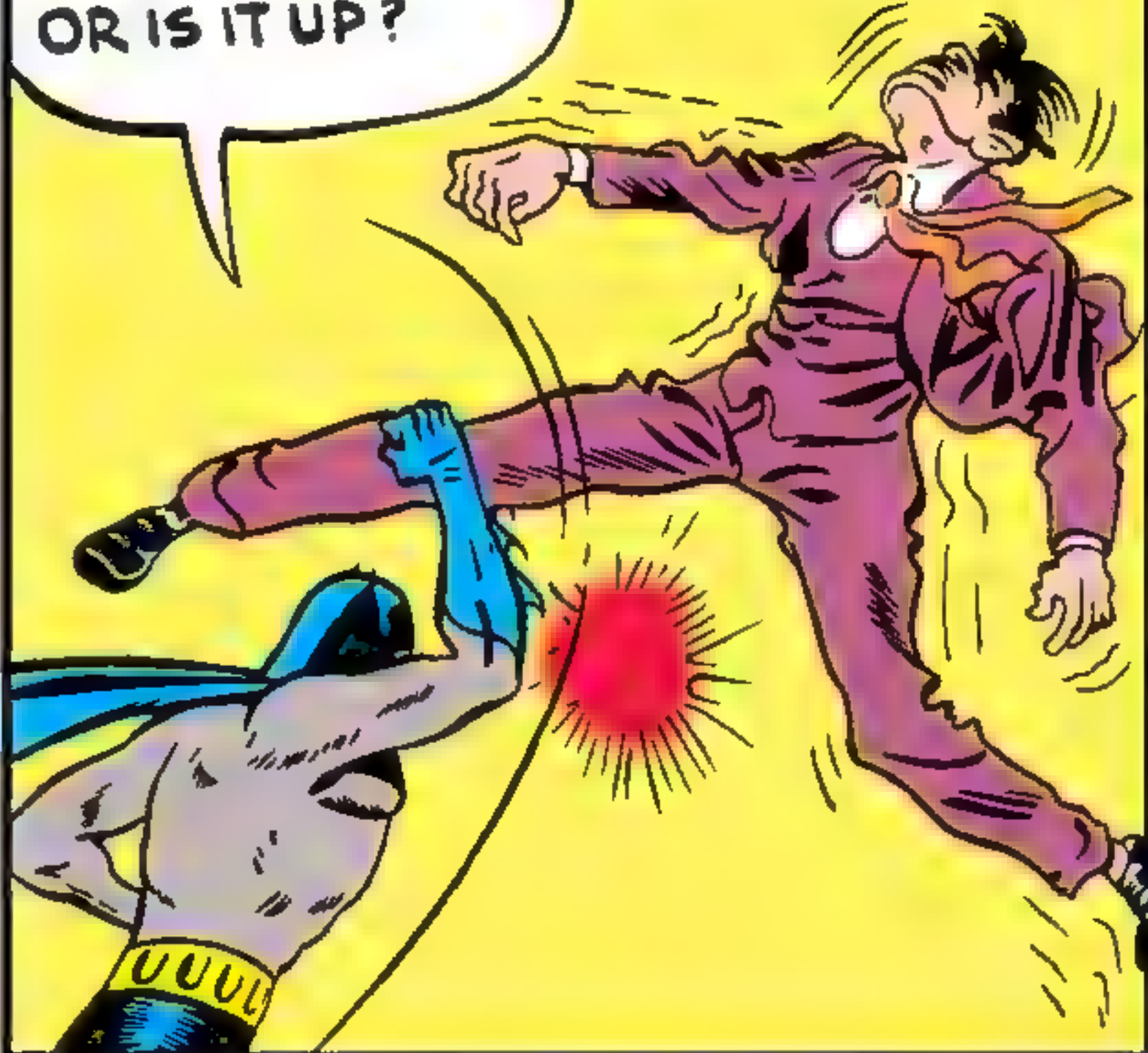
TCH-TCH! THAT'S A VERY BAD COUGH YOU HAVE, YOUR HONOR! YOU SHOULD TRY HOT LEMON-ADE AND BITTERS! IT'S VERY GOOD!





"ONE STUPE TRIES TO PULL A GUN! THE BATMAN SOCKS HIM, AN' ZOWIE... THE GUY FLIES UP A MILLION MILES IN THE AIR!"

ONE DOWN...
OR IS IT UP?



"AN' ALL THE TIME ROBIN IS MAKIN' SOME OTHER LUG LOOK A LITTLE SICK AROUND THE GILLS!"

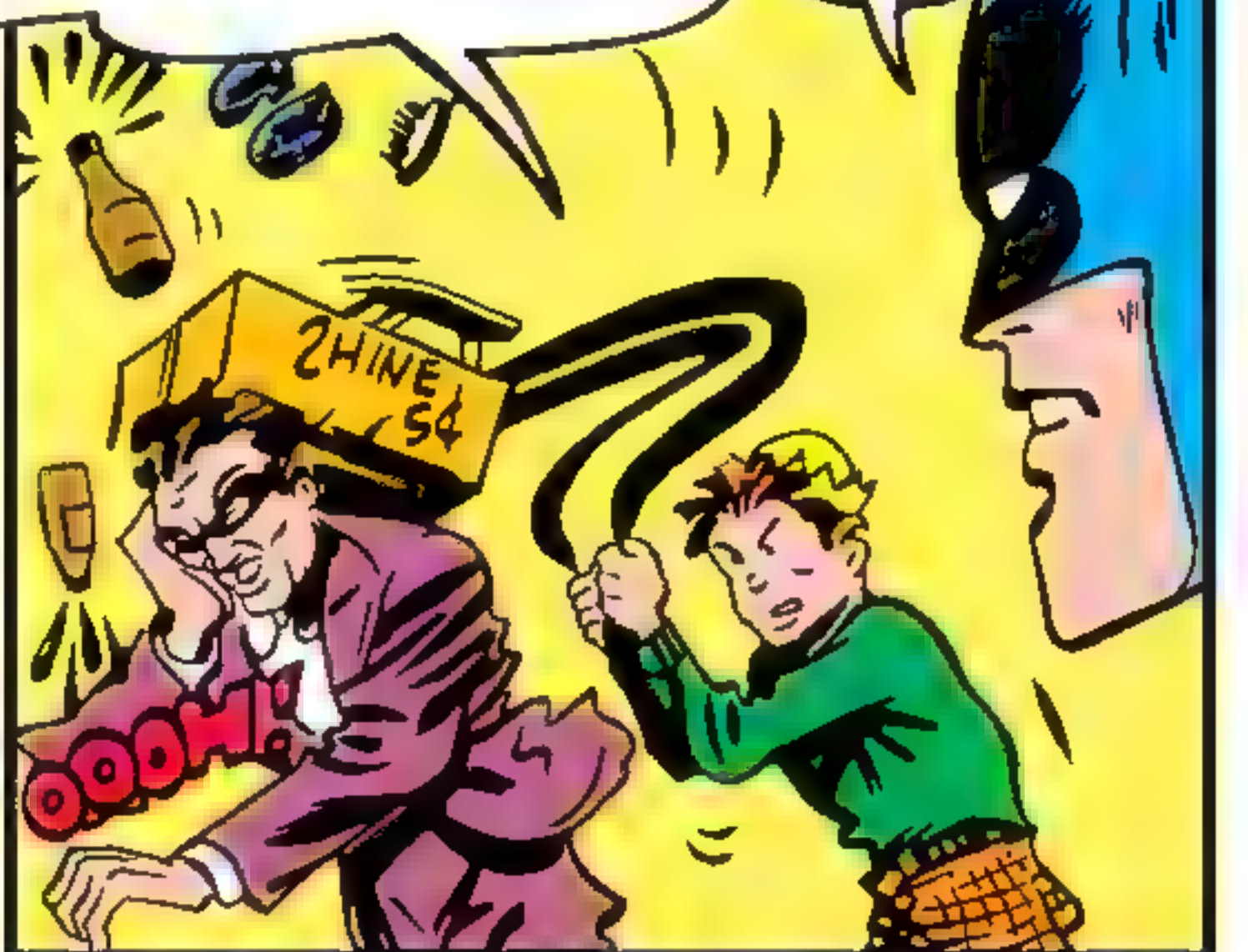
PHHHFFTT!



"NOW I AIN'T GONNA BE SHOWN UP BY A KID NO BIGGER'N I AM... EVEN IF HE IS ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, SO I GIVES ONE LUG THE BUSINESS, RIGHT ON THE DOME!"

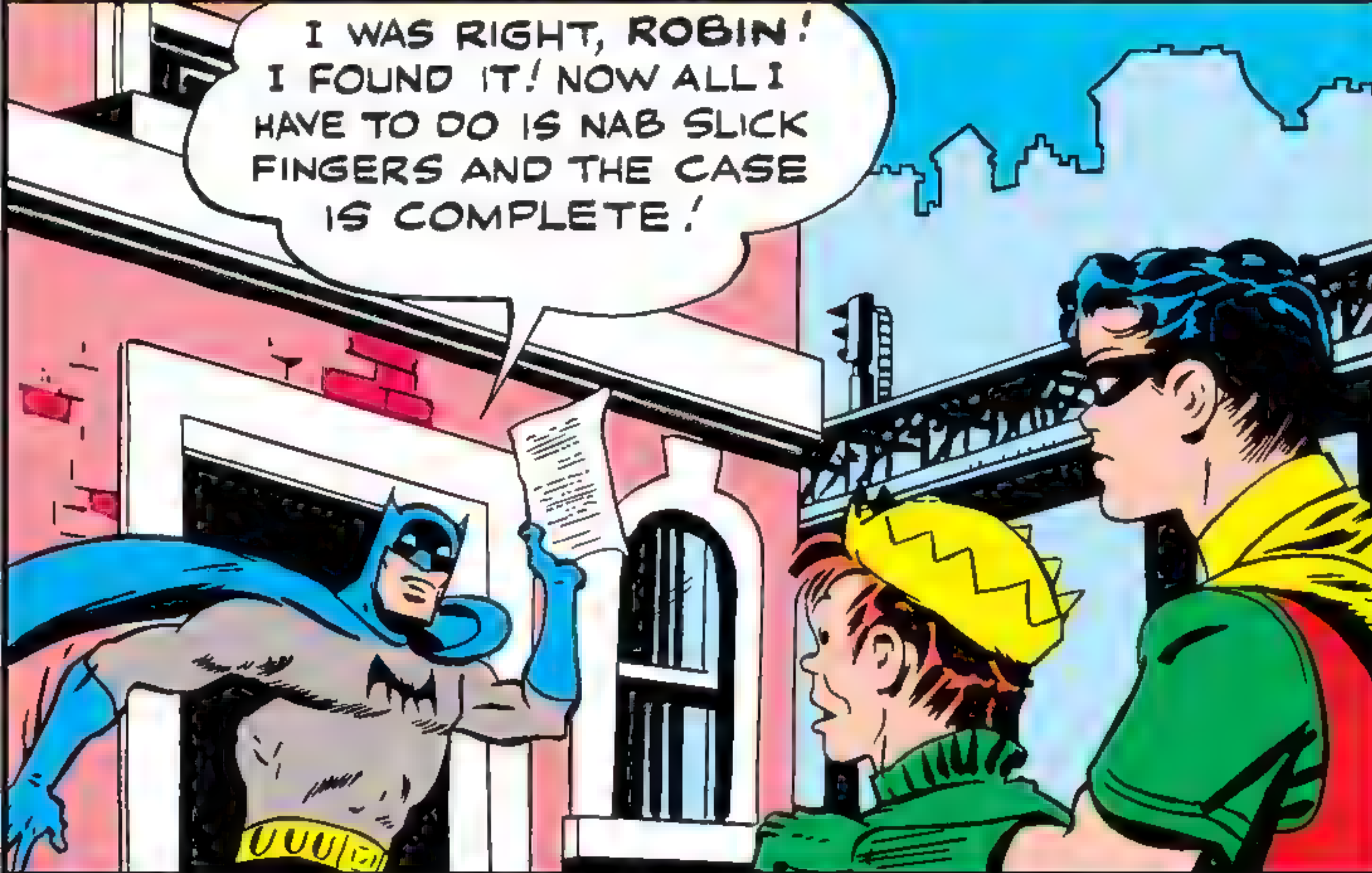
AH! WE
HAVE AN
ALLY!

WHAT'RE YOU GROANIN'
ABOUT? THIS IS COSTIN' ME
THREE FISH IN SHINES!



"THEN THE BATMAN DIVES INTO THE HOUSE... AN' COMES OUT WAVIN' A HUNK O' PAPER IN HIS HAND..."

I WAS RIGHT, ROBIN!
I FOUND IT! NOW ALL I
HAVE TO DO IS NAB SLICK
FINGERS AND THE CASE
IS COMPLETE!



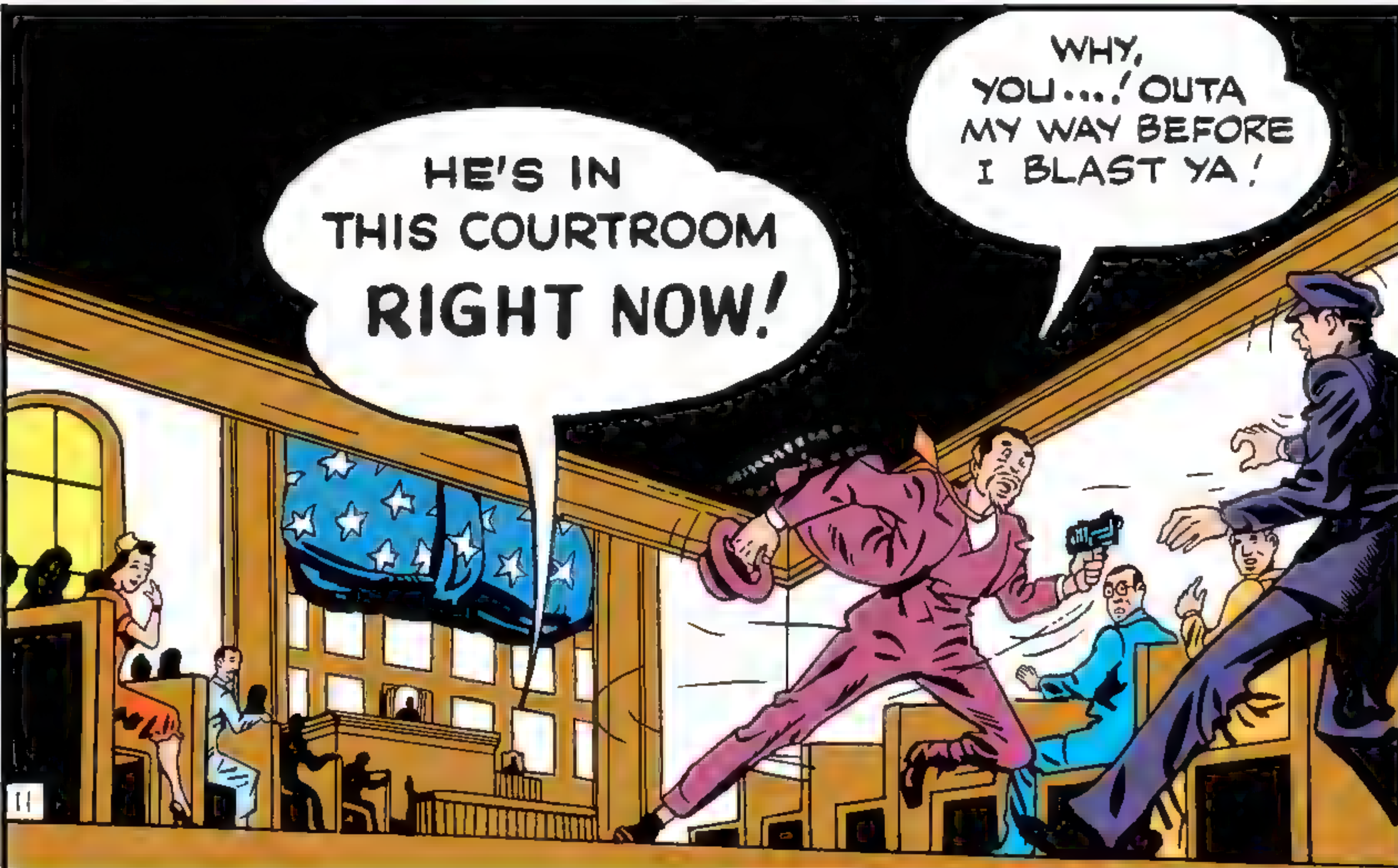
AND DID THE BATMAN
FIND OUT WHERE
SLICK FINGERS
IS?

HE
SURE DID,
BRUDDER...



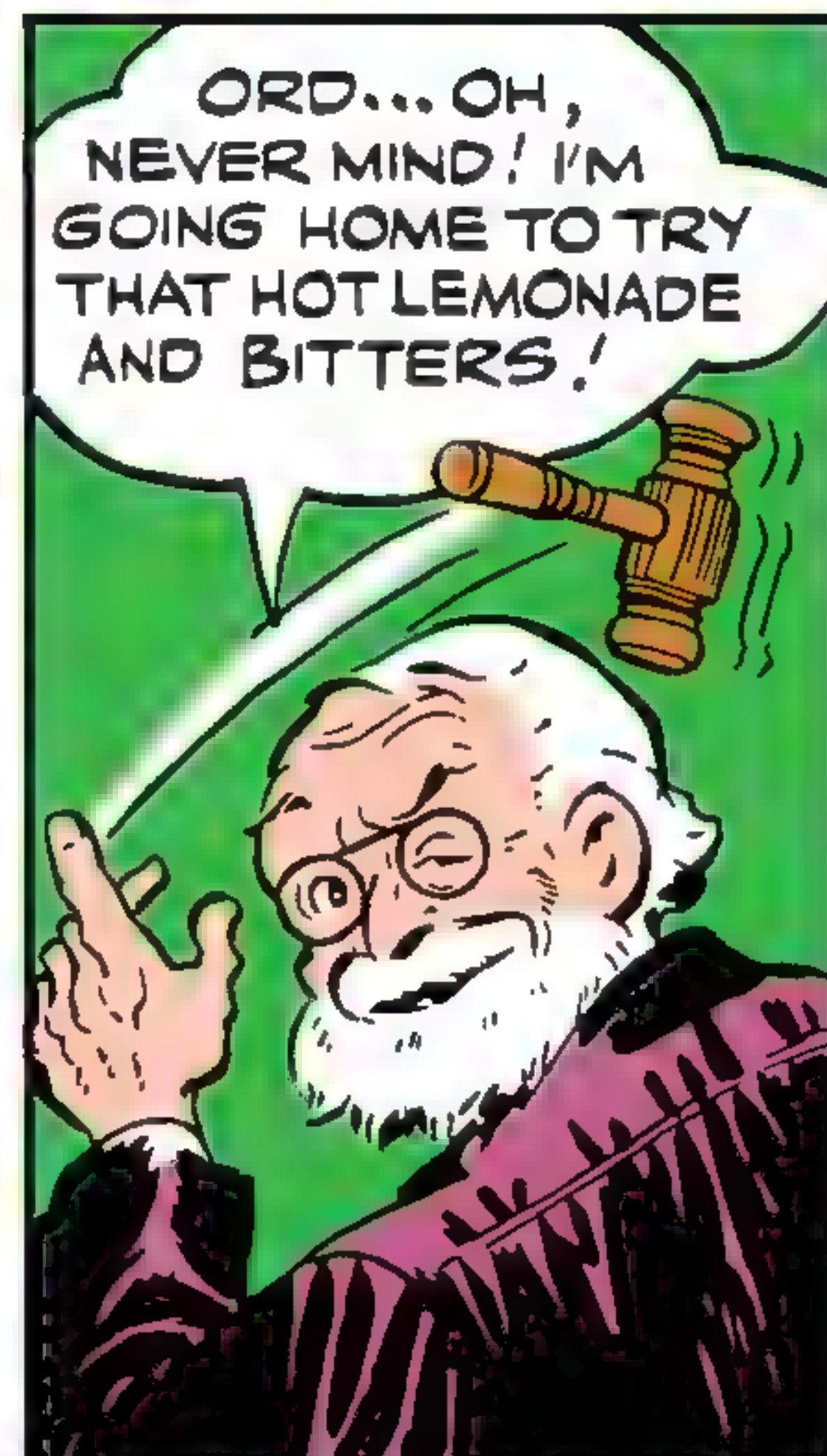
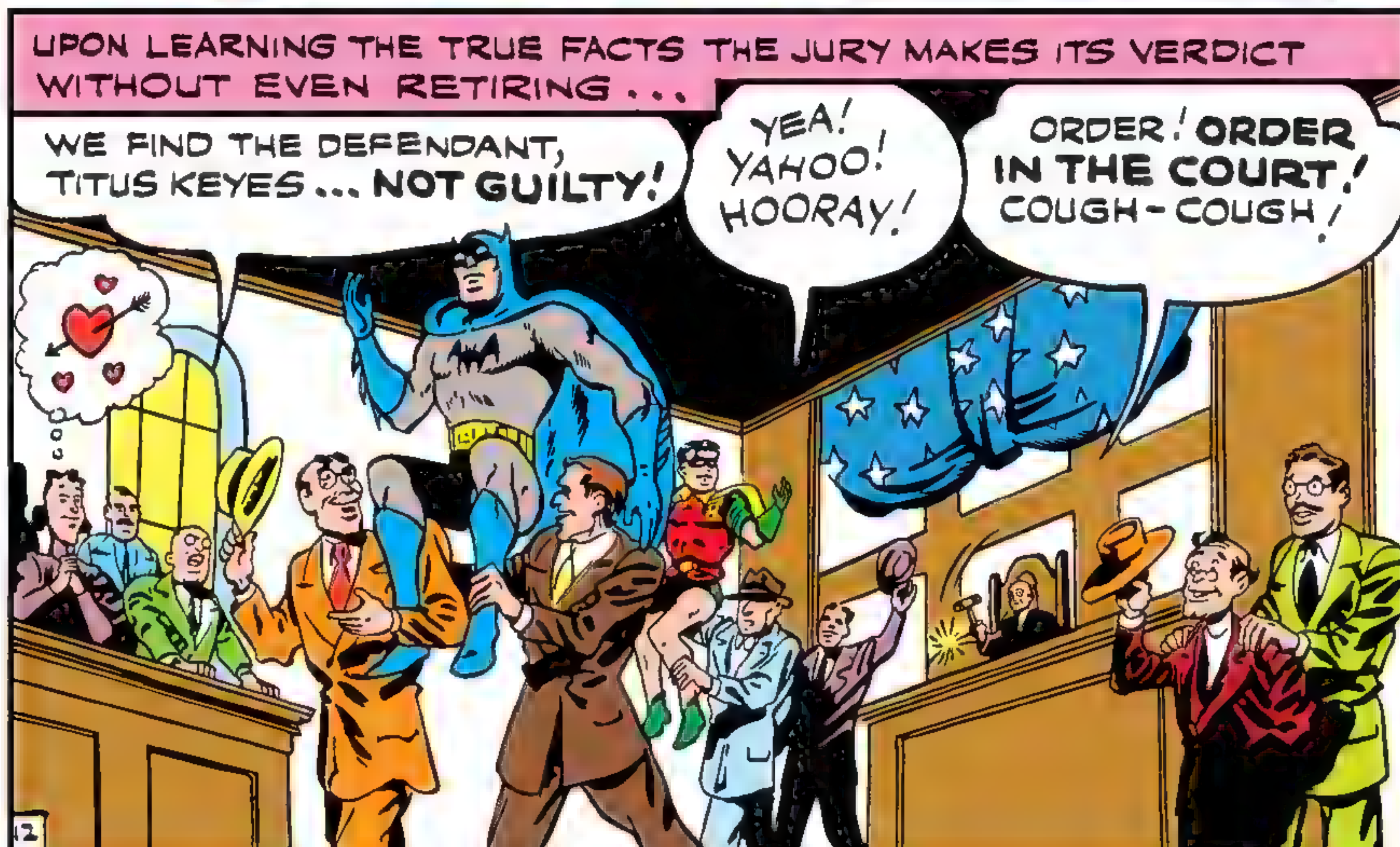
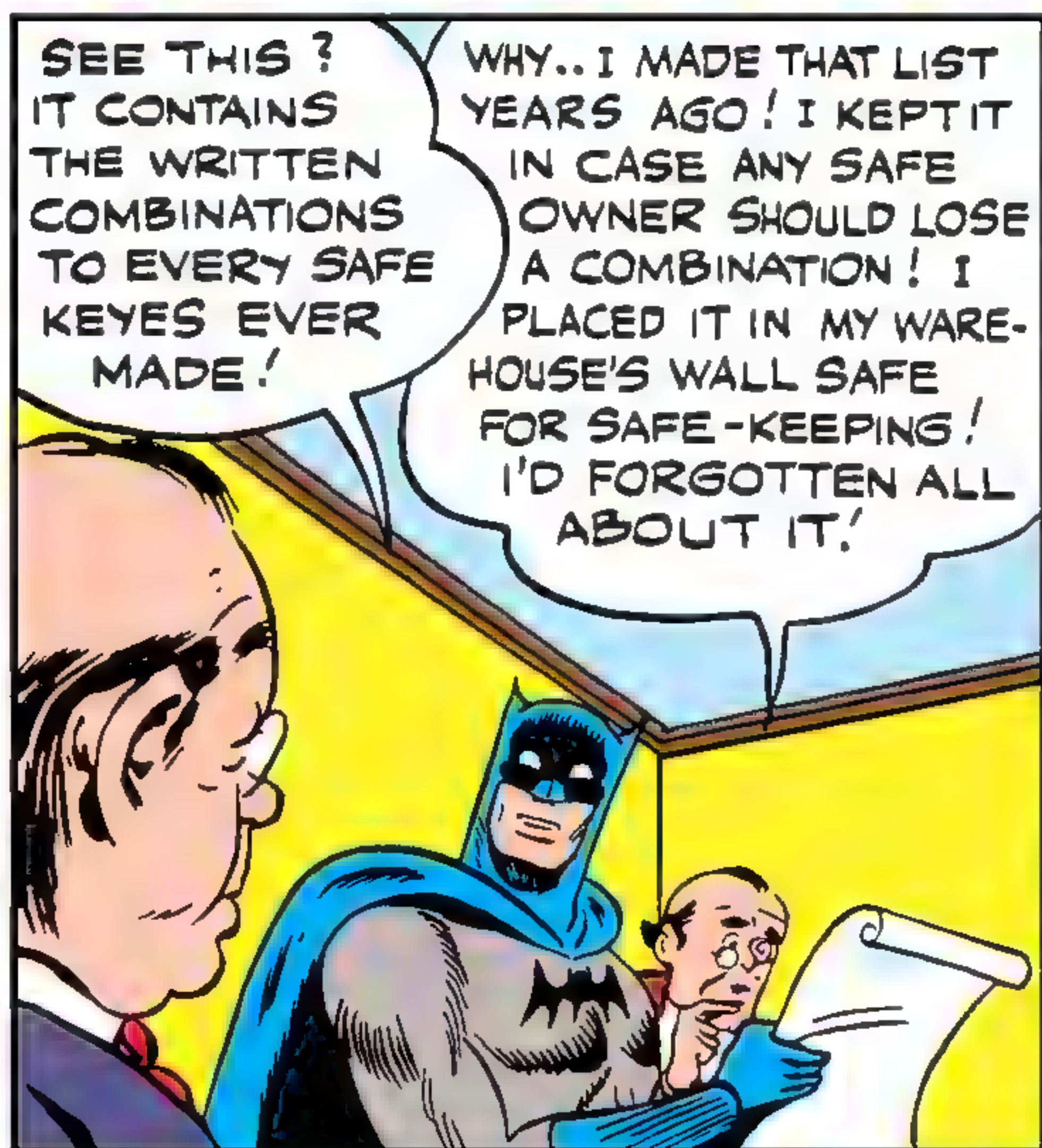
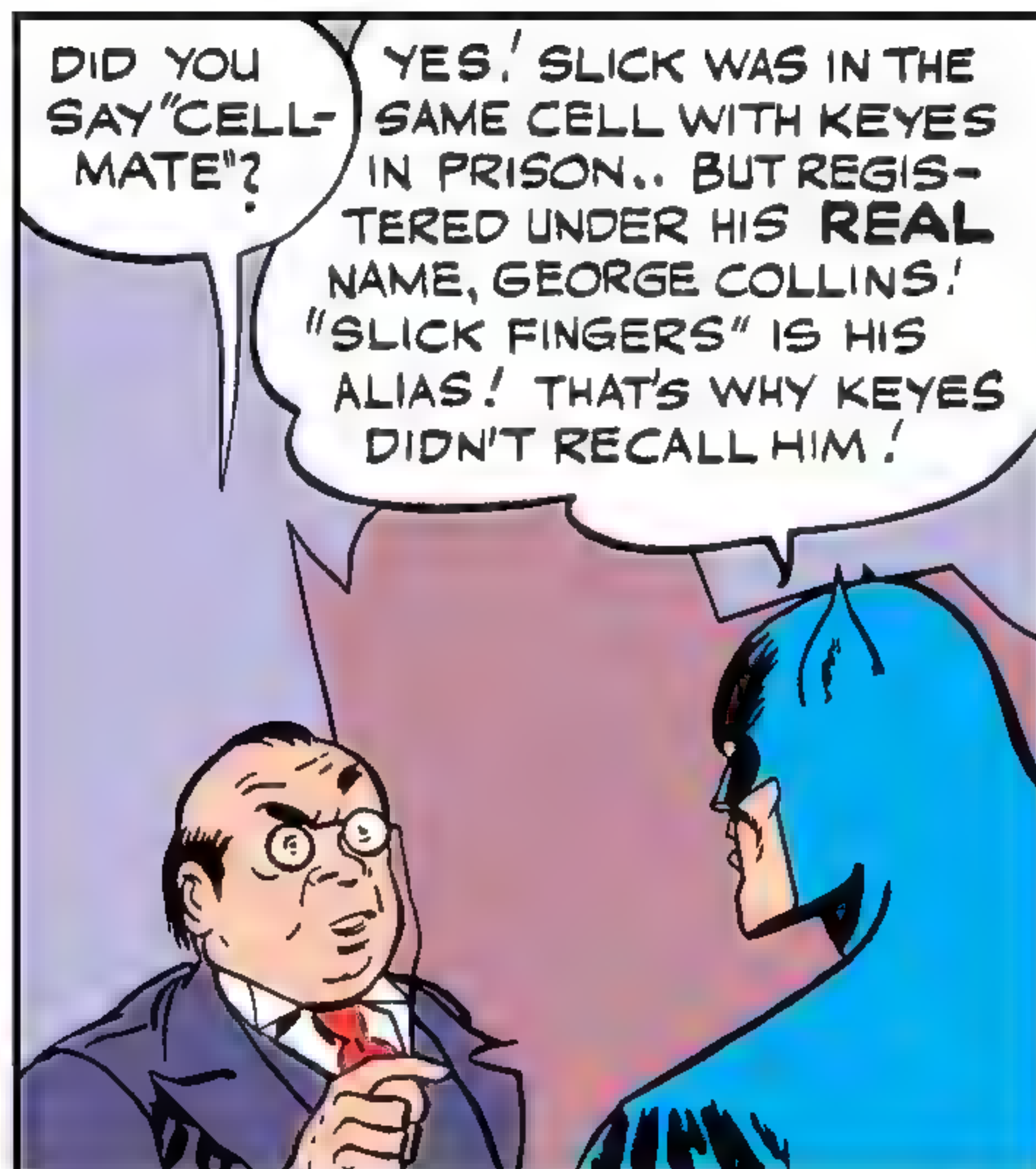
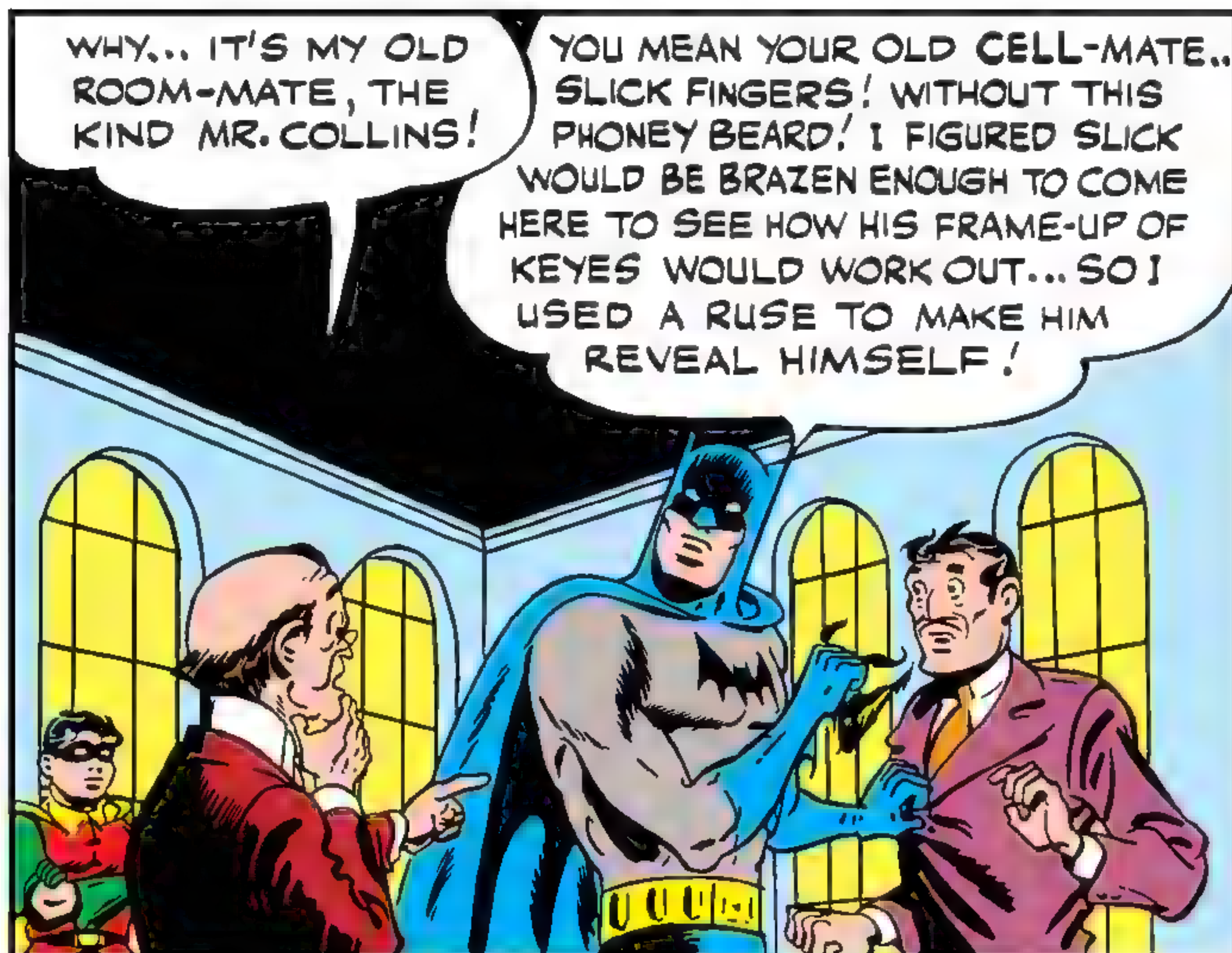
HE'S IN
THIS COURTROOM
RIGHT NOW!

WHY,
YOU...! OUTA
MY WAY BEFORE
I BLAST YA!



GOING
SOMEPLACE?





BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

A POLICE
DIVISION STORY

ONCE AGAIN BATMAN AND ROBIN TAKE YOU ON A VISIT WITH ANOTHER UNIT OF OUR POLICE FORCE -- THE HARBOR PATROL!! DIRECTING SEA TRAFFIC, AIDING CRAFT IN DISTRESS, WOULD-BE SUICIDES... THESE ARE SOME OF THE DUTIES OF THIS COURAGEOUS BRANCH, BUT ITS PRINCIPAL DUTY IS TRAPPING THOSE VULTURES OF THE PIERS... THOSE MODERN BUCCANERS OF THE WATERFRONT -- HARBOR PIRATES! PIRATES! THAT WORD SHOULD BE INVITATION ENOUGH FOR A THRILLING, SLAM-BANG ADVENTURE ABOARD THE ROARING MOTOR LAUNCH OF -- **"THE LAWMEN OF THE SEA!"**

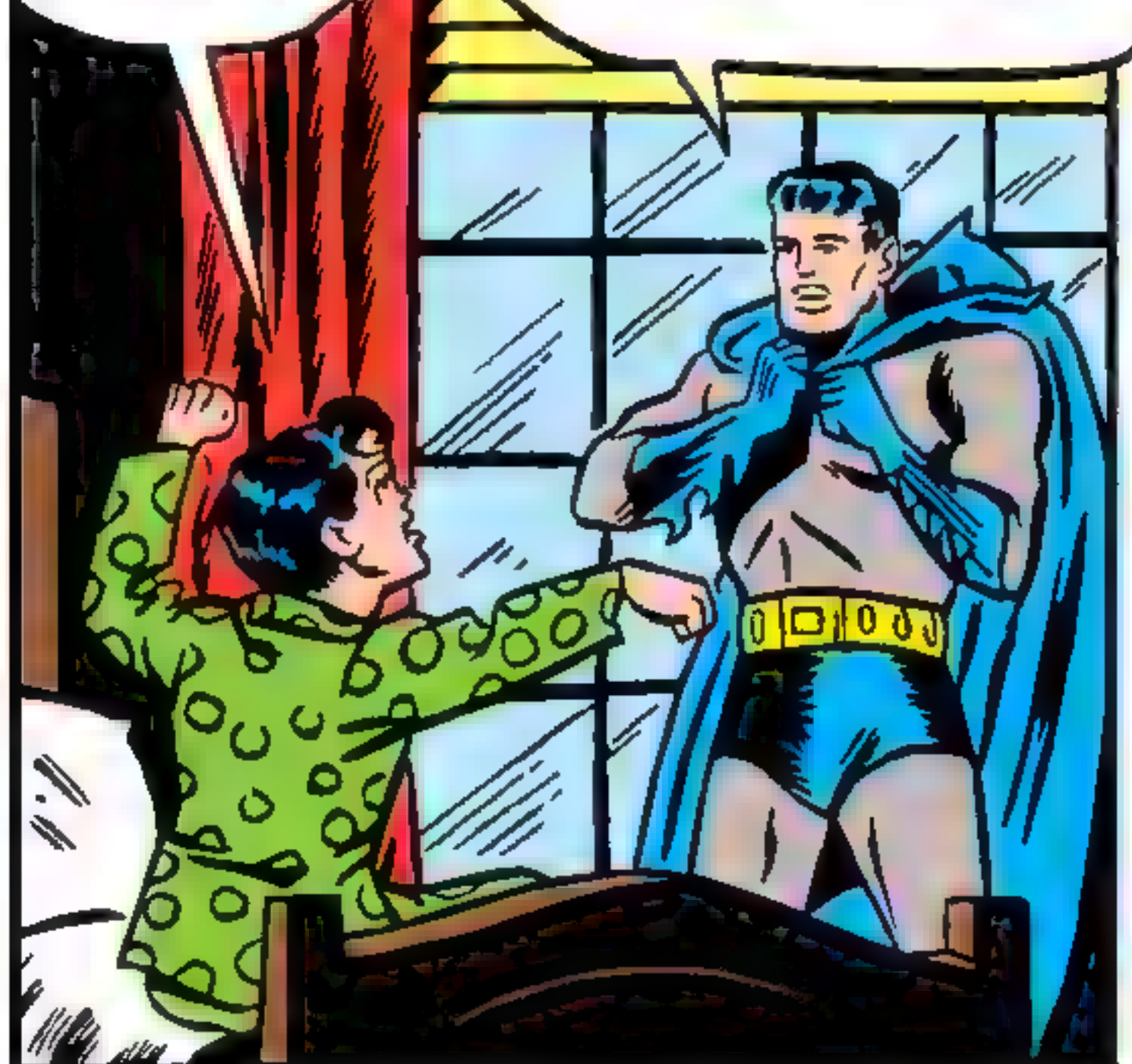
EARLY ONE MORNING, AT THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE...

WHA--? WHAT ARE YOU GETTING INTO BATMAN'S COSTUME FOR?

DON'T YOU REMEMBER? TODAY'S THE DAY WE VISIT WITH ONE OF THE BRANCHES OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

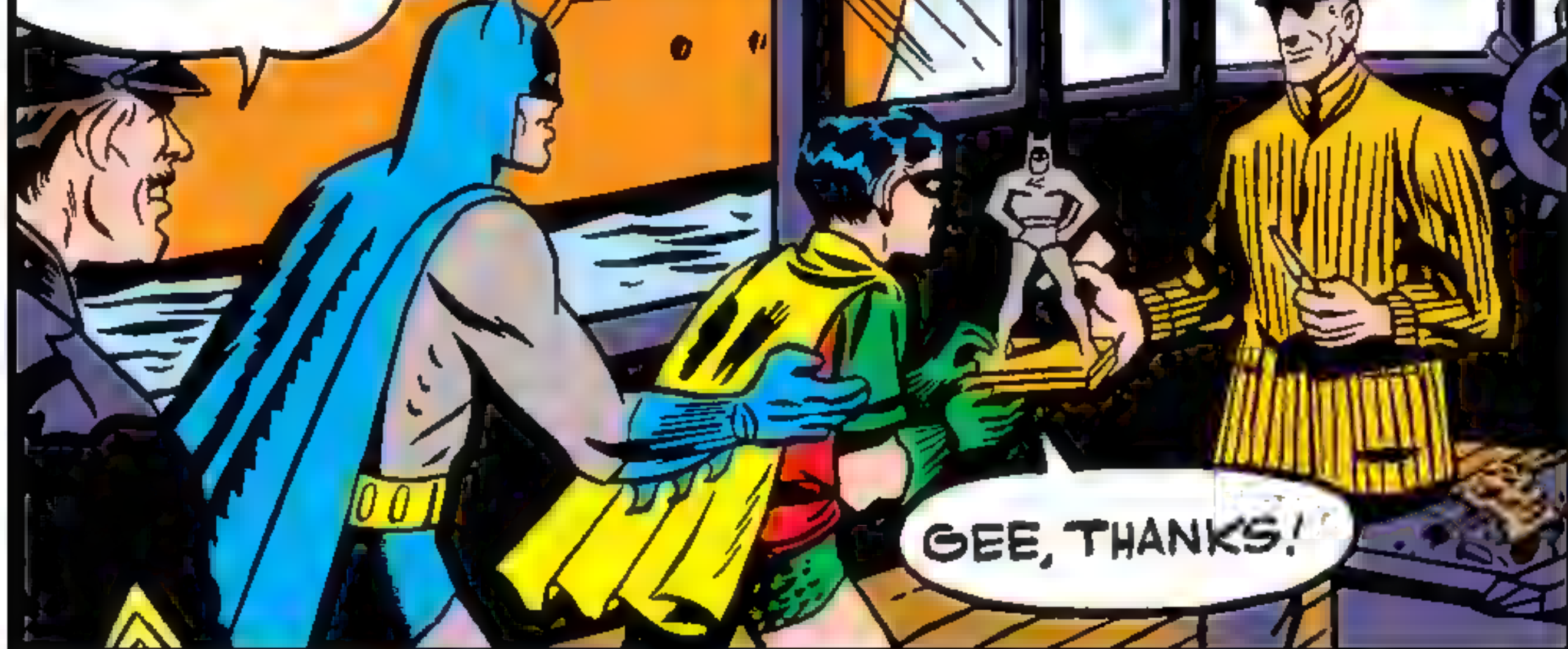
YOU'RE GOING TO SEE ACTION WITH POLICE-MEN WHO GO TO SEA! THE HARBOR PATROL!

HOT DOG! SEA COPS! LET'S GET GOING!



HOWDY, BATMAN! HOWDY, ROBIN! HERE, YOUNG UN... HERE'S A STATOOO OF YORE SIDE-KICK!

THIS IS WILLIE BINGER, OUR WHEELMAN! WE CALL HIM WHITTLING WILLIE! GUESS WHY!



GEE, THANKS!

SOMETIME LATER...AS BAT-MAN AND ROBIN, THEY BOARD A SLEEK POLICE LAUNCH BEARING ITS THREE-MAN CREW!



HELLO, SERGEANT DANIELS! NICE OF YOU TO INVITE US ABOARD!

GLAD TO HAVE YOU! NOW I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY CREW!

AND THIS IS SPINNER POWELL!

NOT THE SPINNER POWELL, THE ALL-AMERICAN FOOTBALL QUARTERBACK!

NICE OF YOU TO REMEMBER ME!



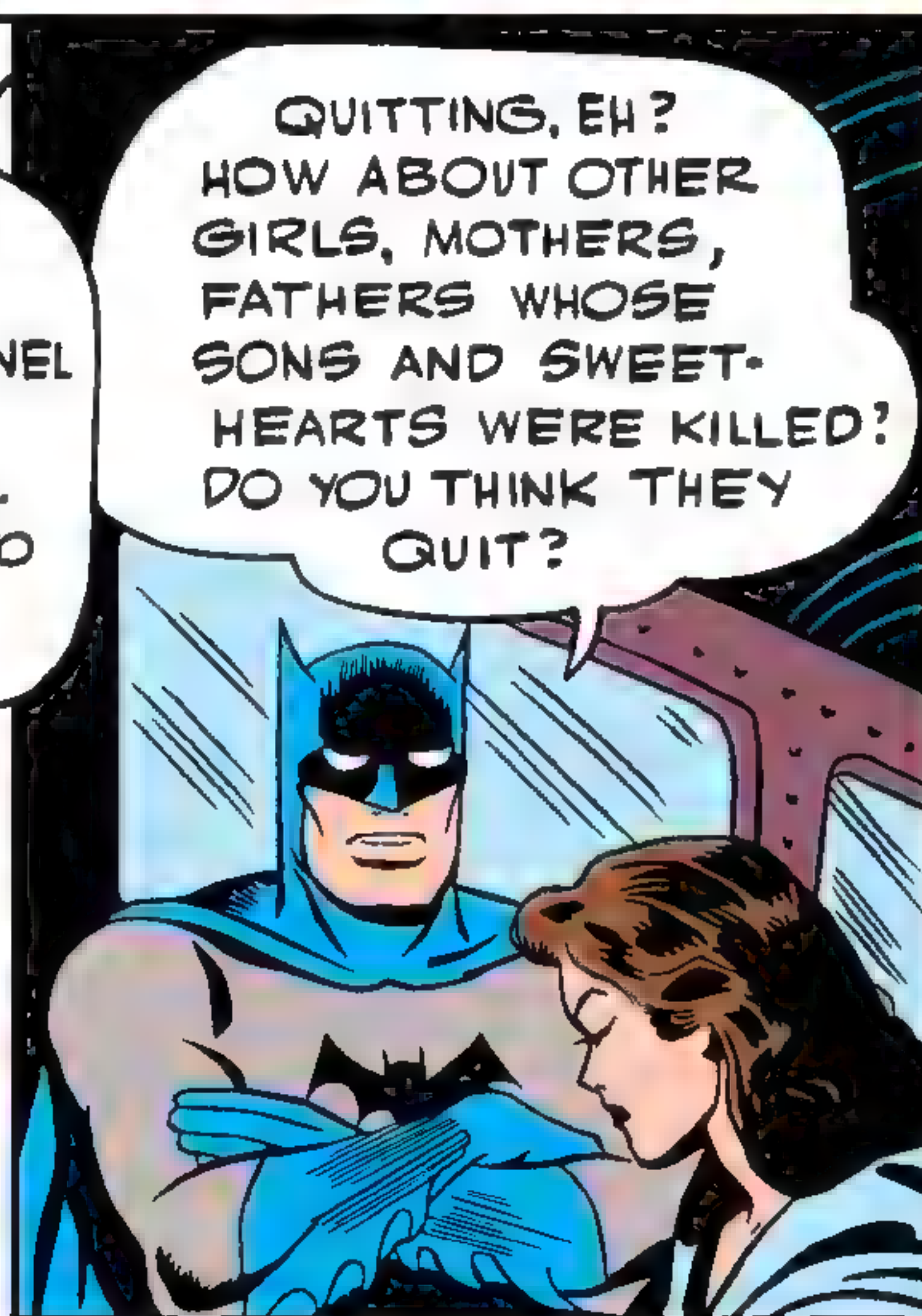
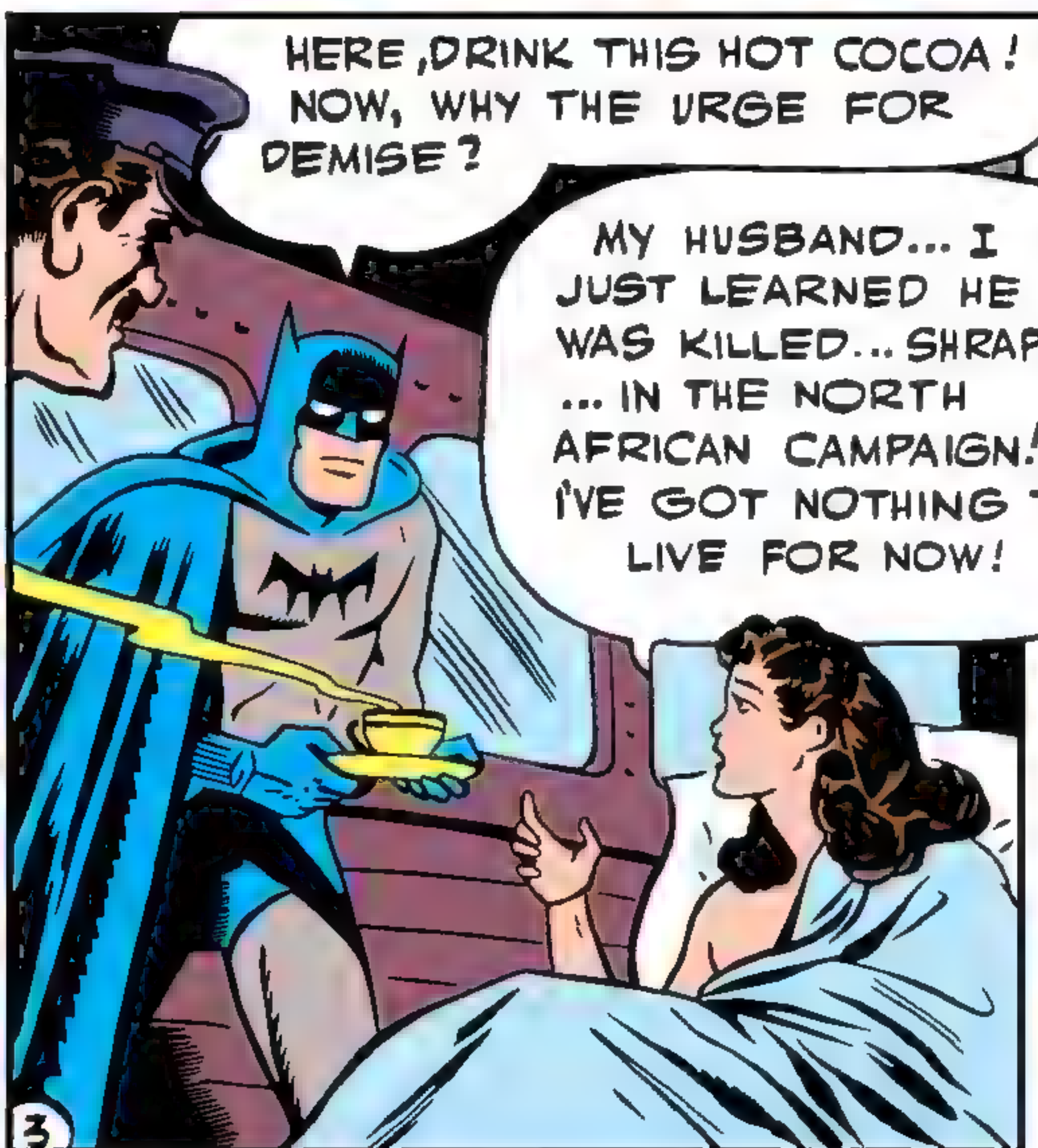
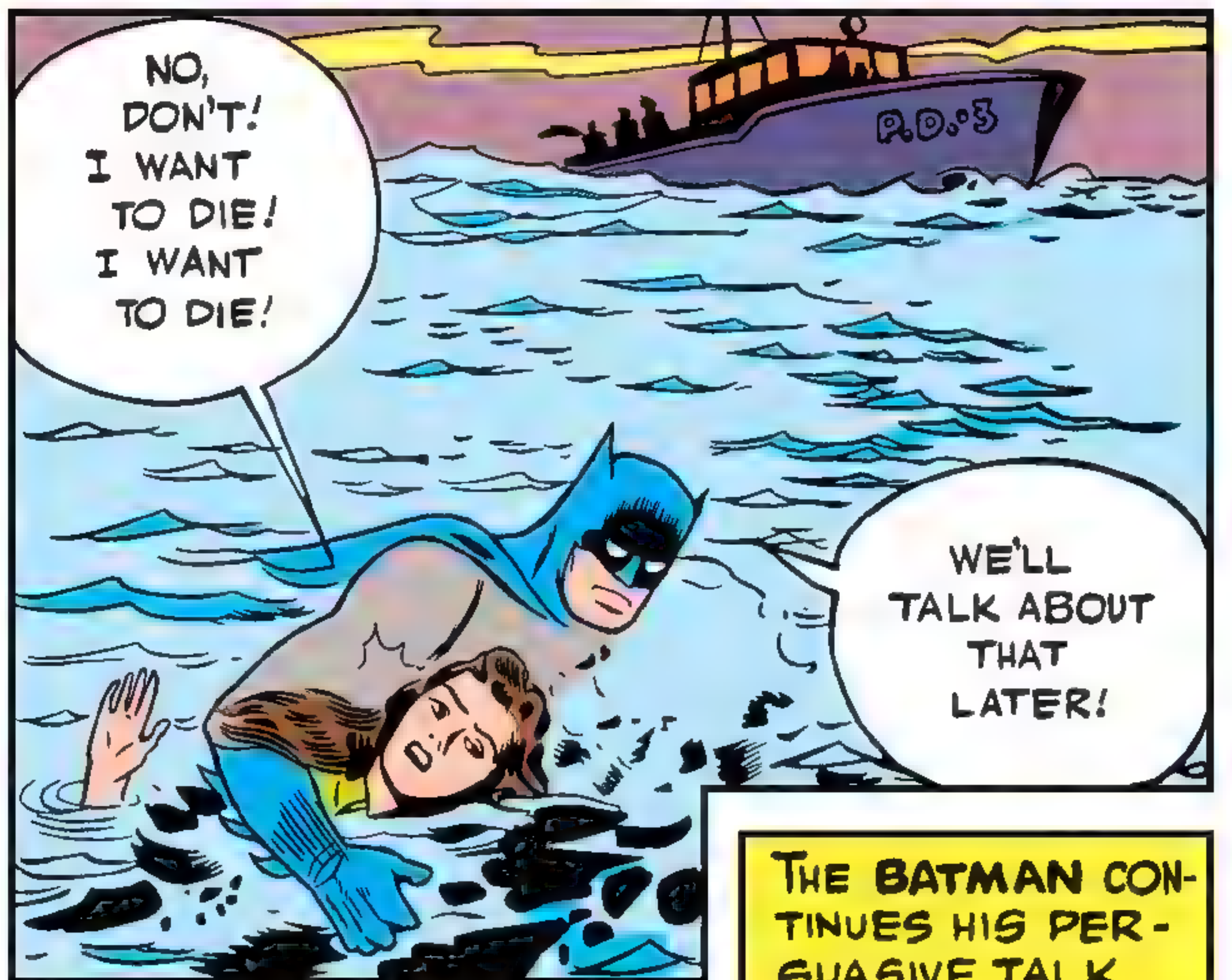
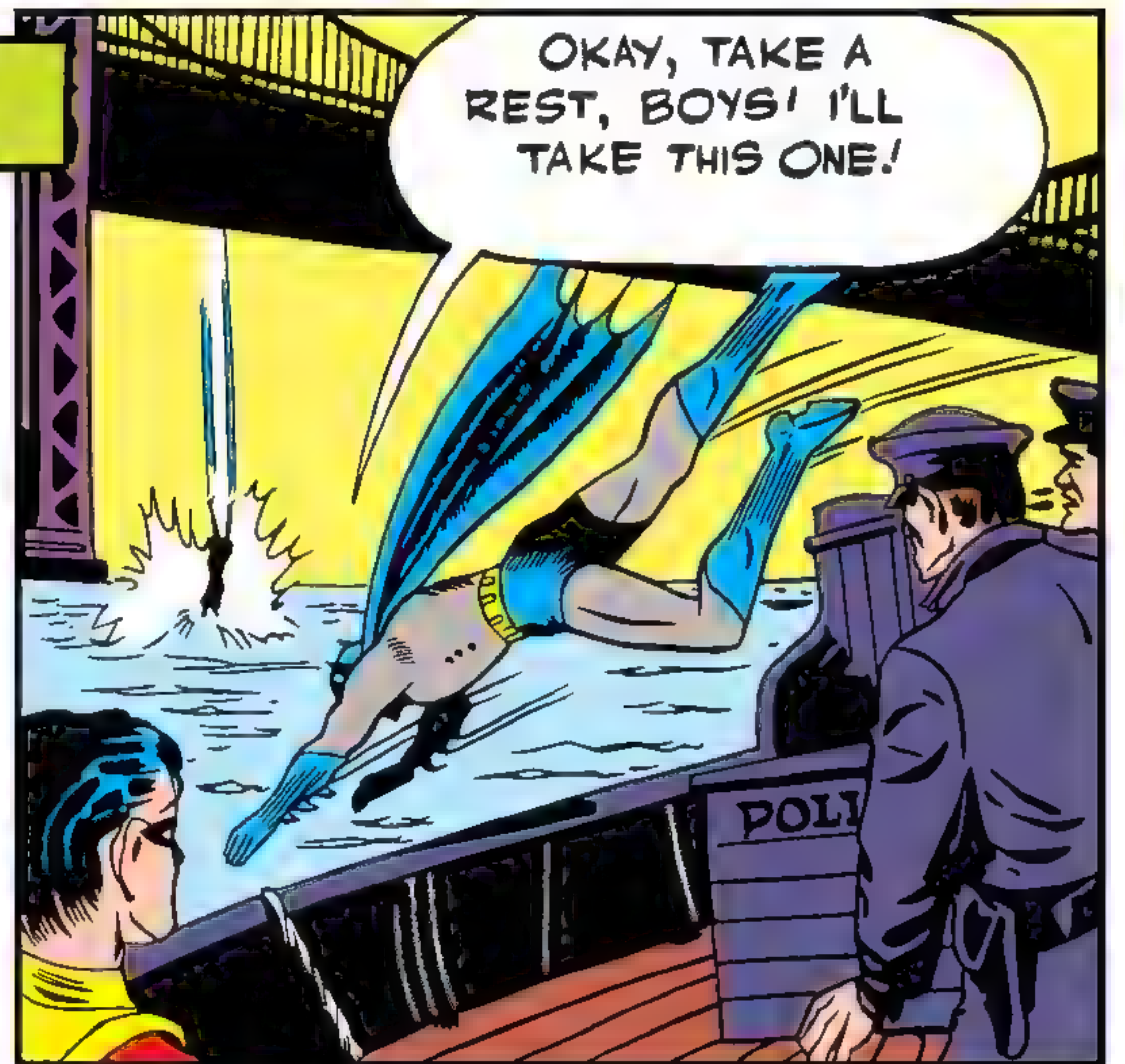
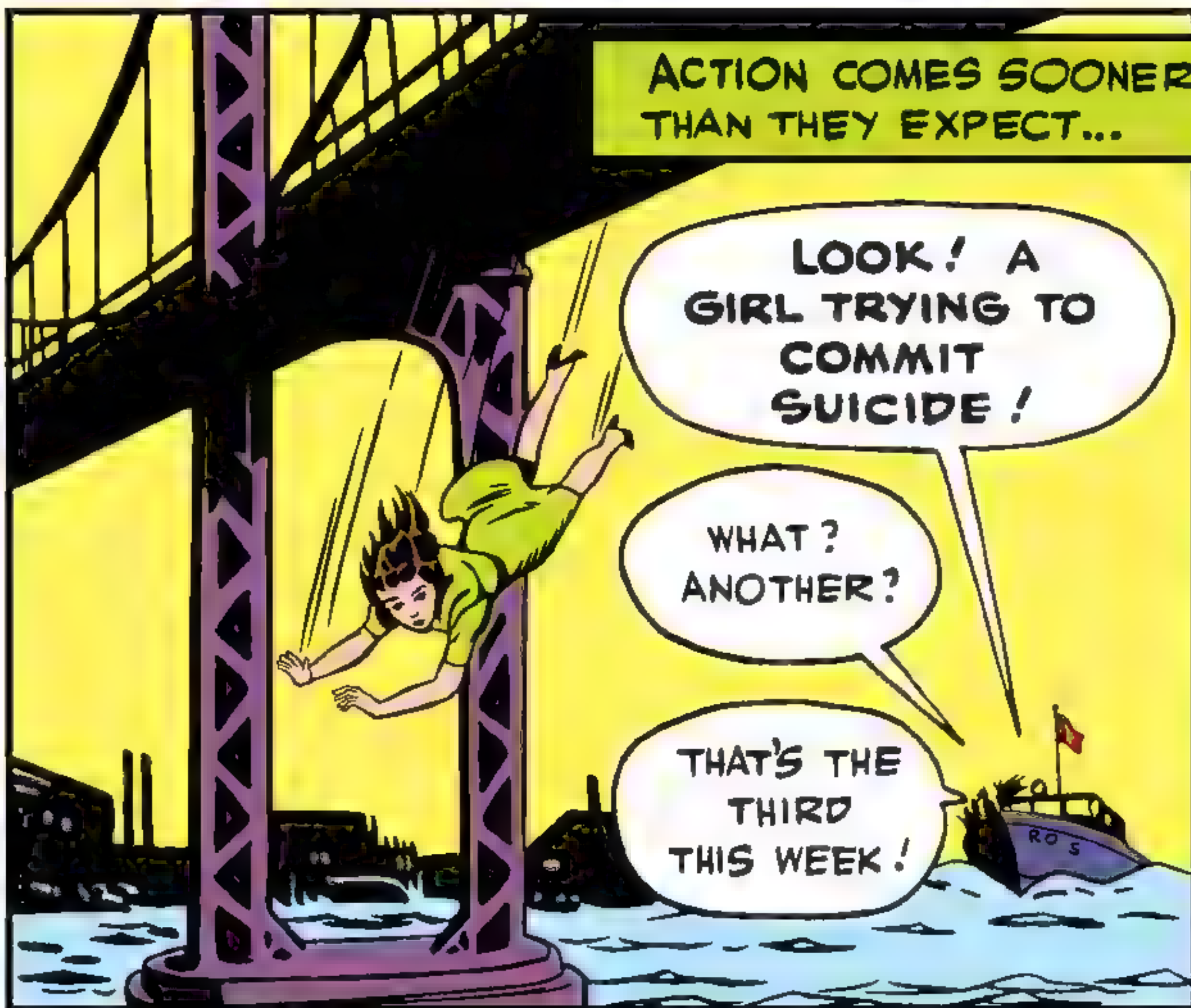
AND NOW TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE WATERFRONT! YOU'LL BE SEEING PLENTY OF IT WHILE YOU'RE WITH US! LET'S GO, WILLIE!

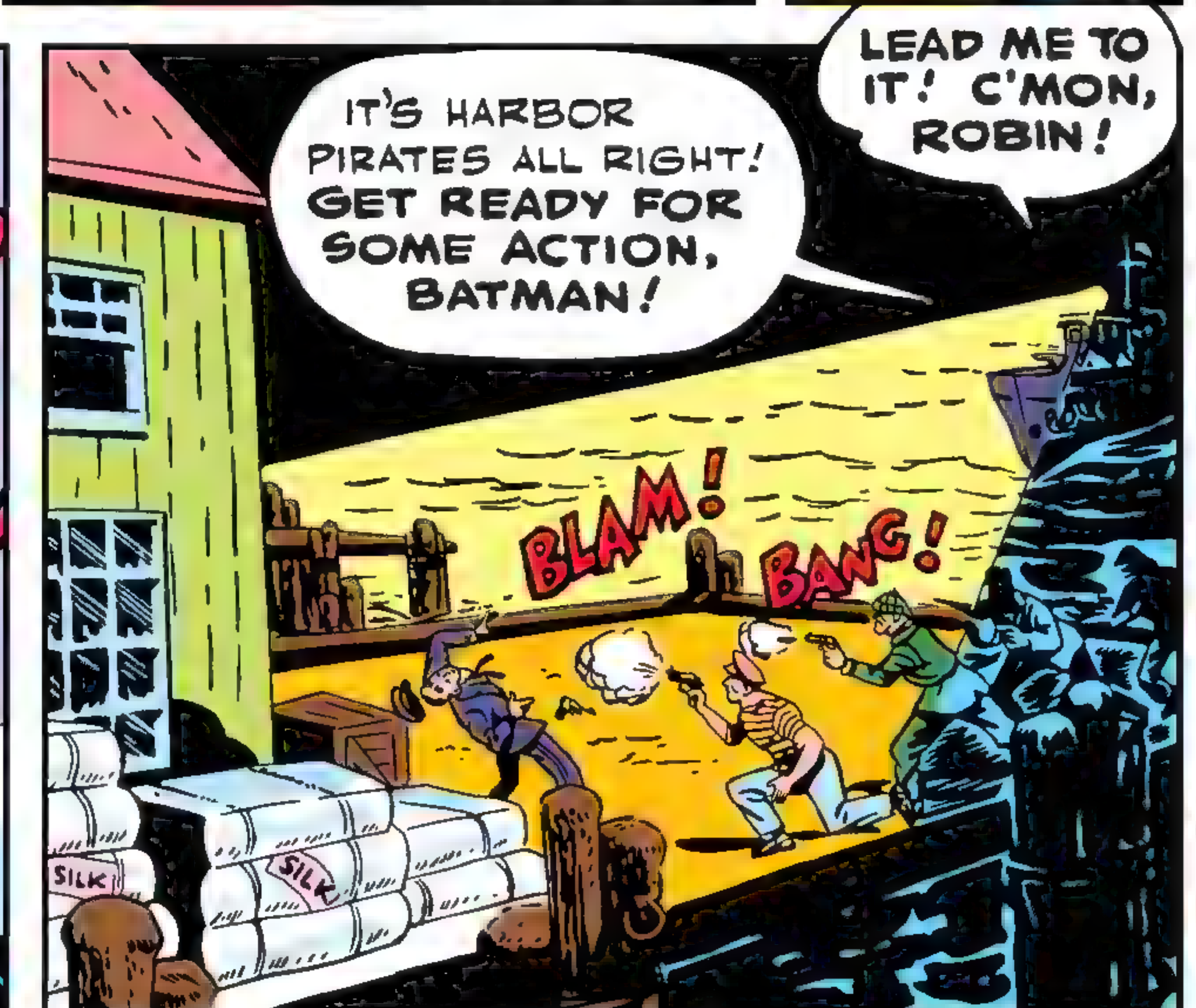
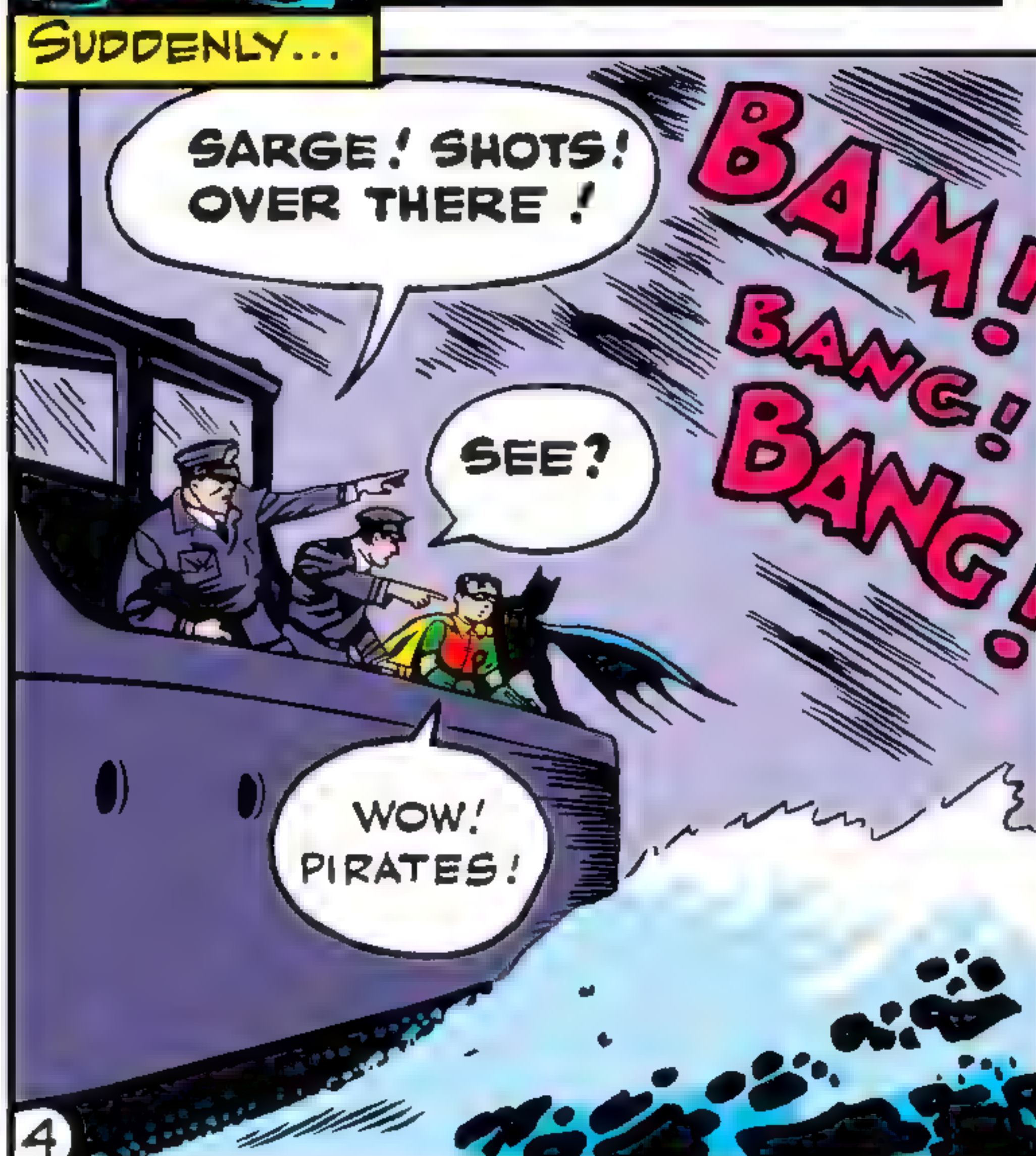
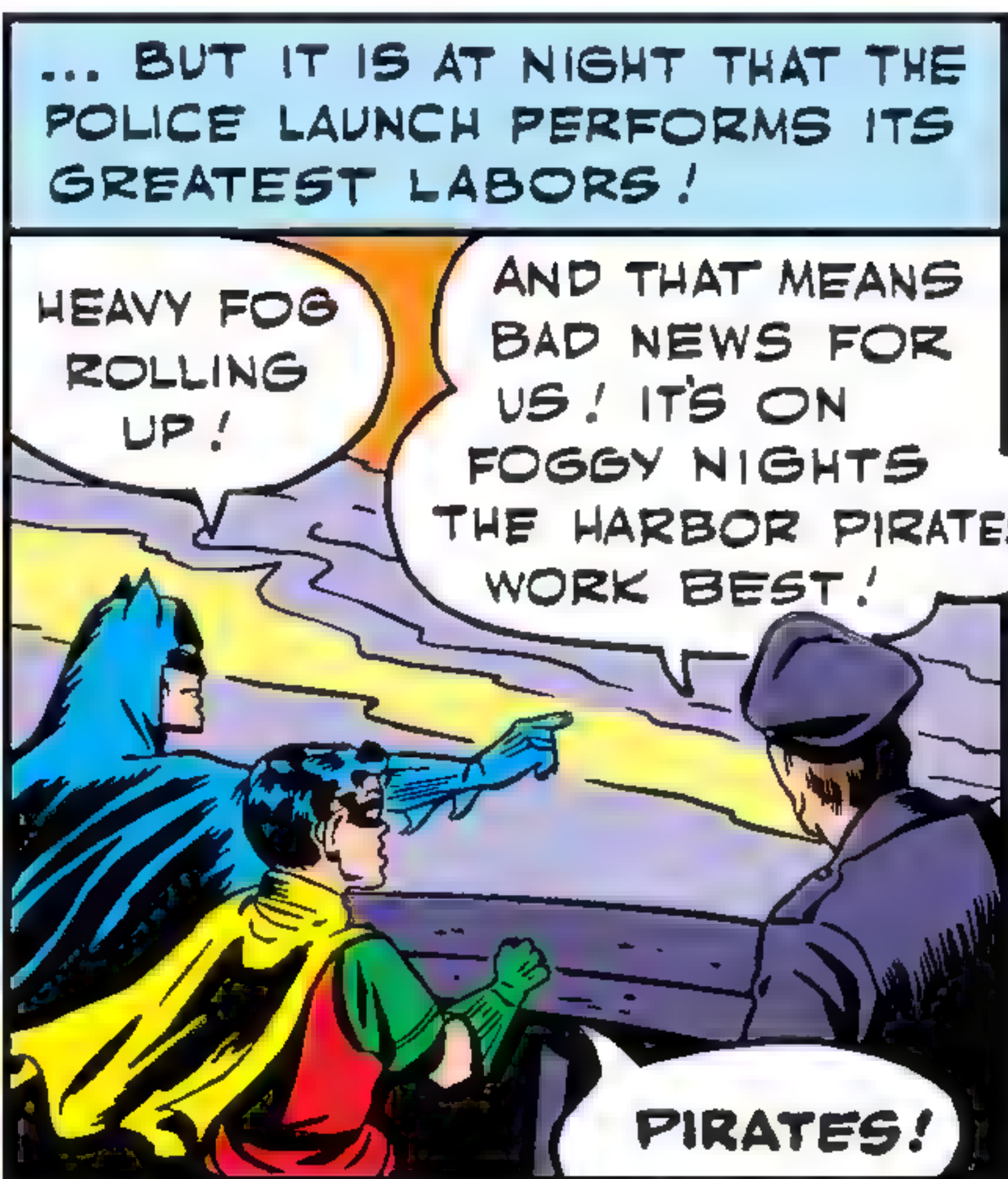
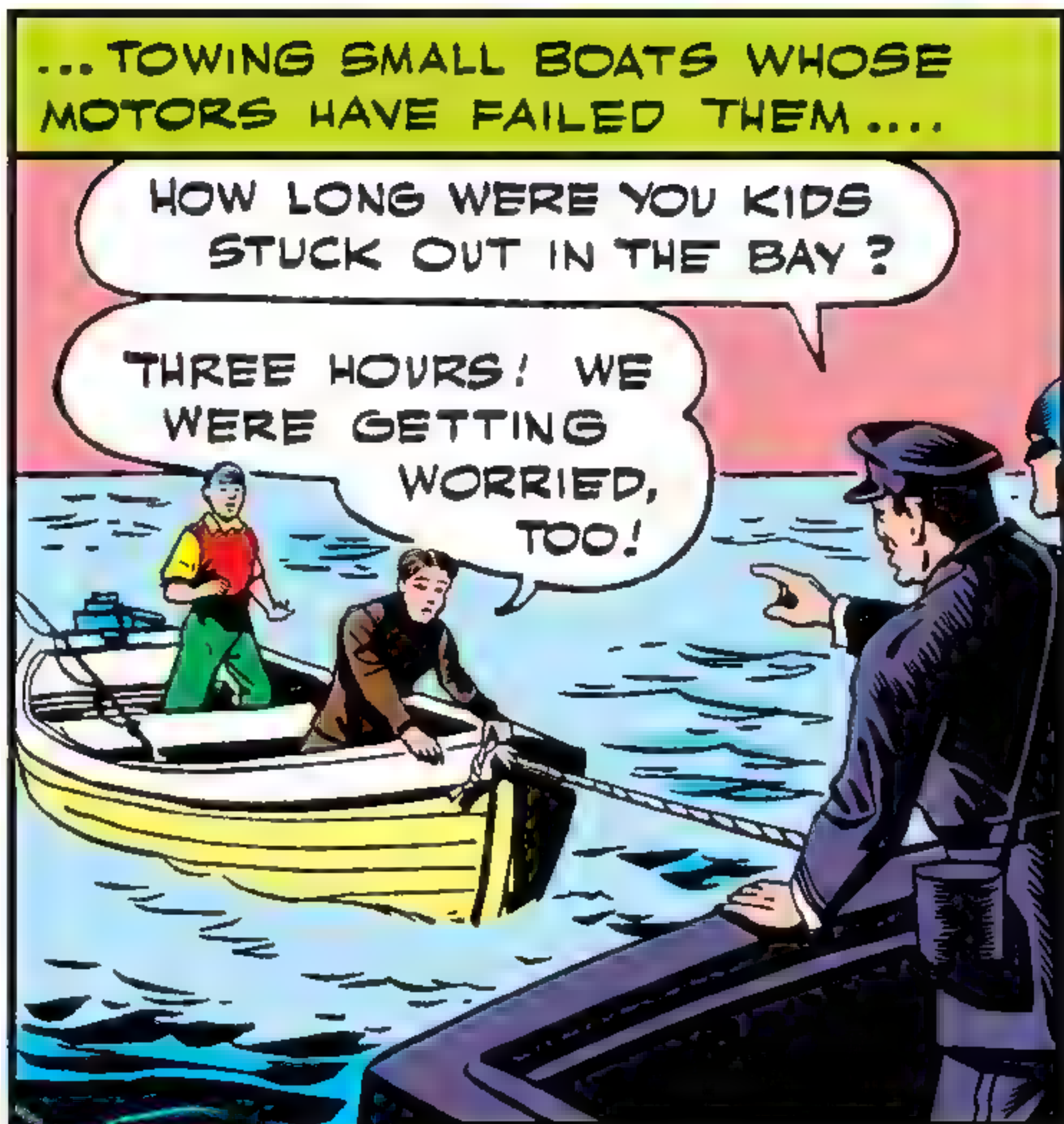
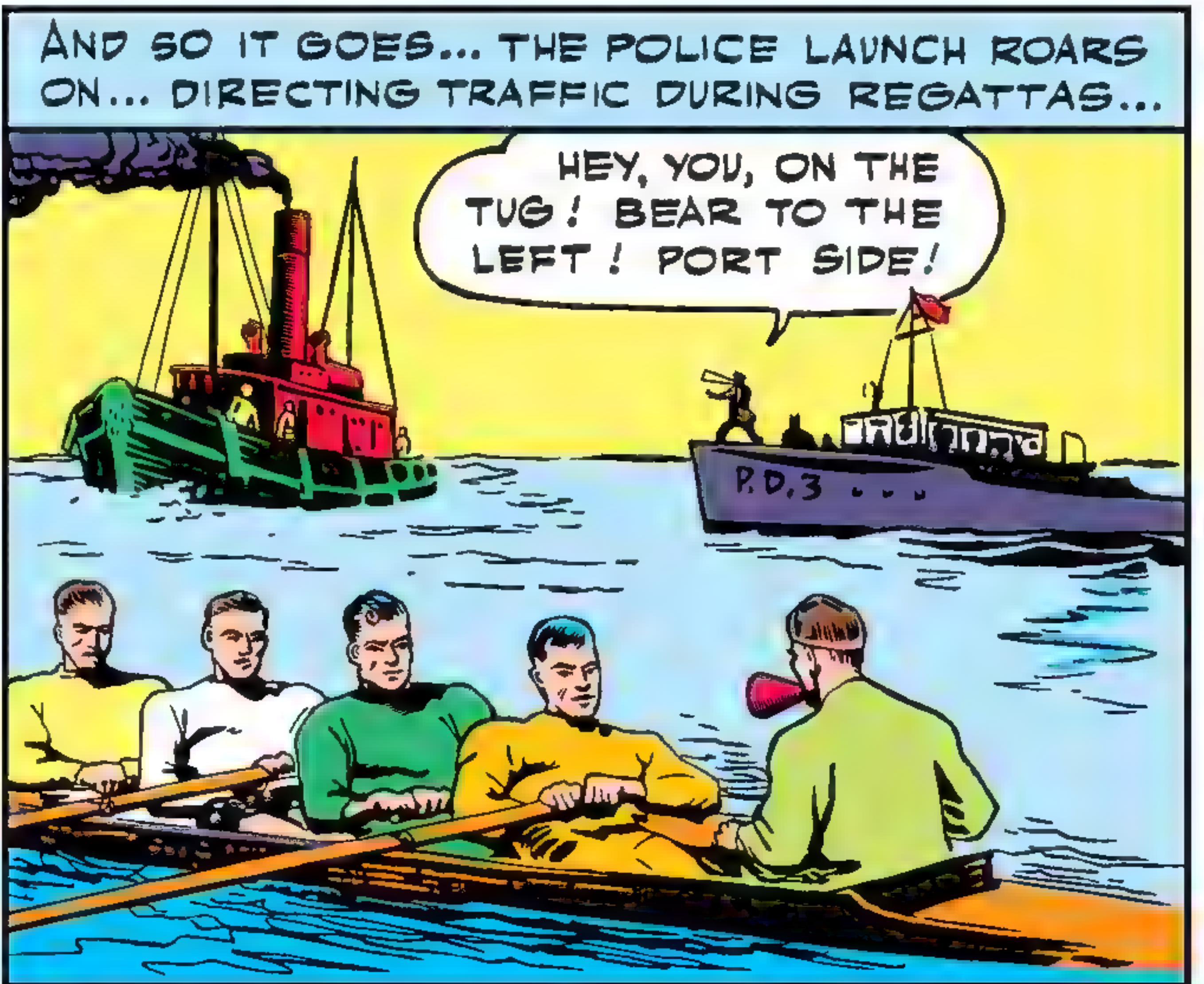


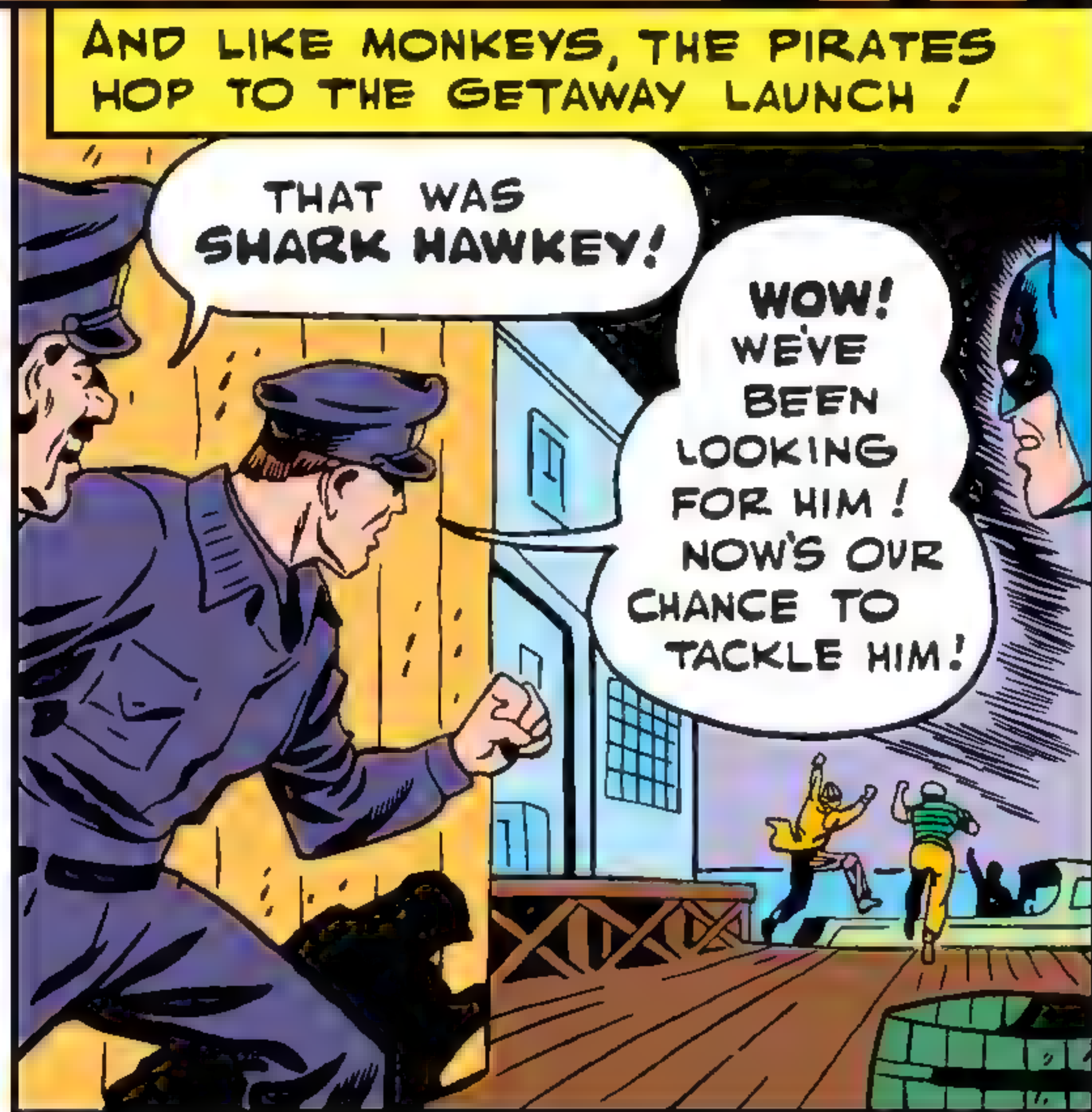
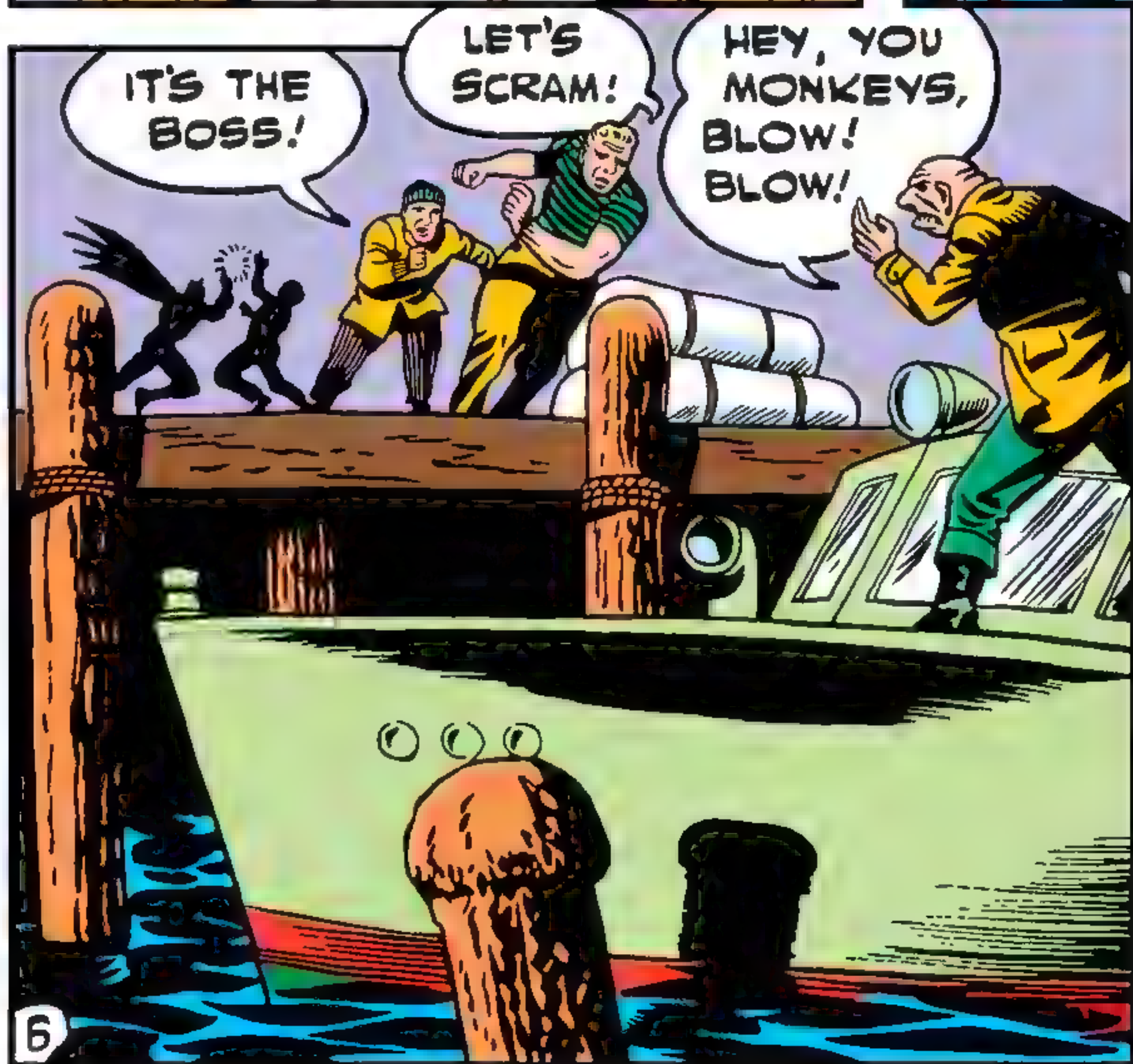
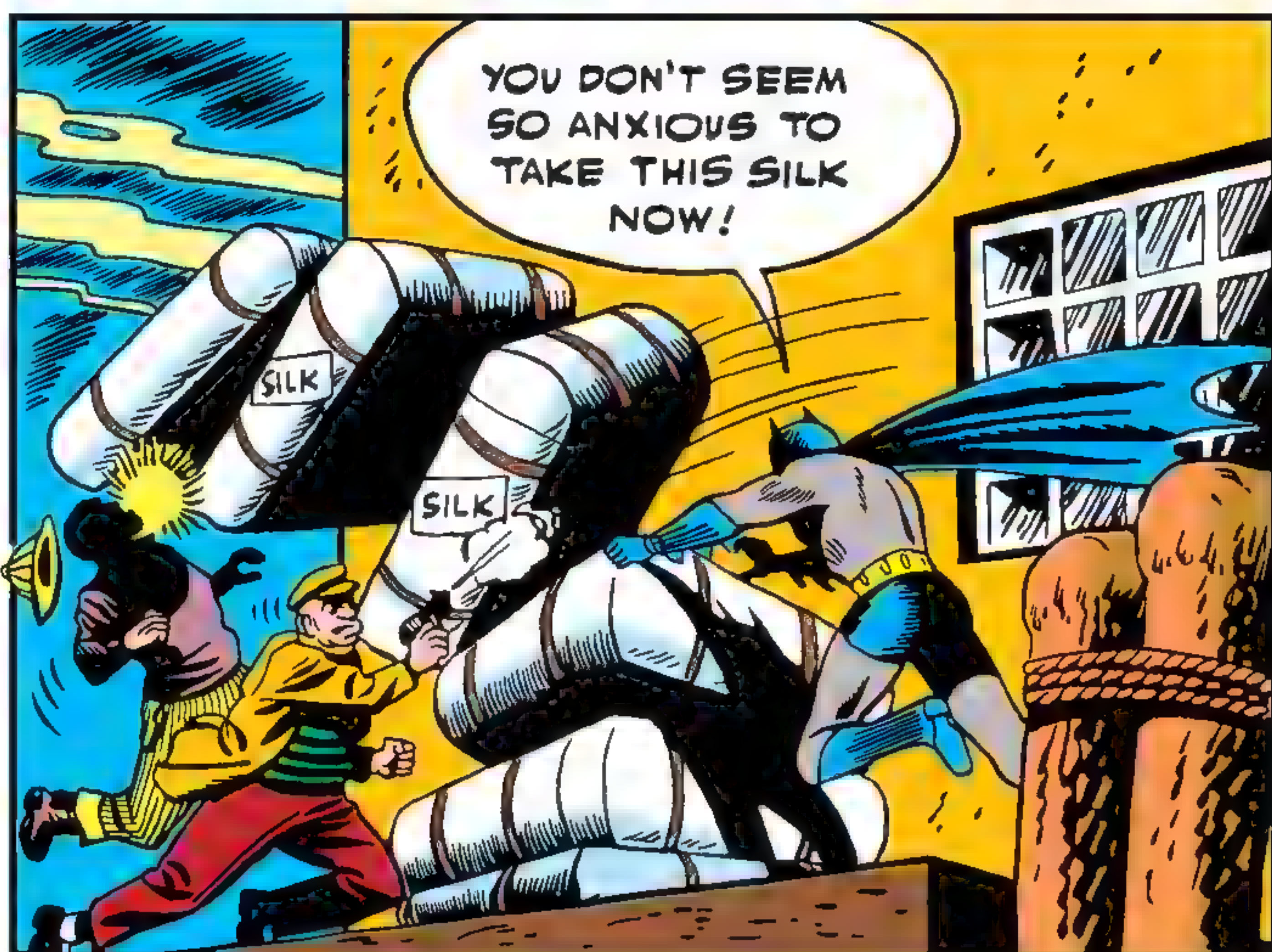
RIGHT, SARGE! SOON AS I CLEAN UP THIS LITTER!

A ROAR OF ITS POWERFUL MOTORS, AND THE SLEEK LAUNCH STARTS FORWARD THROUGH THE WATERS... CARRYING BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO AN ADVENTURE CROWDED WITH THRILLS!

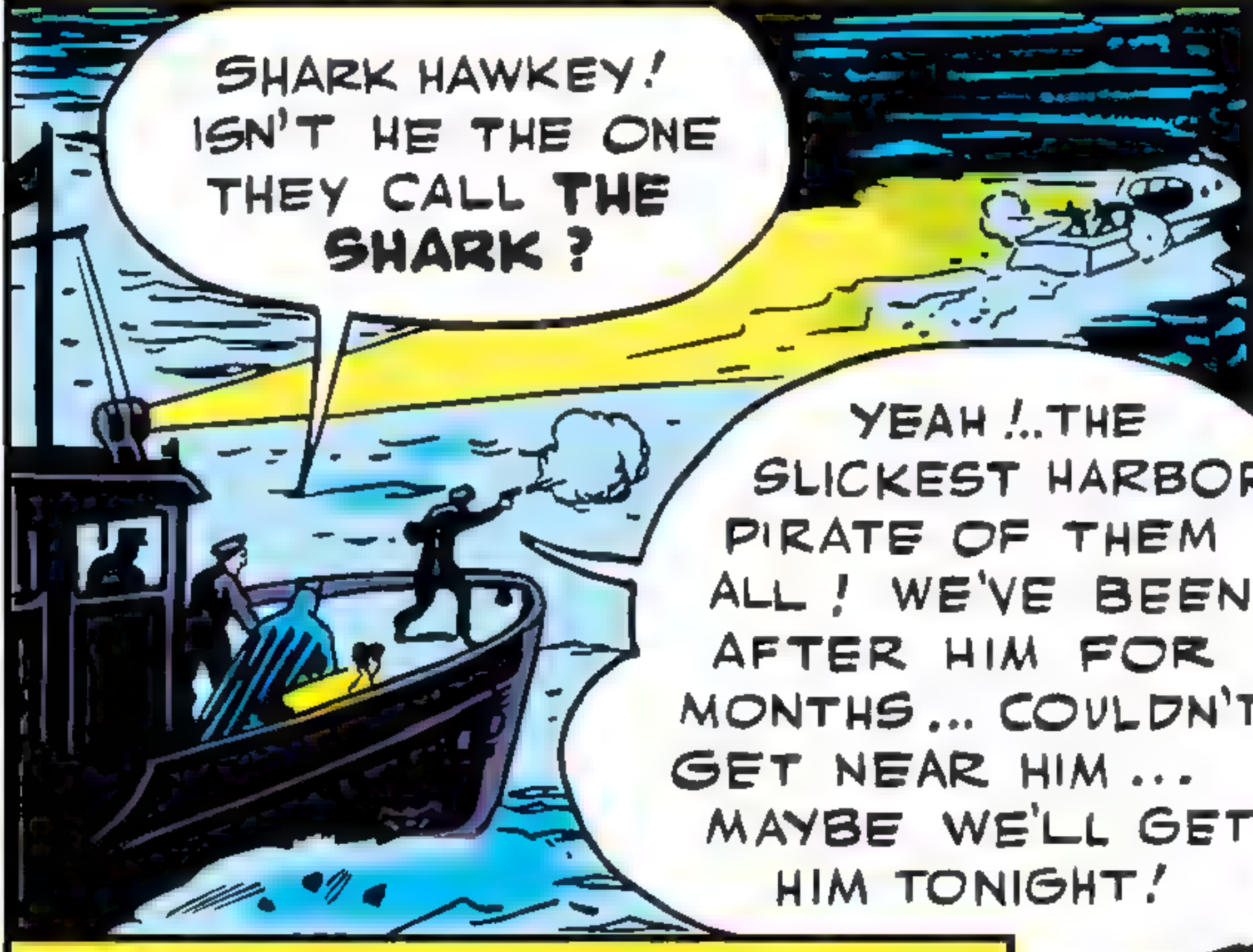






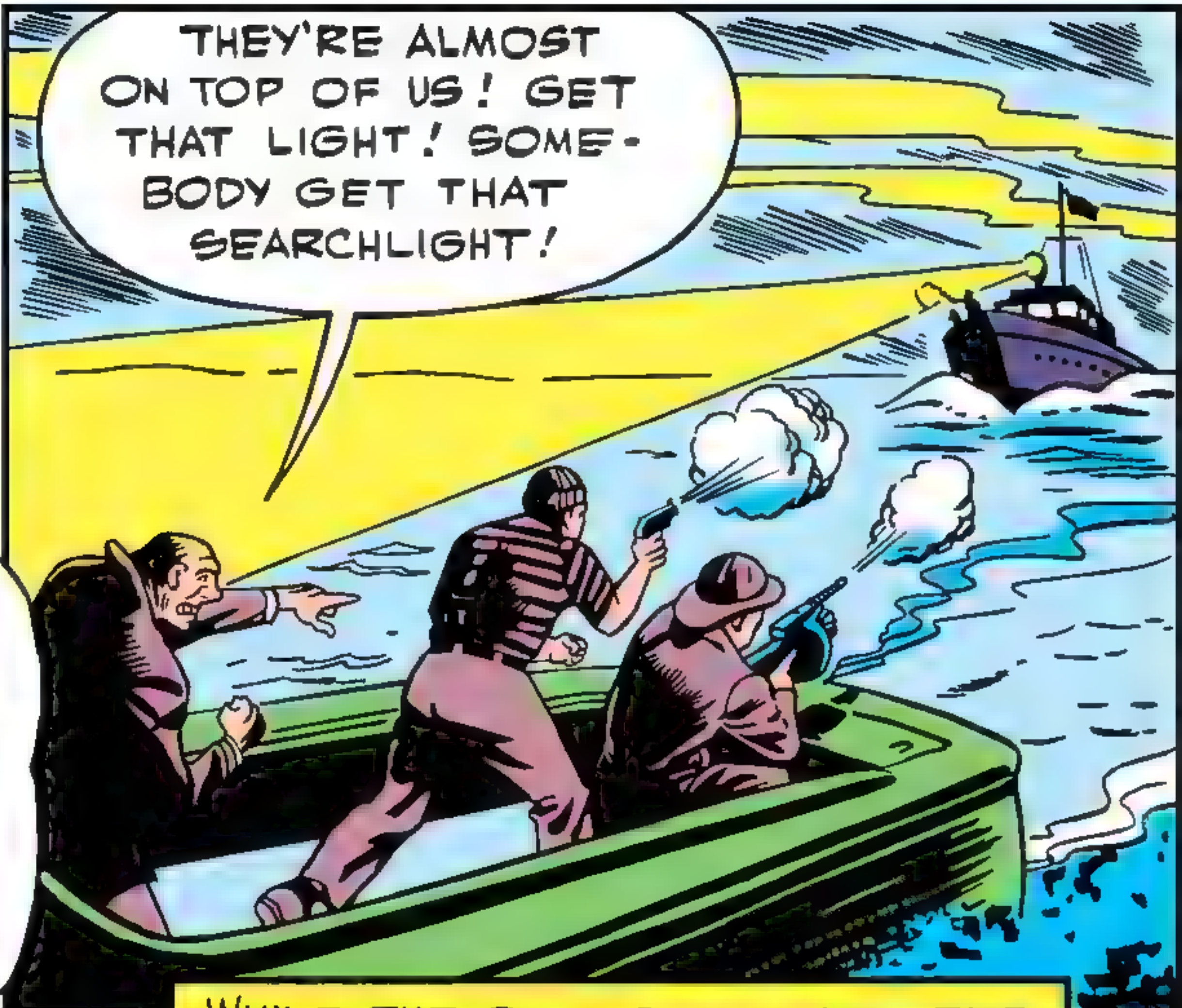


RED FLAMES STAB THROUGH THE NIGHT AS THE POLICE LAUNCH SLOWLY CLOSES THE GAP BETWEEN THE TWO BOATS...



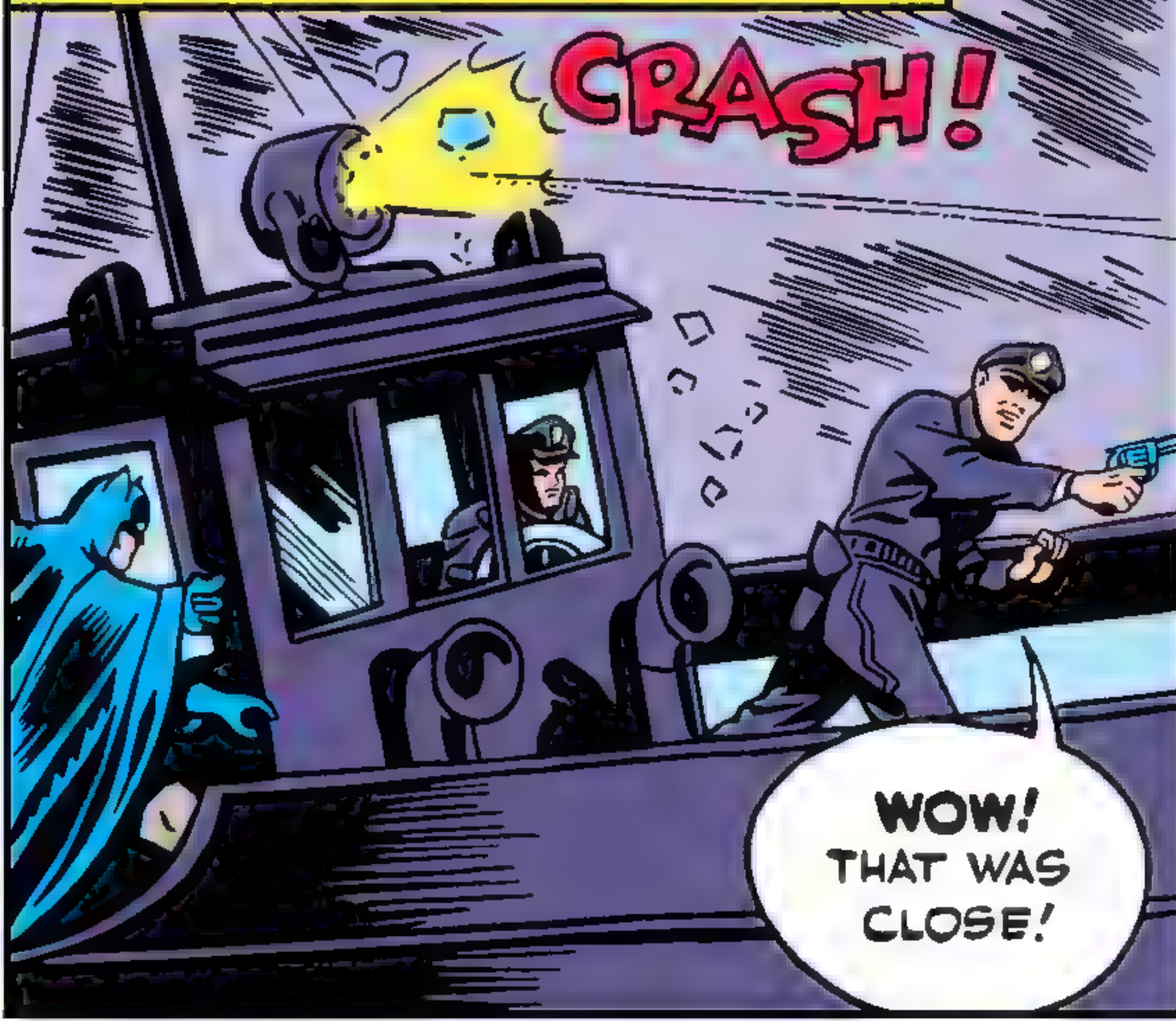
SHARK HAWKEY!
ISN'T HE THE ONE
THEY CALL THE
SHARK?

YEAH!..THE
SLICKEST HARBOR
PIRATE OF THEM
ALL! WE'VE BEEN
AFTER HIM FOR
MONTHS... COULDN'T
GET NEAR HIM...
MAYBE WE'LL GET
HIM TONIGHT!



THEY'RE ALMOST
ON TOP OF US! GET
THAT LIGHT! SOME-
BODY GET THAT
SEARCHLIGHT!

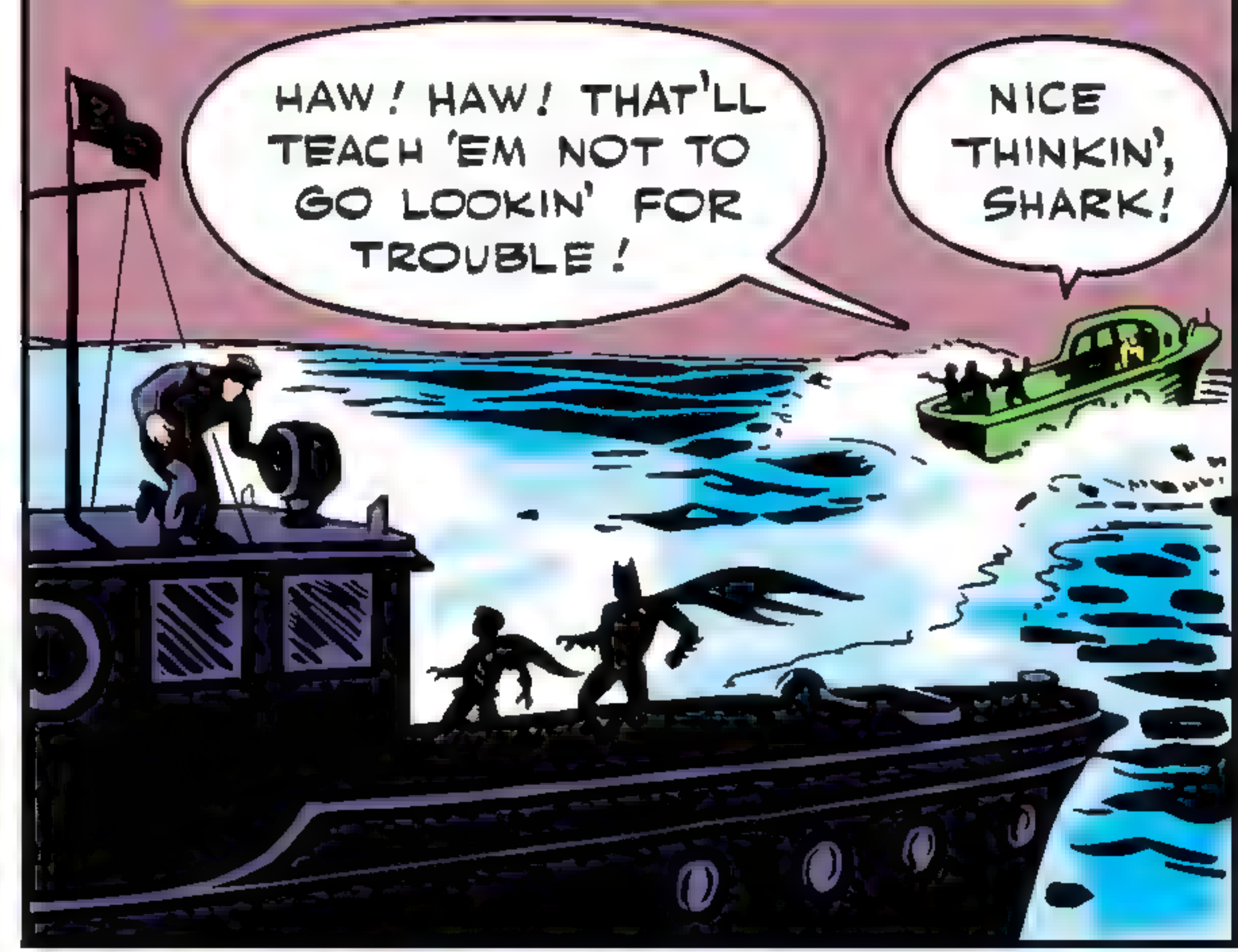
A HAIL OF LEAD SPRAYS THE
POLICE SEARCHLIGHT!



CRASH!

WOW!
THAT WAS
CLOSE!

WHILE THE POLICE REPLACE THE
LIGHT WITH A NEW BULB, THE
PIRATE LAUNCH ROARS AWAY!



HAW! HAW! THAT'LL
TEACH 'EM NOT TO
GO LOOKIN' FOR
TROUBLE!

NICE
THINKIN',
SHARK!

THE POLICE DOGGEDLY PURSUE THE
SPEEDING PIRATE LAUNCH... BUT
WHEN THE SEARCHLIGHT AGAIN
COVERS THE WATERS...



IT'S GONE!
THE PIRATE
BOAT IS
GONE!

WE WERE RIGHT
ON ITS TAIL!
WHERE COULD
IT HAVE GONE?

SURE IS
A STICKER!
BLAMED IF
I CAN
FIGURE IT
OUT!

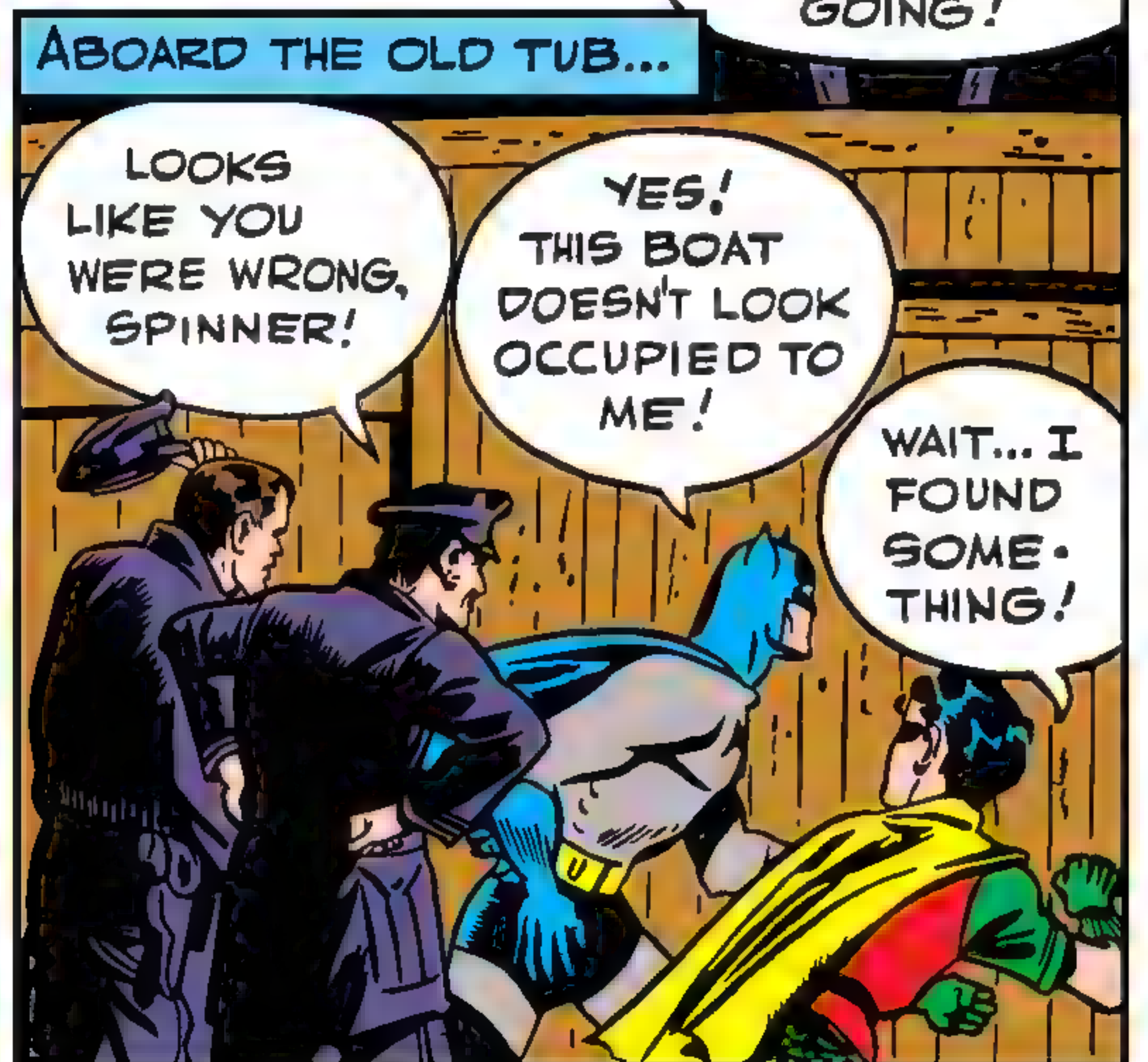
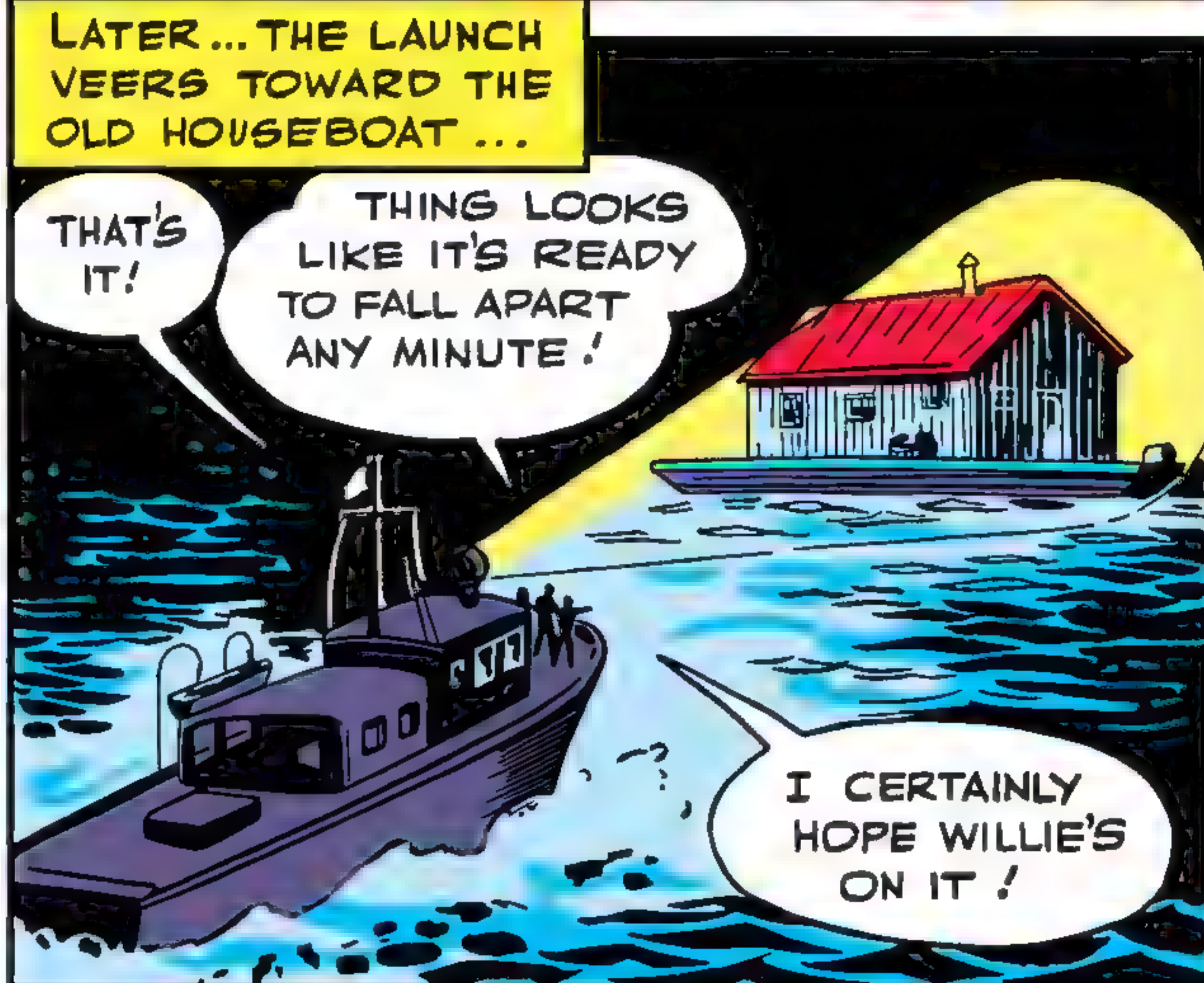
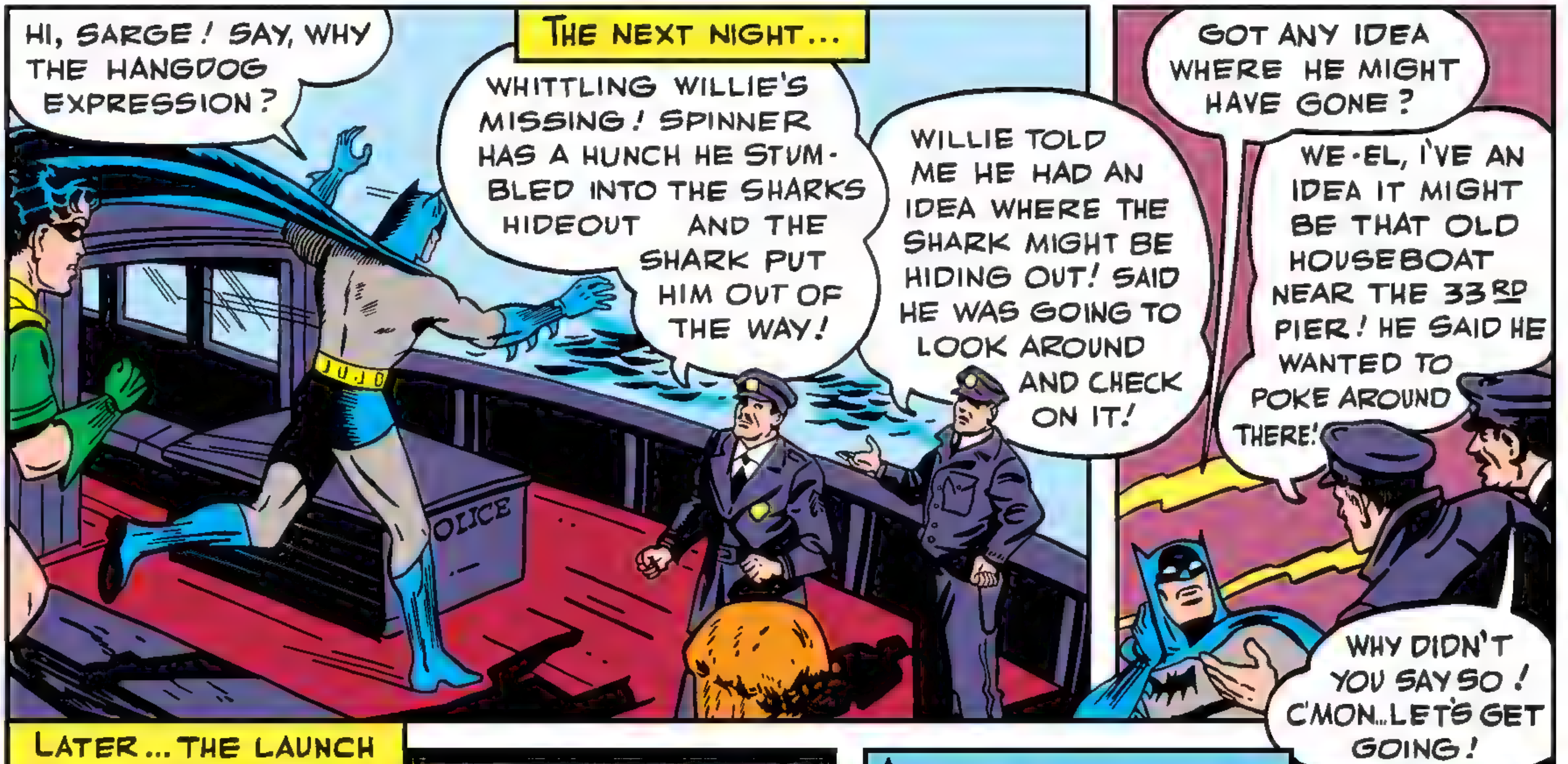


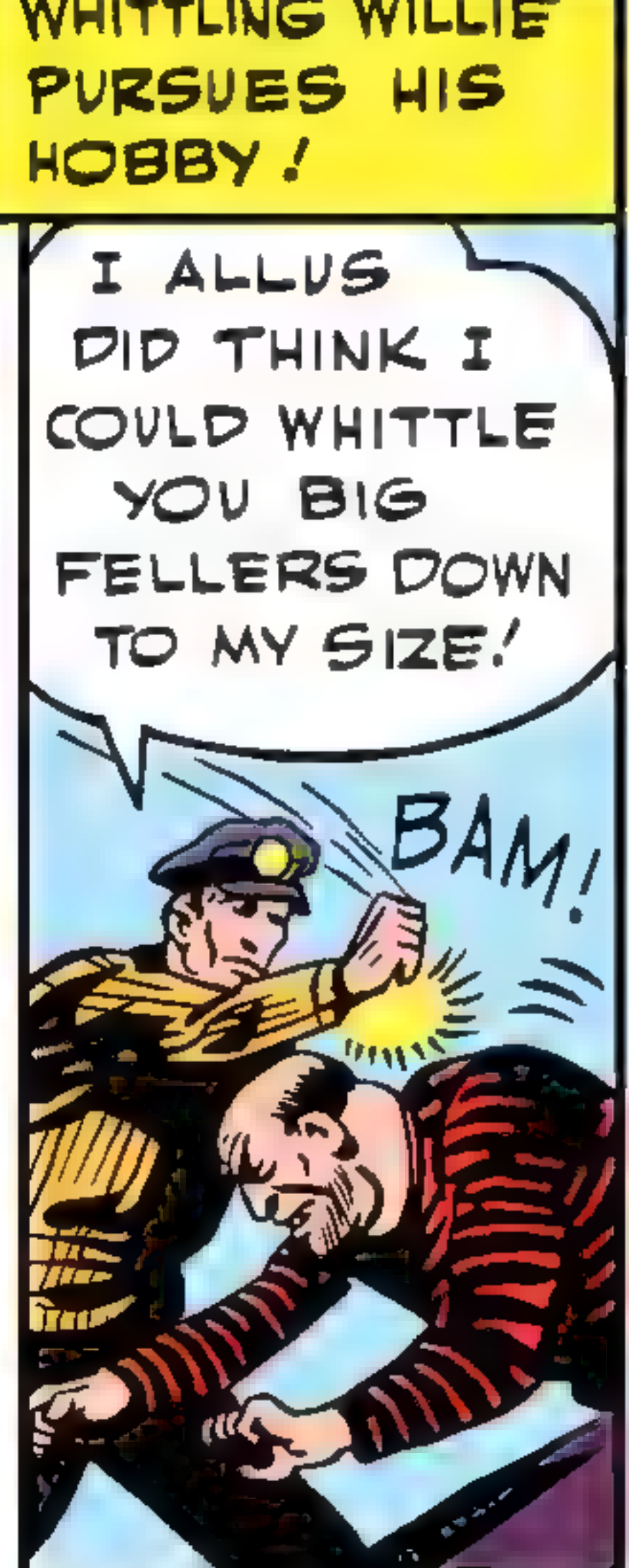
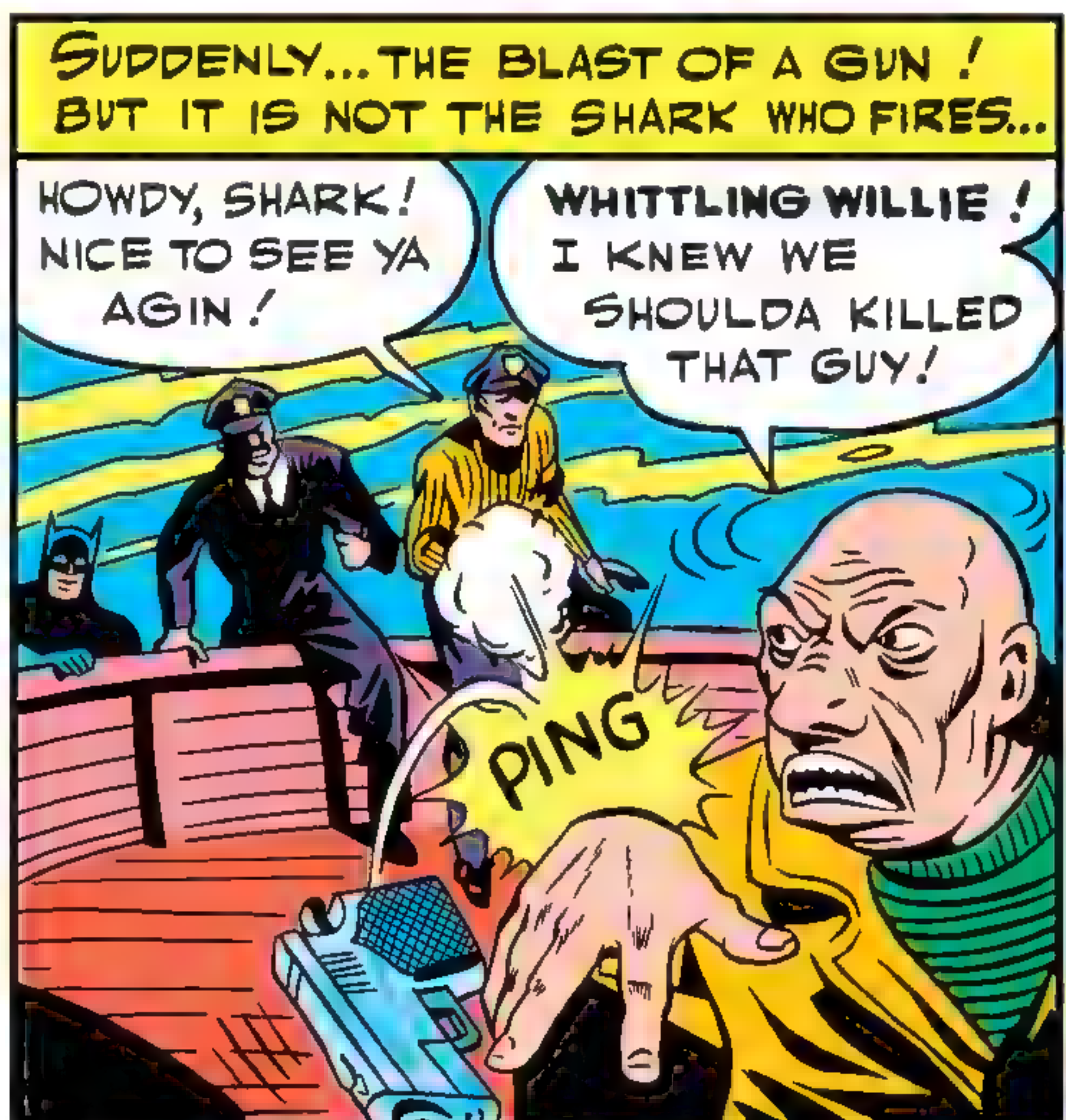
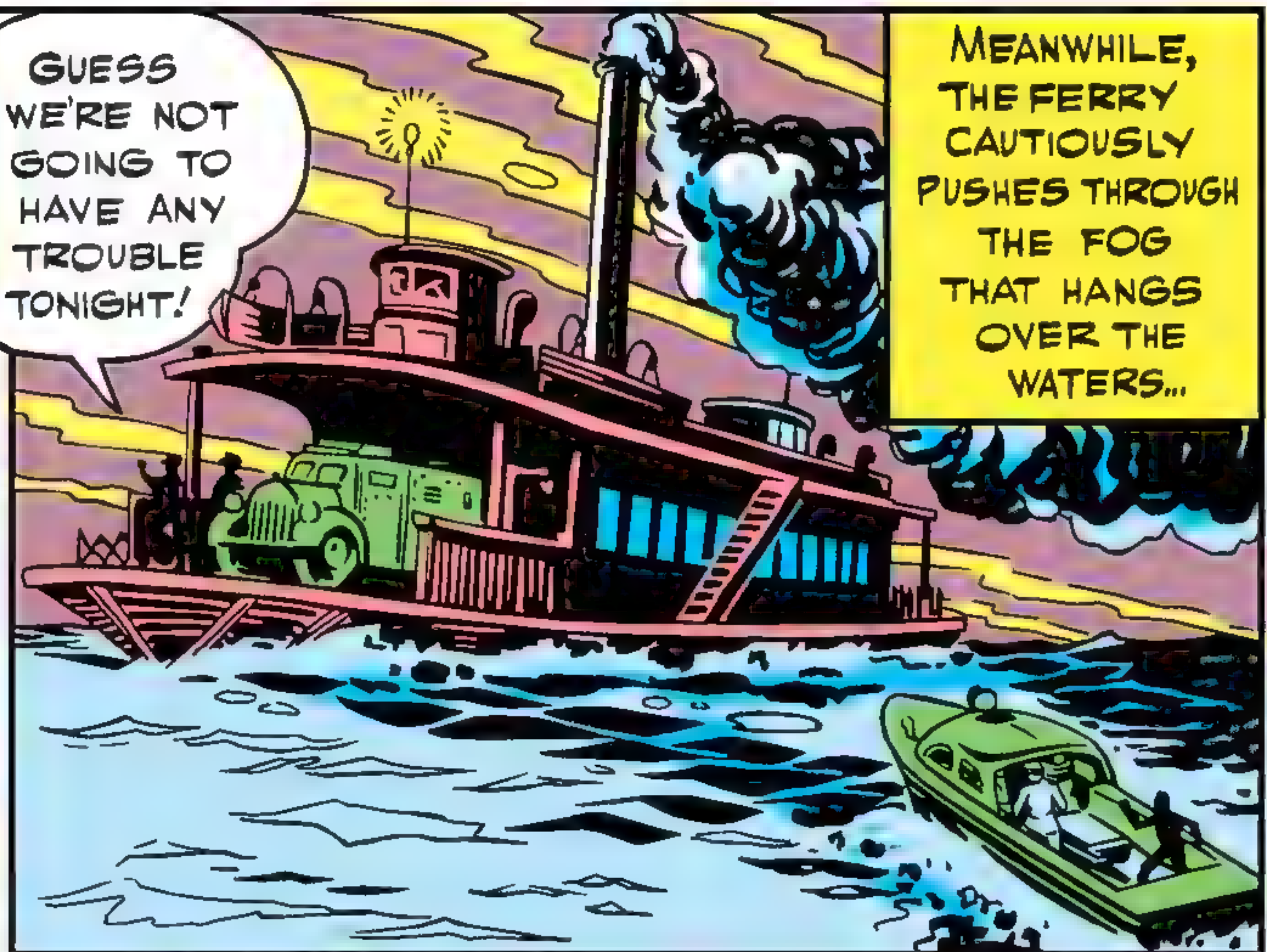
LATER THAT NIGHT...

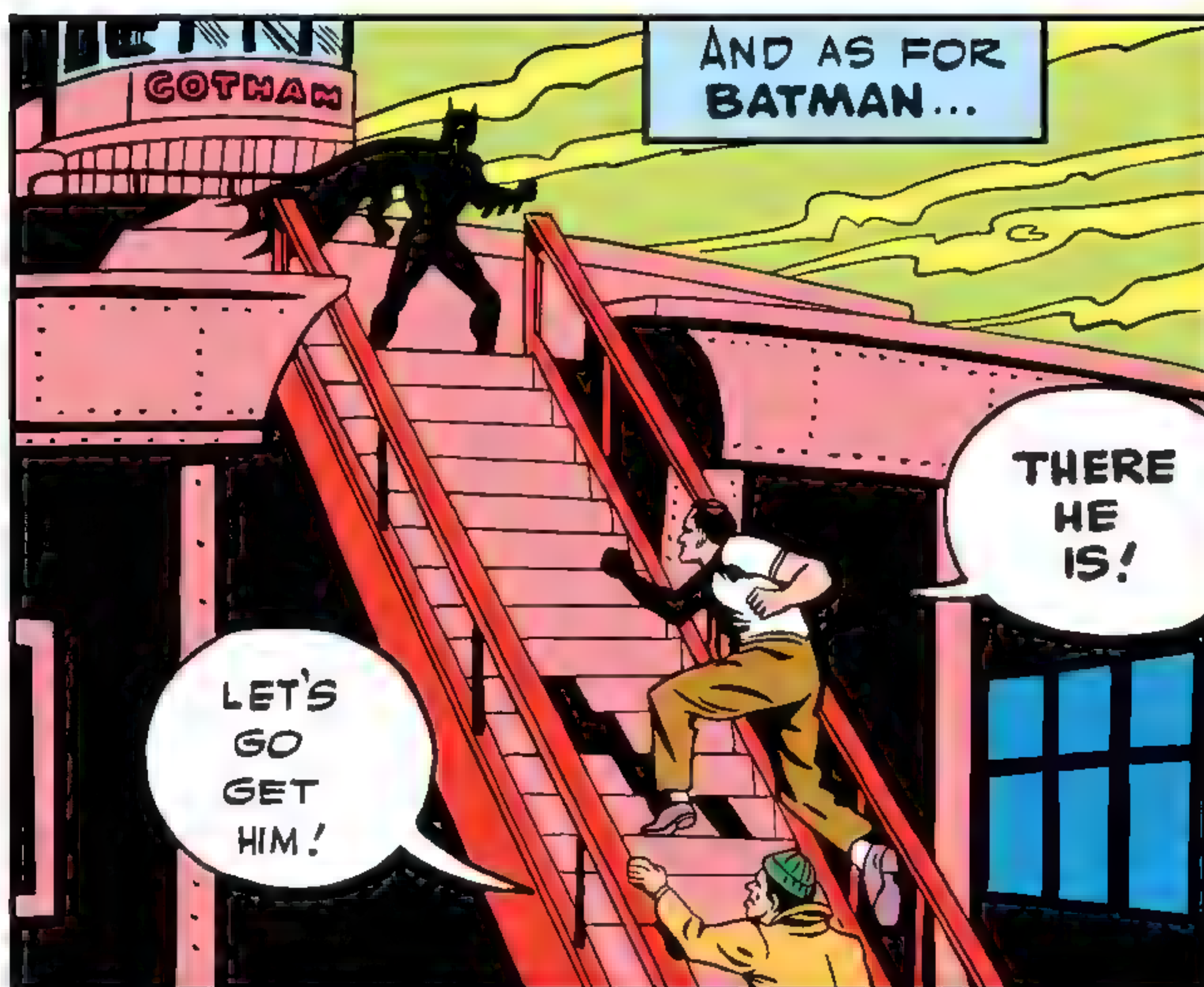
SARGE, IT'S
PAST **ROBIN'S**
BEDTIME! SORRY
WE HAVE TO LEAVE
NOW, BUT WE'LL
SEE YOU AGAIN
TOMORROW
NIGHT! WE'RE
GOING TO FOLLOW THIS
CASE
RIGHT
THROUGH!

GOOD!









AND AS FOR
BATMAN...

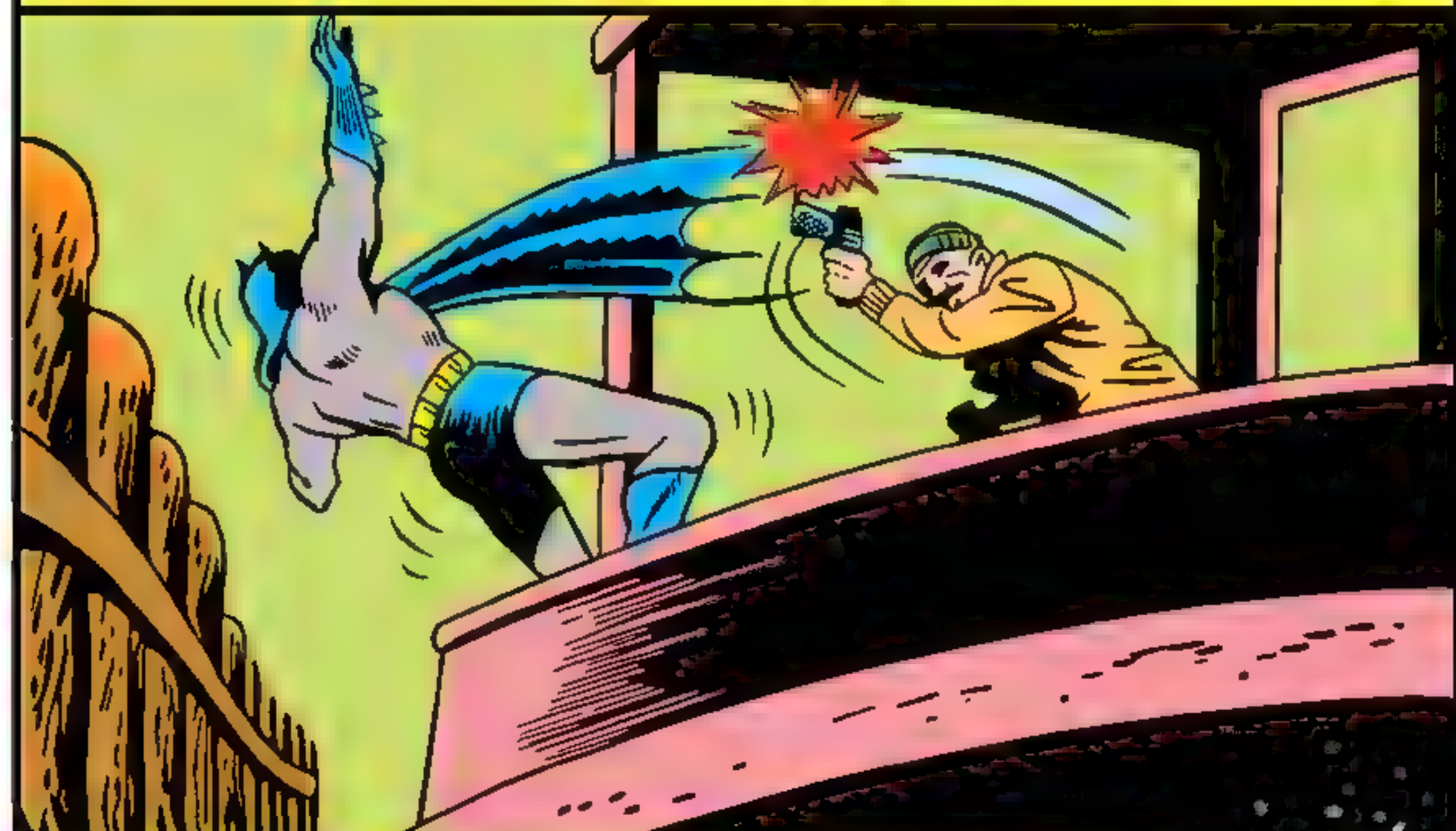
LET'S
GO
GET
HIM!

THERE
HE
IS!



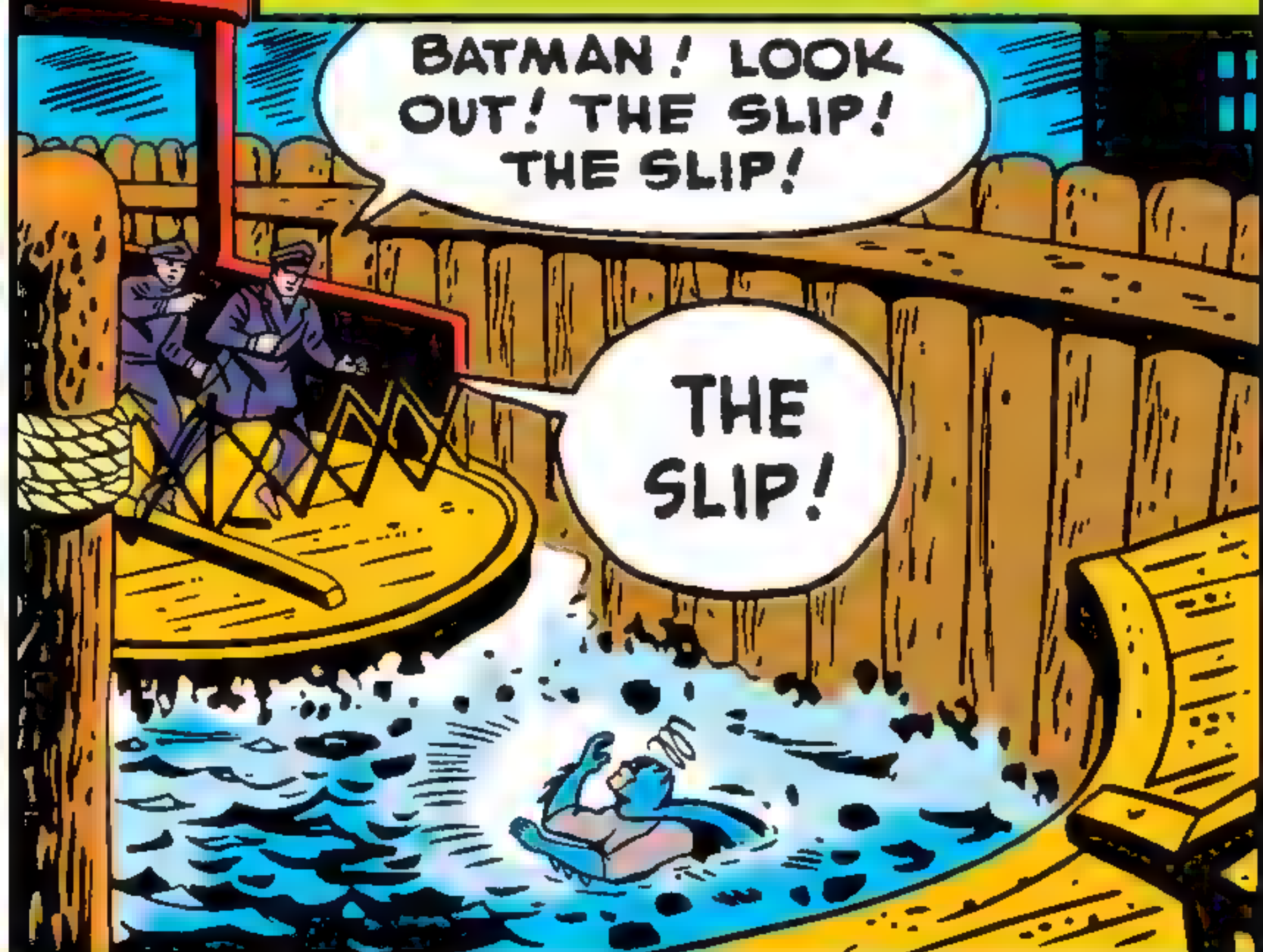
NICE
CLEAN
FUN!

SUDDENLY A PISTOL BUTT THUDS AGAINST
BATMAN'S JAW...



...HE REELS BACK AND TUMBLES
TOWARD ALMOST CERTAIN DOOM --
FOR THE FERRY BOAT IS ENTERING
THE TIGHT CONFINES OF THE SLIP!

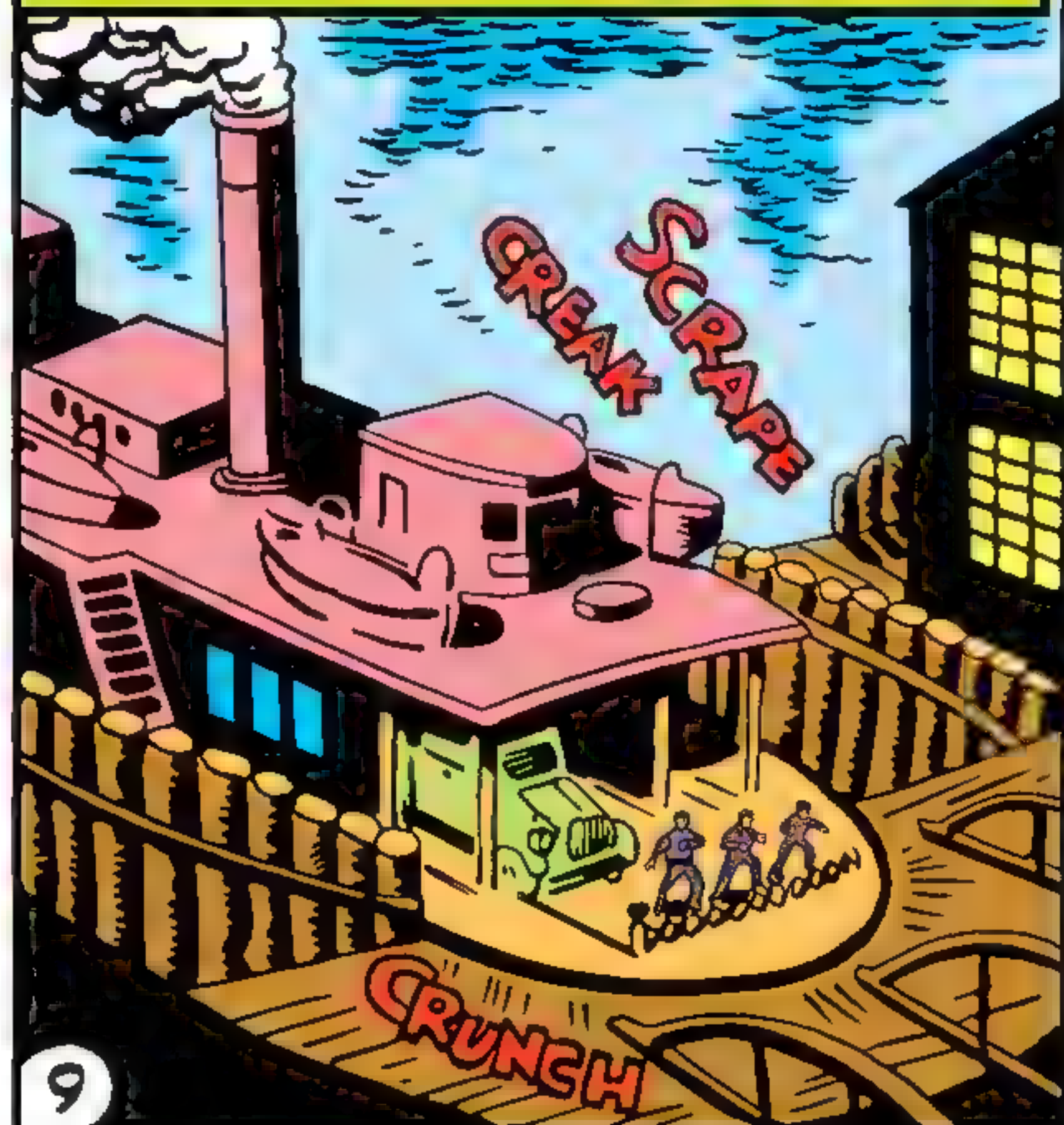
DAZED, BATMAN FLOUNDERS ON
THE SURFACE, WHILE THE POLICE
SHOUT FRANTICALLY...



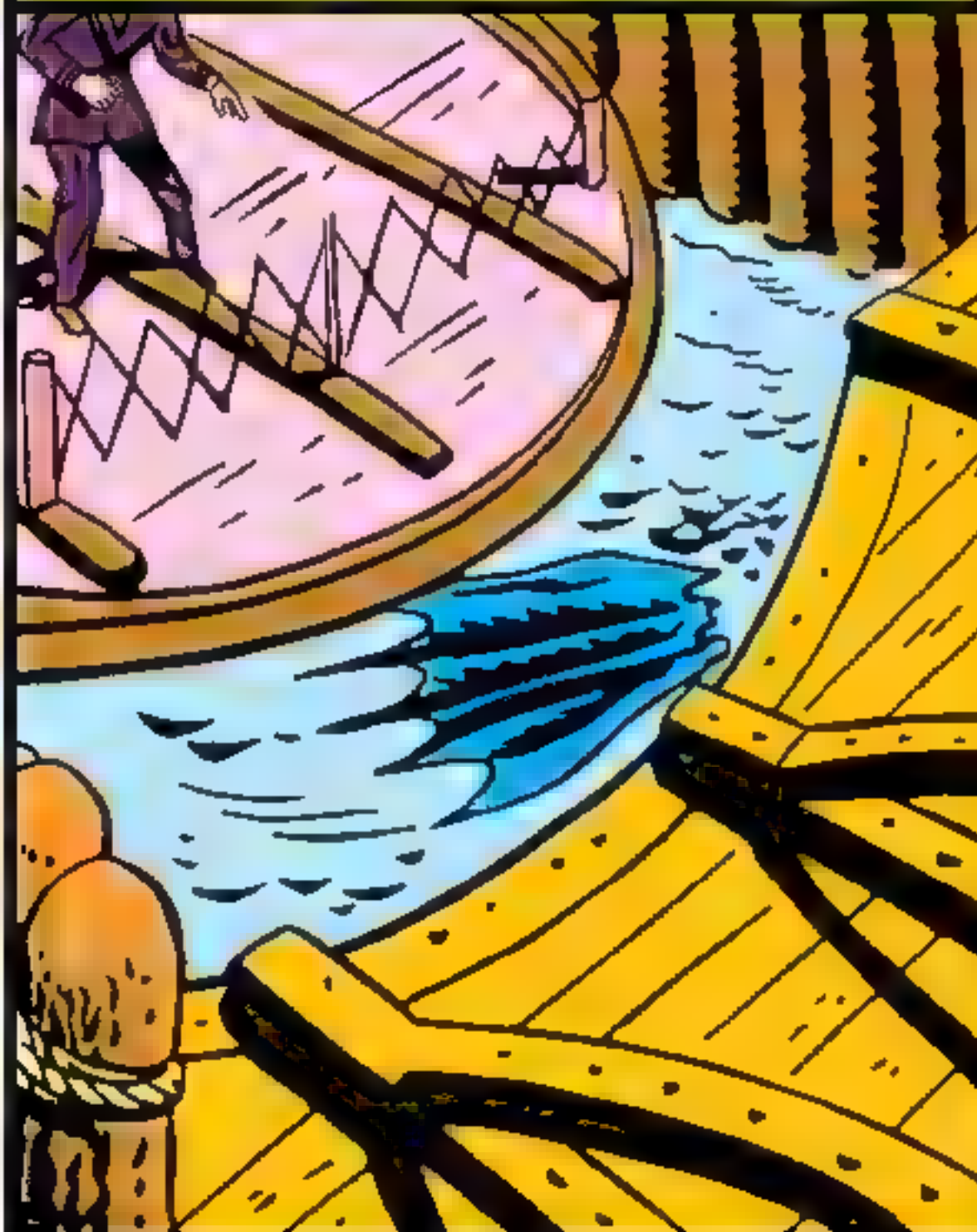
BATMAN! LOOK
OUT! THE SLIP!
THE SLIP!

THE
SLIP!

HELPLESSLY, THEY WATCH AS
THE FERRY CLOSES THE GAP
WITH A SICKENING GRINDING
AND SCRAPING ...

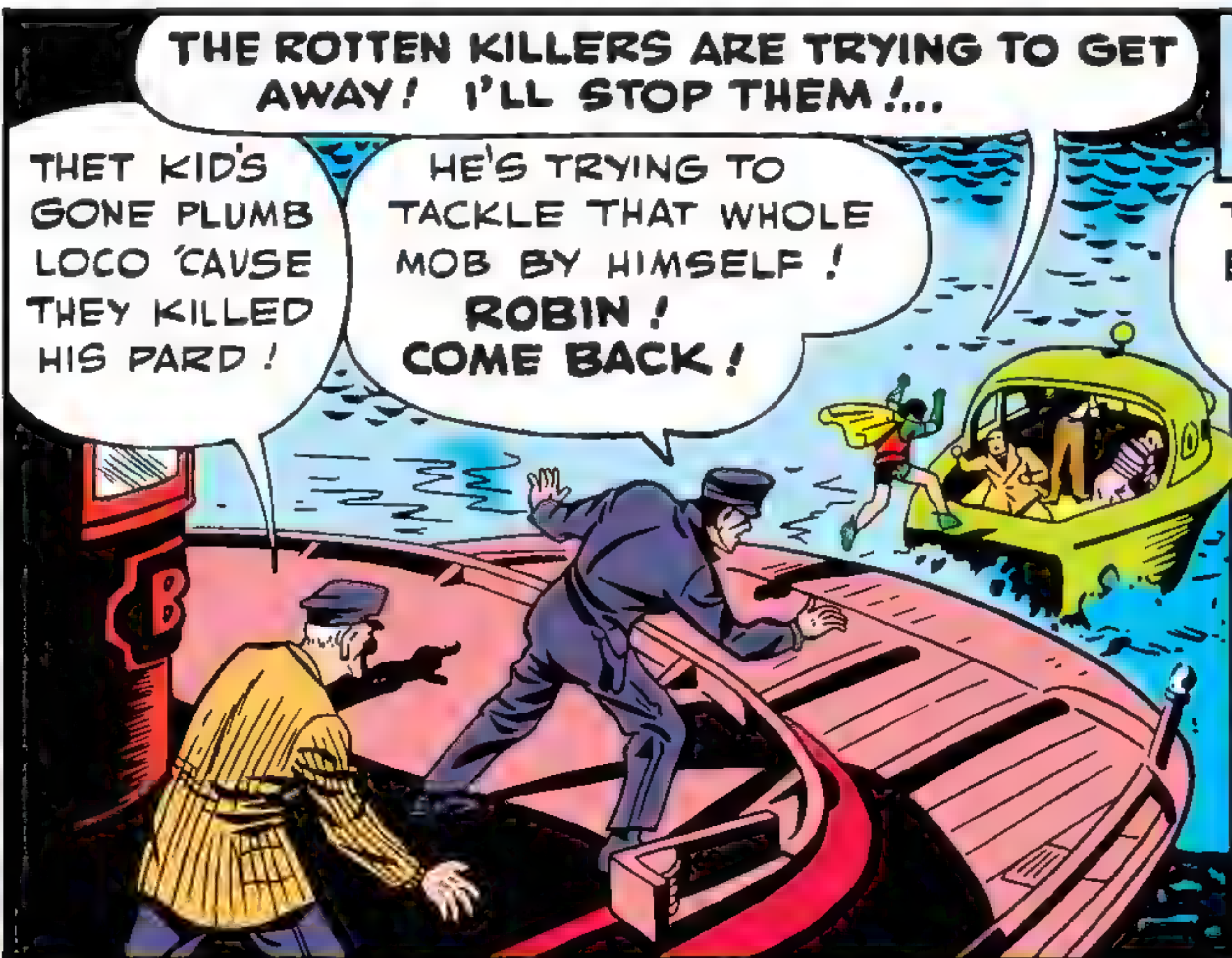


... AND WHEN THE
FERRY FINALLY
GLANCES OFF, THERE
IN THE BRACKISH
WATERS... SOME-
THING FLOATS TO
THE SURFACE....

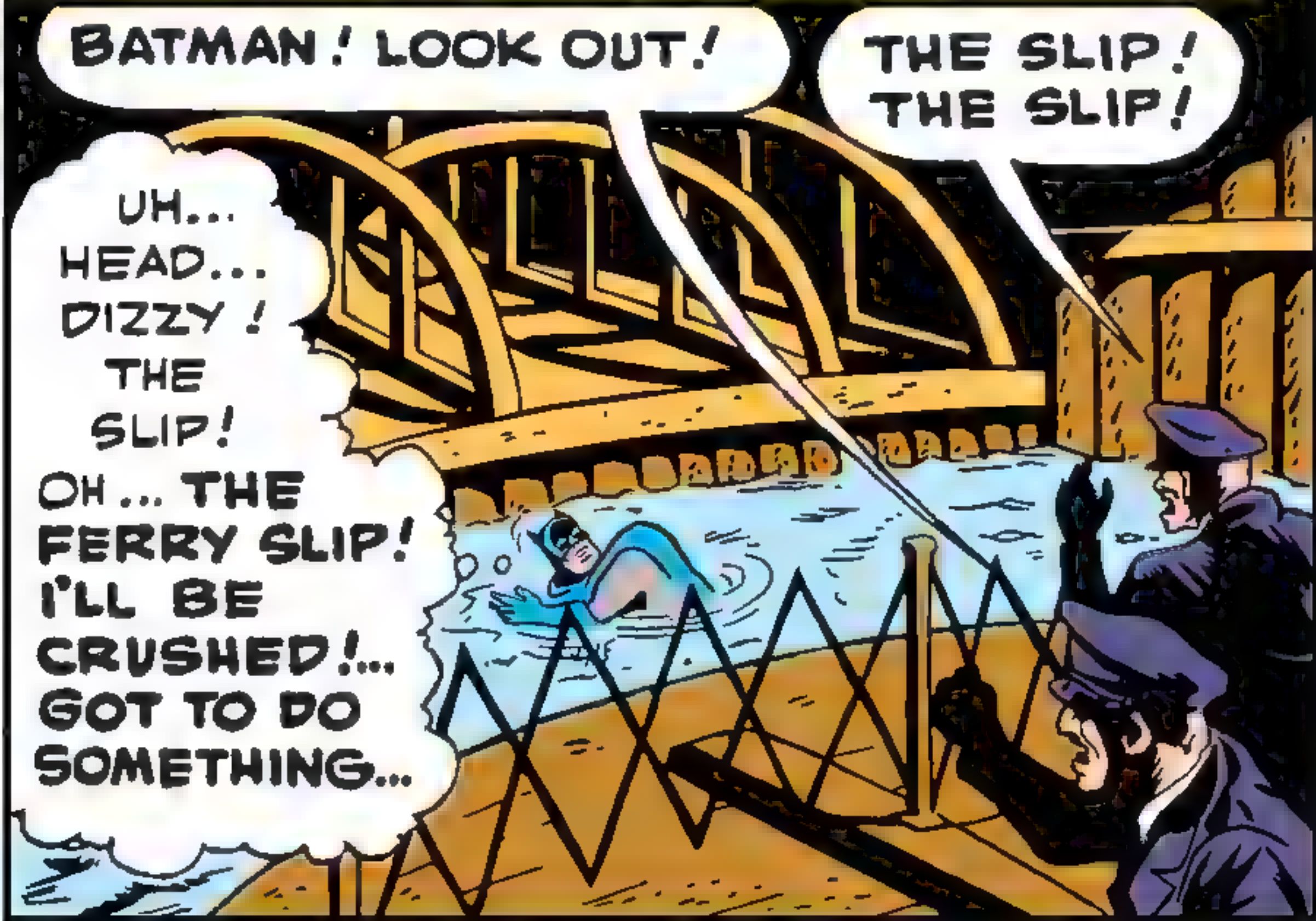


THE BATMAN'S
CLOAK! HE'S DEAD!

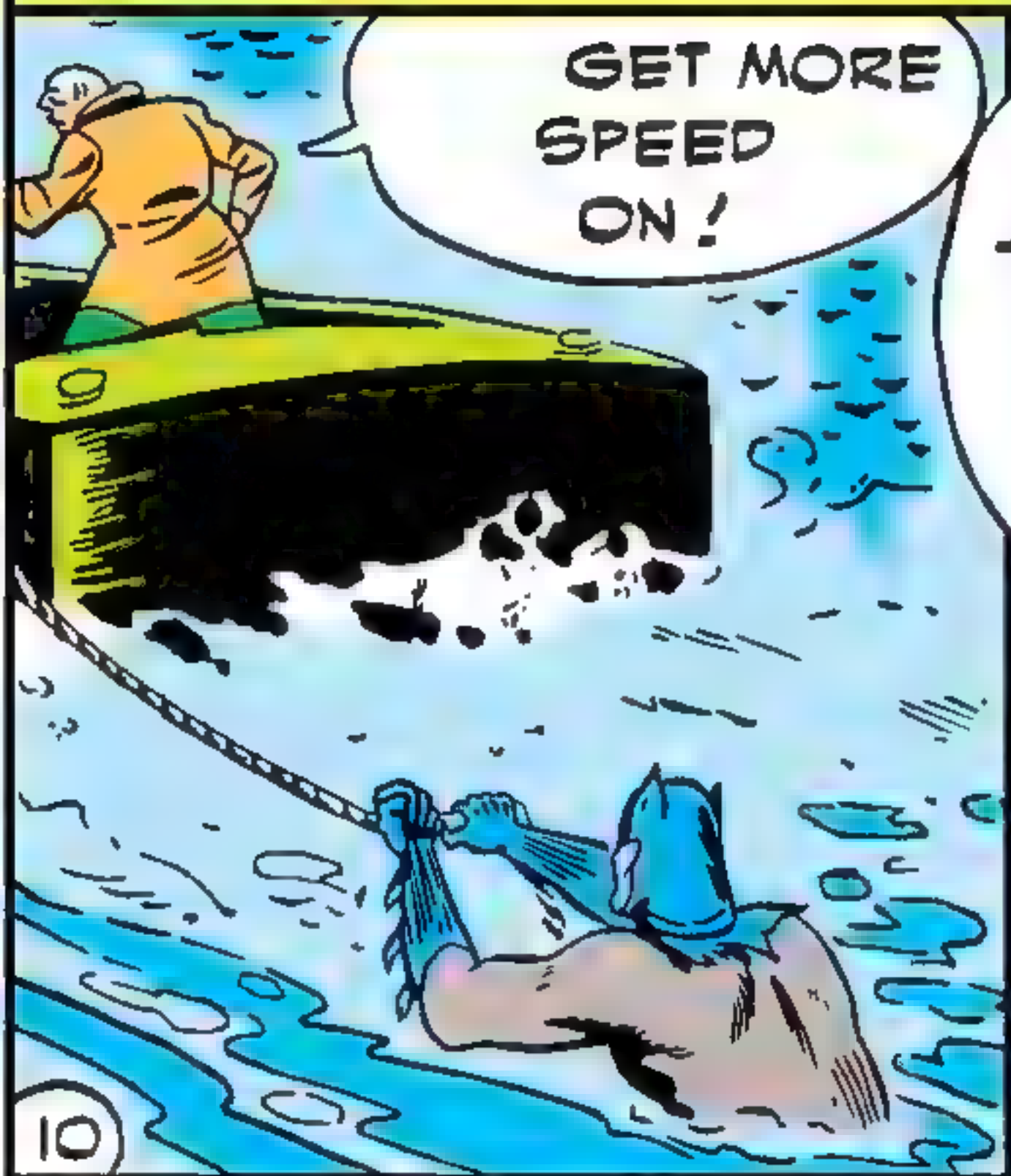
BATMAN...
DEAD! IT'S... IT'S
HARD TO BELIEVE!



BUT WHAT ACTUALLY DID HAPPEN TO THE BATMAN? LET'S GO BACK TO THAT TERRIBLE MOMENT AS THE CRIME-FIGHTER FACED DEATH....



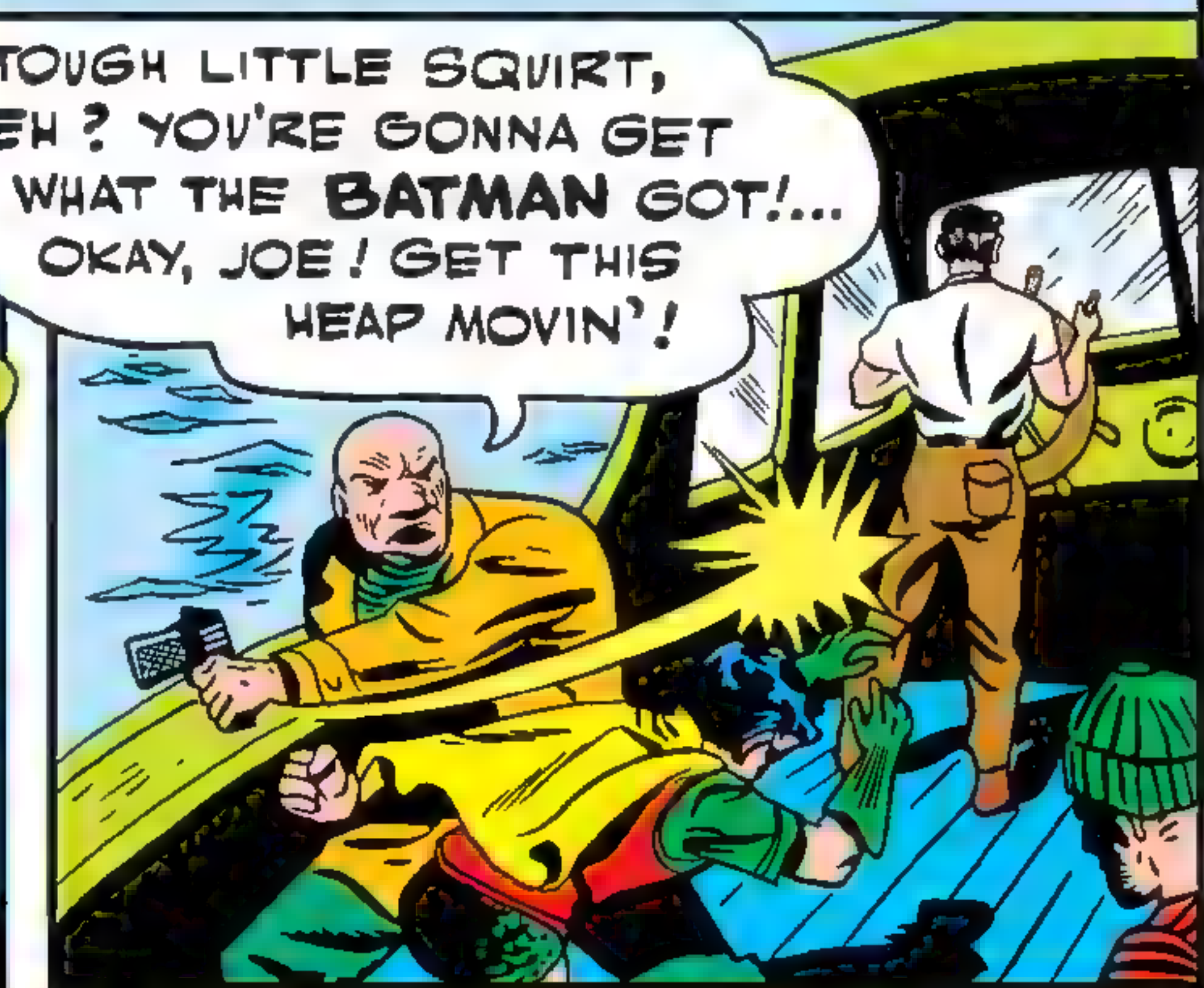
AND WHEN HE ROSE TO THE SURFACE, HE GRABBED A DANGLING ROPE.. A ROPE THAT LED FROM THE PIRATE LAUNCH!



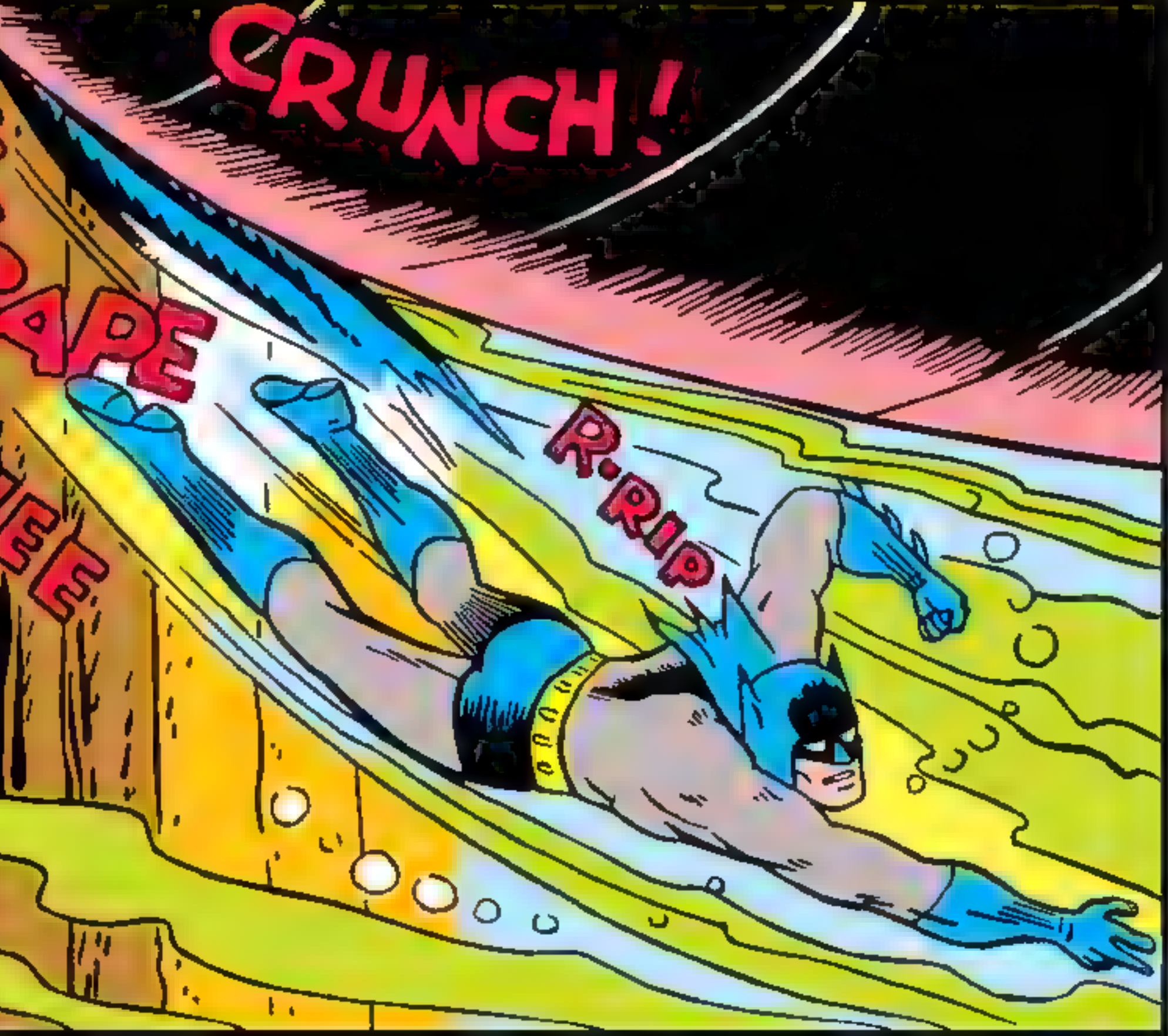
AND THAT BRINGS US TO THE PRESENT EXCITING MOMENT... AS THE LAWMEN OF THE SEAS PURSUE THE HARBOR PIRATES...



BUT ROBIN IS TOO CRAZED WITH GRIEF TO BATTLE WITH SKILL AND SCIENCE...



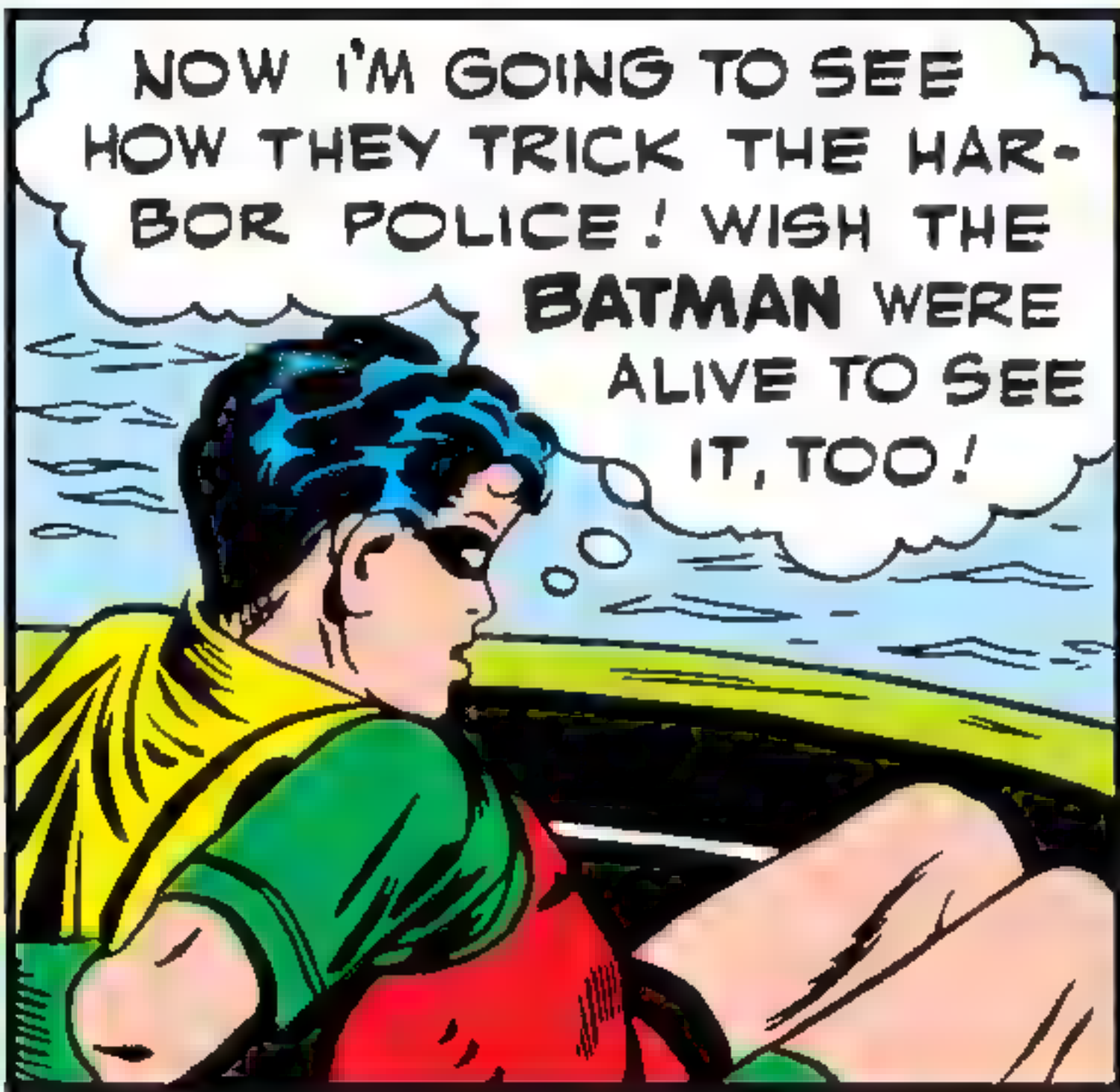
AND THEN BATMAN DOVE... DOVE SO FAST BENEATH THE FERRY, THAT ONLY HIS FLUTTERING CAPE WAS CAUGHT AND TORN OFF....



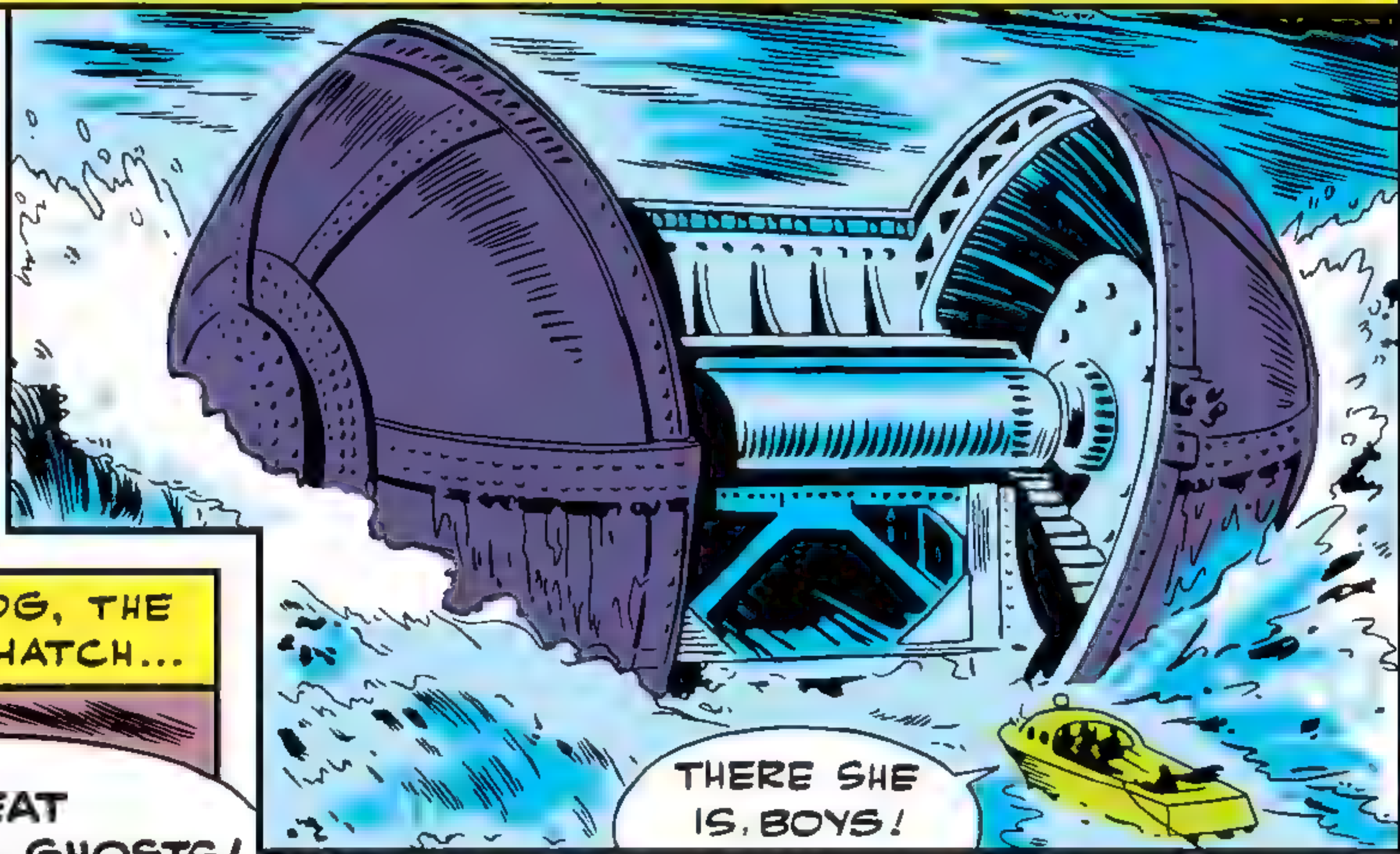
AND, SOMEWHERE NEARBY, THAT RADIO MESSAGE IS RECEIVED...



NOW I'M GOING TO SEE HOW THEY TRICK THE HARBOR POLICE! WISH THE **BATMAN** WERE ALIVE TO SEE IT, TOO!

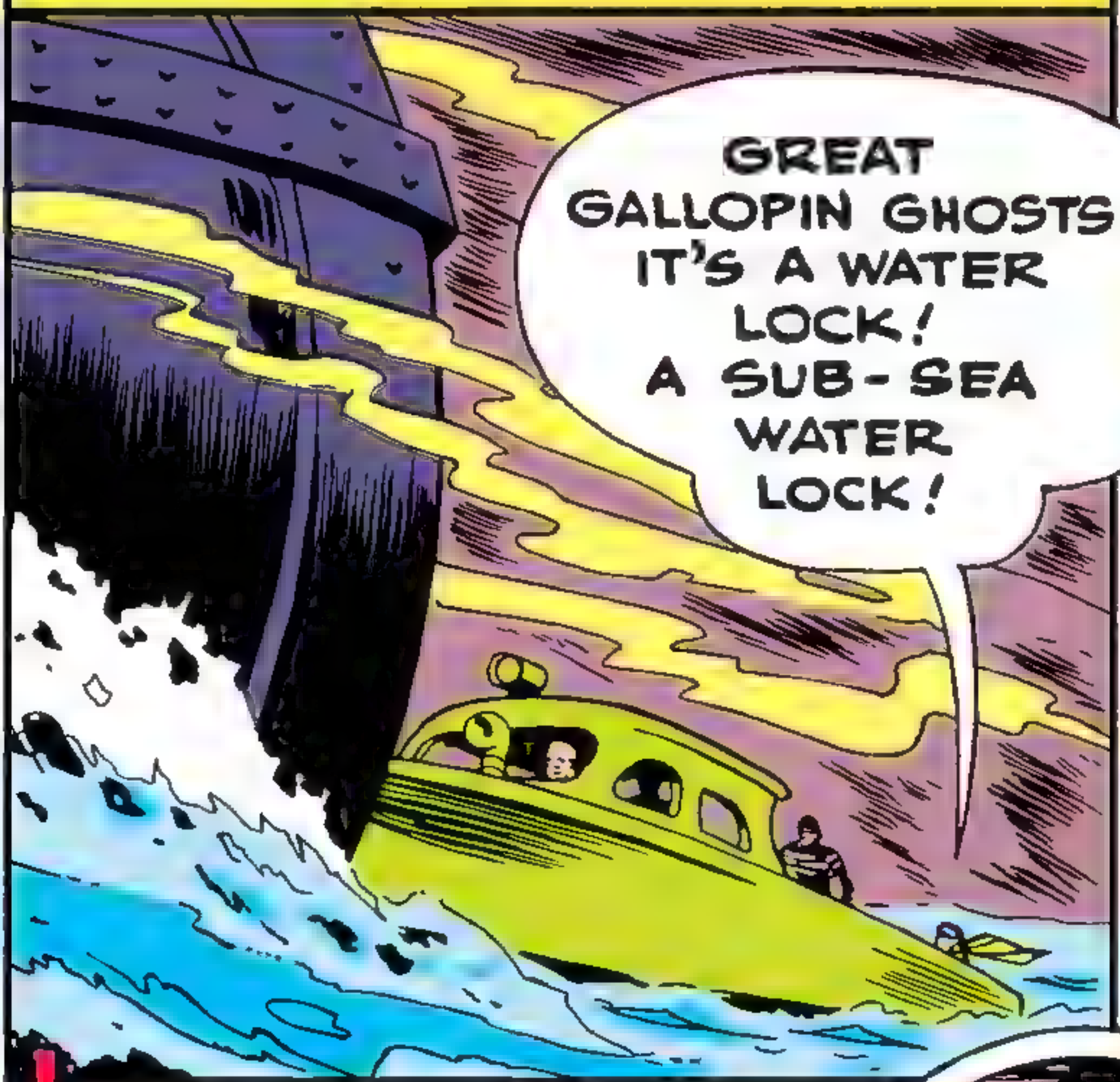


AND AS ROBIN WATCHES, SUDDENLY.... THE SEA SEEMS TO OPEN UP!



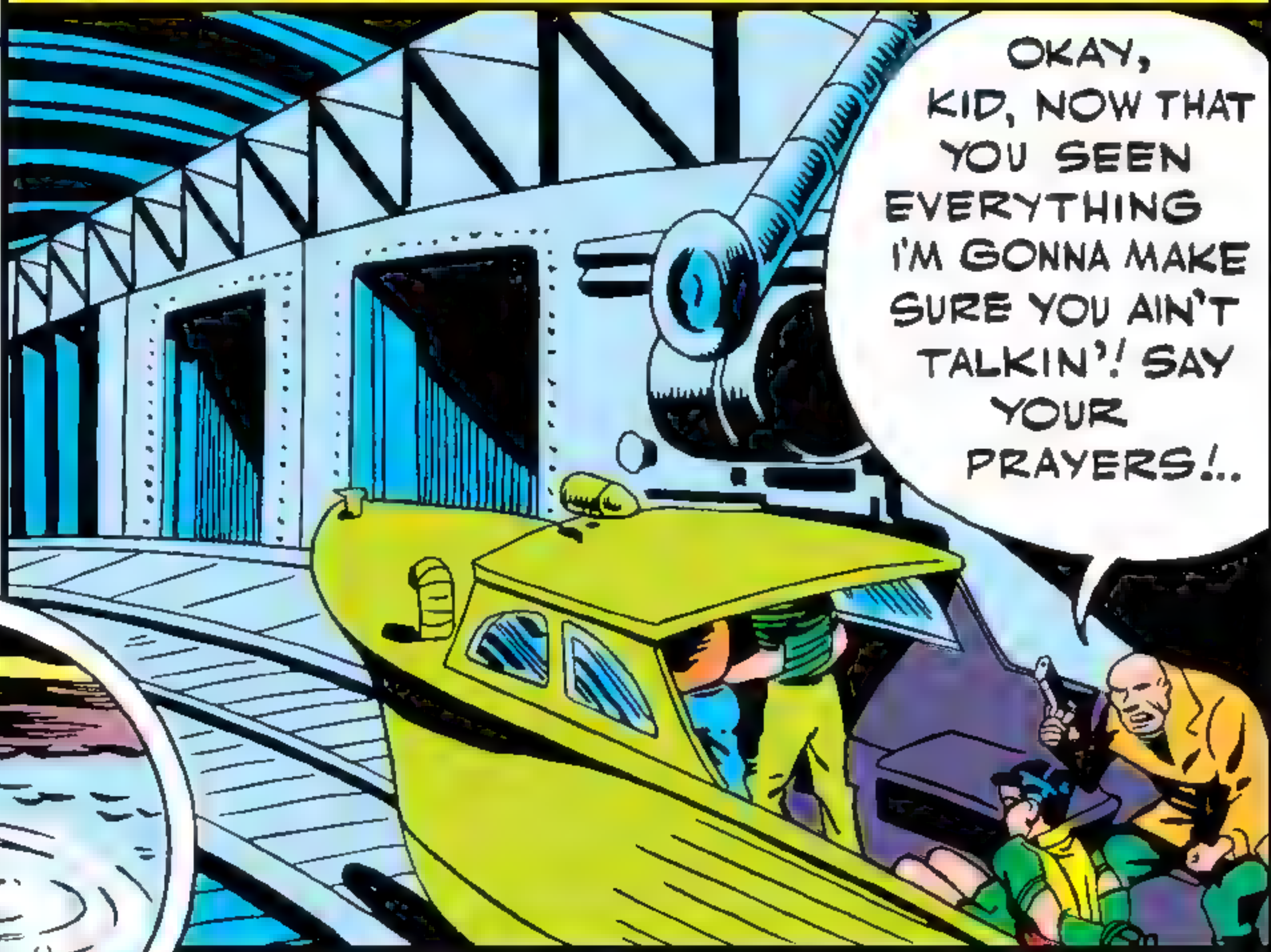
THERE SHE IS, BOYS!

UNDER THE COVER OF THE FOG, THE LAUNCH ENTERS THE OPEN HATCH...



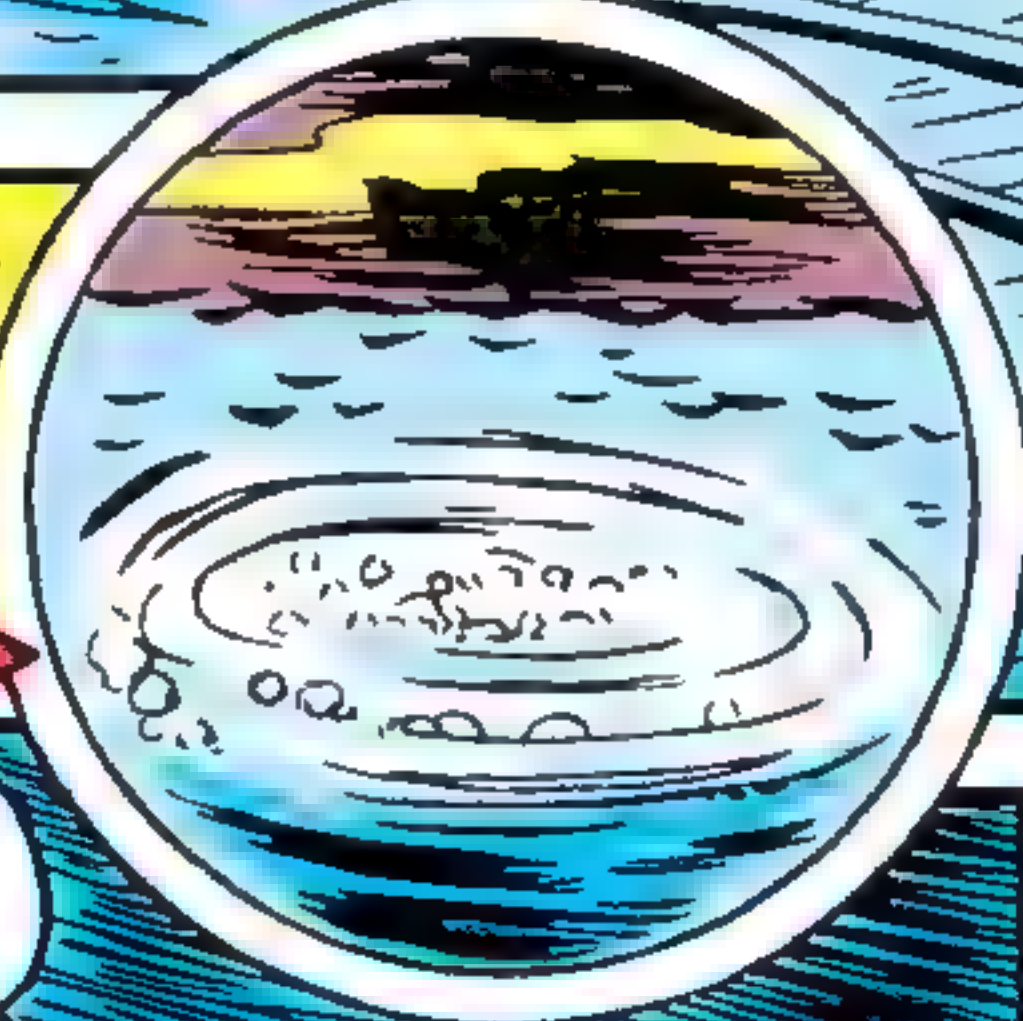
GREAT GALLOPIN GHOSTS! IT'S A WATER LOCK! A SUB-SEA WATER LOCK!

THIS IS THE PIRATE SECRET! A HIDEAWAY UNDER THE SEA!



OKAY, KID, NOW THAT YOU SEEN EVERYTHING I'M GONNA MAKE SURE YOU AIN'T TALKIN'! SAY YOUR PRAYERS!..

...THE HATCH DOORS CLOSE... THE LOCK SUBMERGES... AND THE SILENT WATERS CLOSE OVER IT...

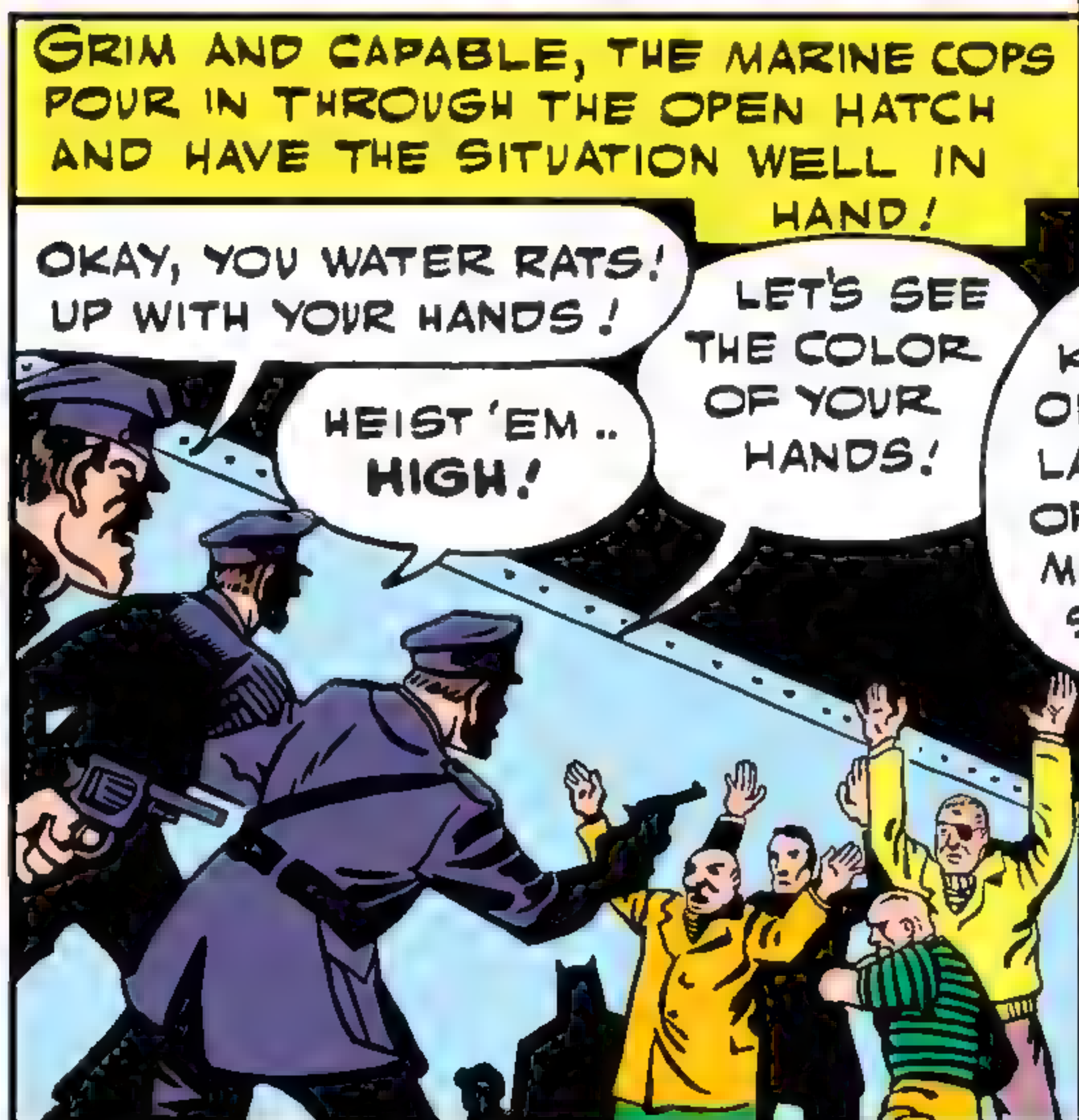
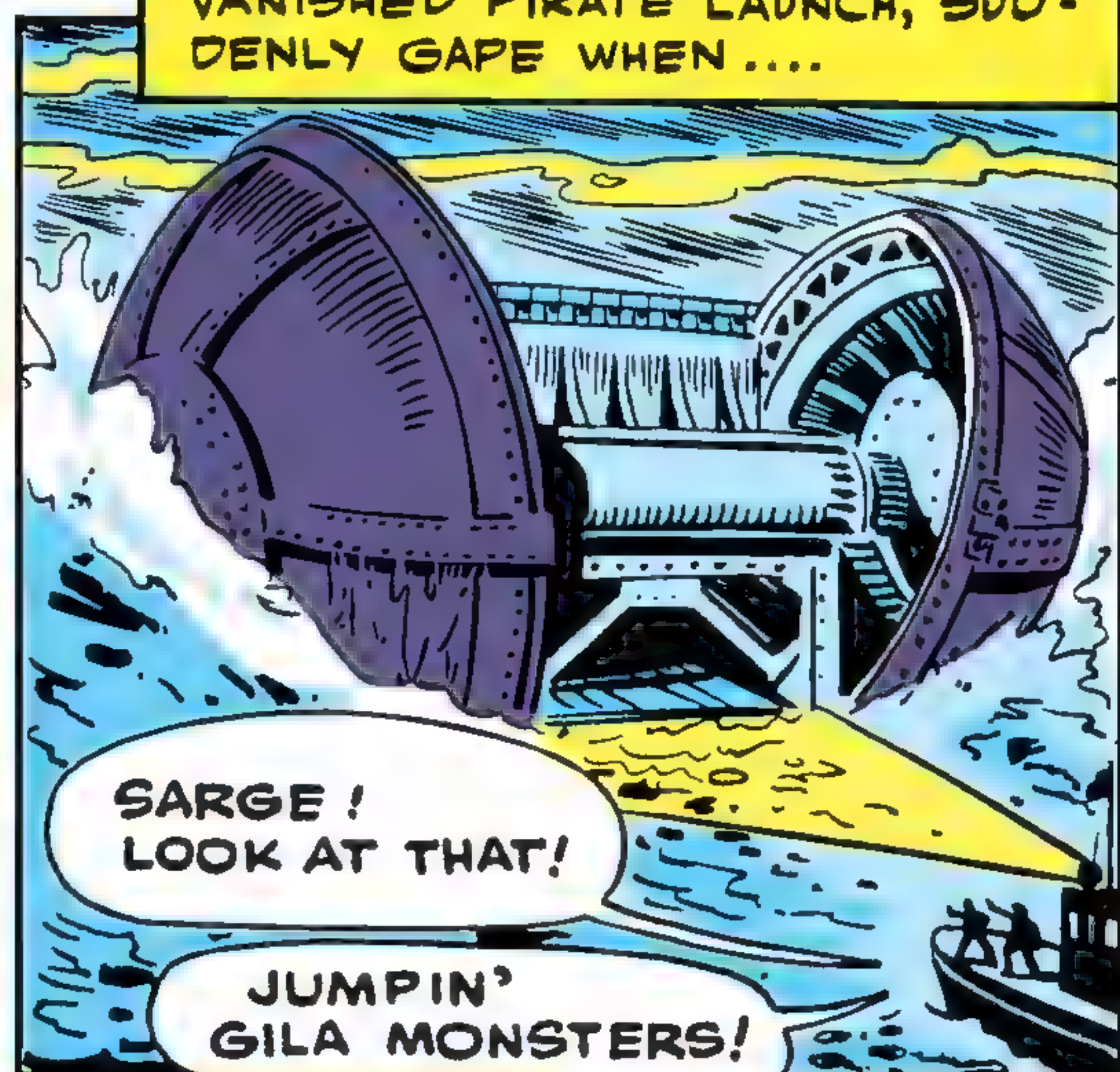
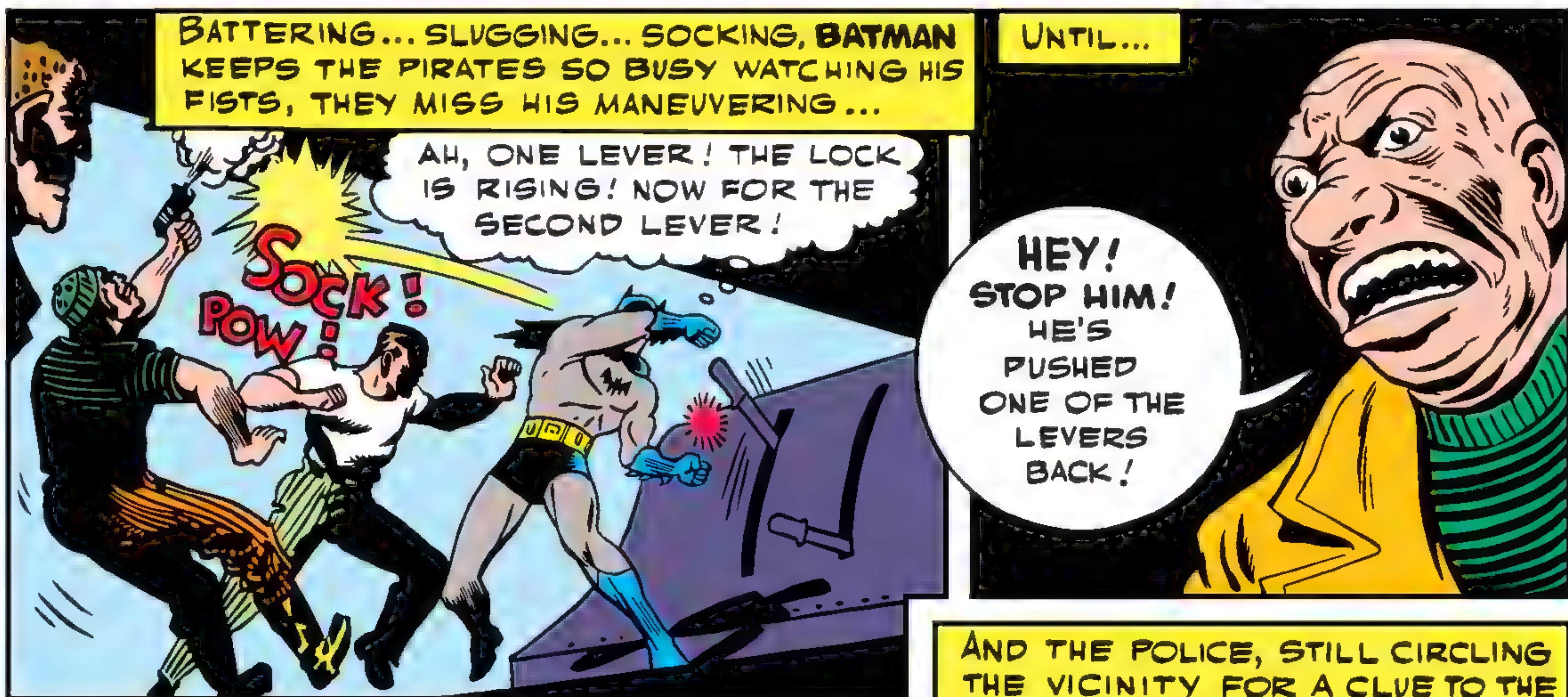



HI, ROBIN! PRAYING I MIGHT SHOW UP?

BATMAN! ALIVE!



THOSE LEVERS OPERATE THIS LOCK! IF I CAN KEEP THESE MUGGS BUSY, I COULD SEND THE LOCK UP AND OPEN THE HATCH SO THE POLICE CAN ENTER!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

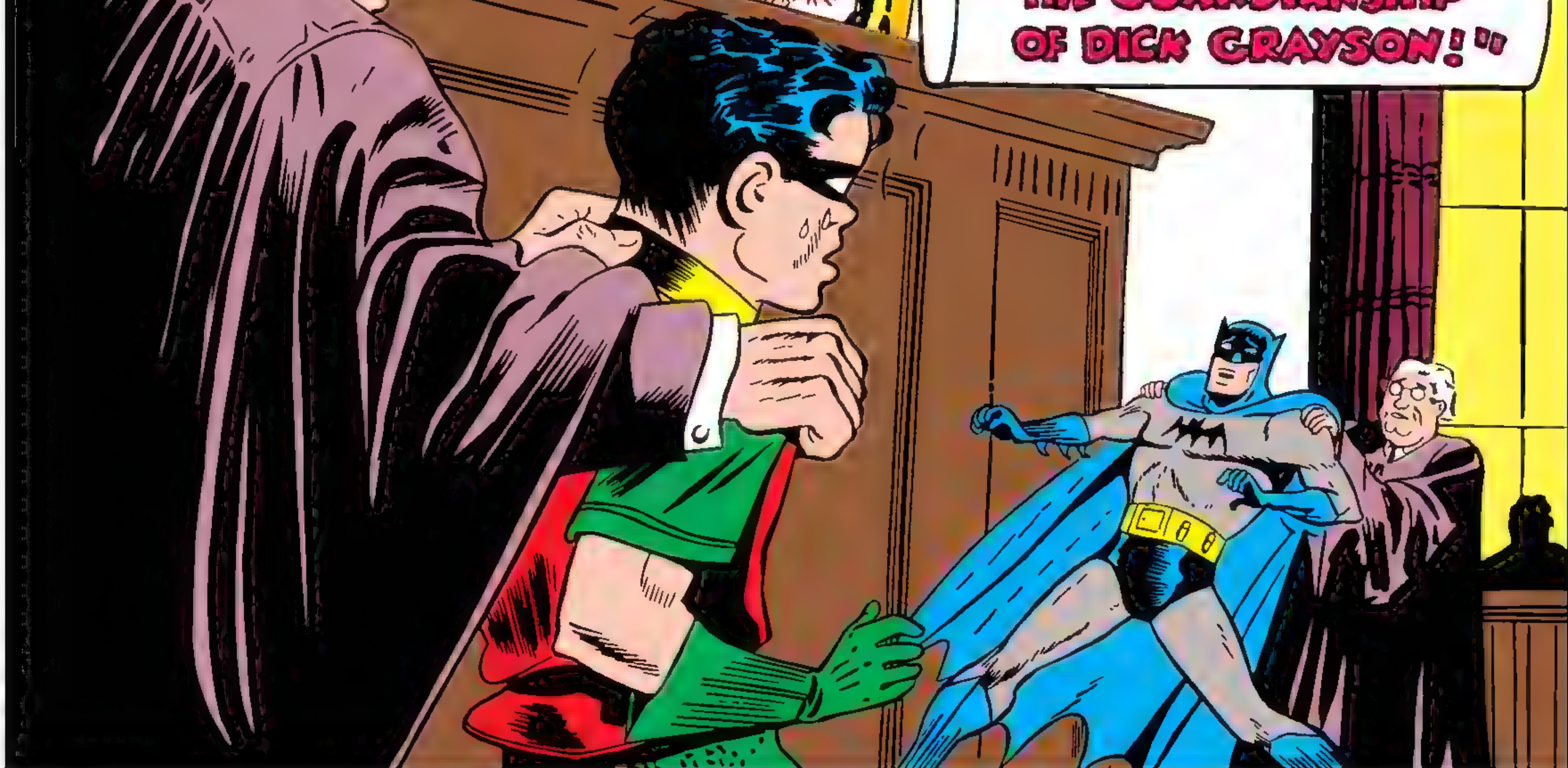
BOB
KANE

CAN YOU REMEMBER WHEN BATMAN FIRST TOOK IN CHARGE A YOUNG BOY NAMED **DICK GRAYSON**... WHOSE PARENTS, THE FLYING GRAYSONS OF CIRCUS FAME, HAD DIED IN A TRAGIC FALL FROM THEIR TRAPEZE?

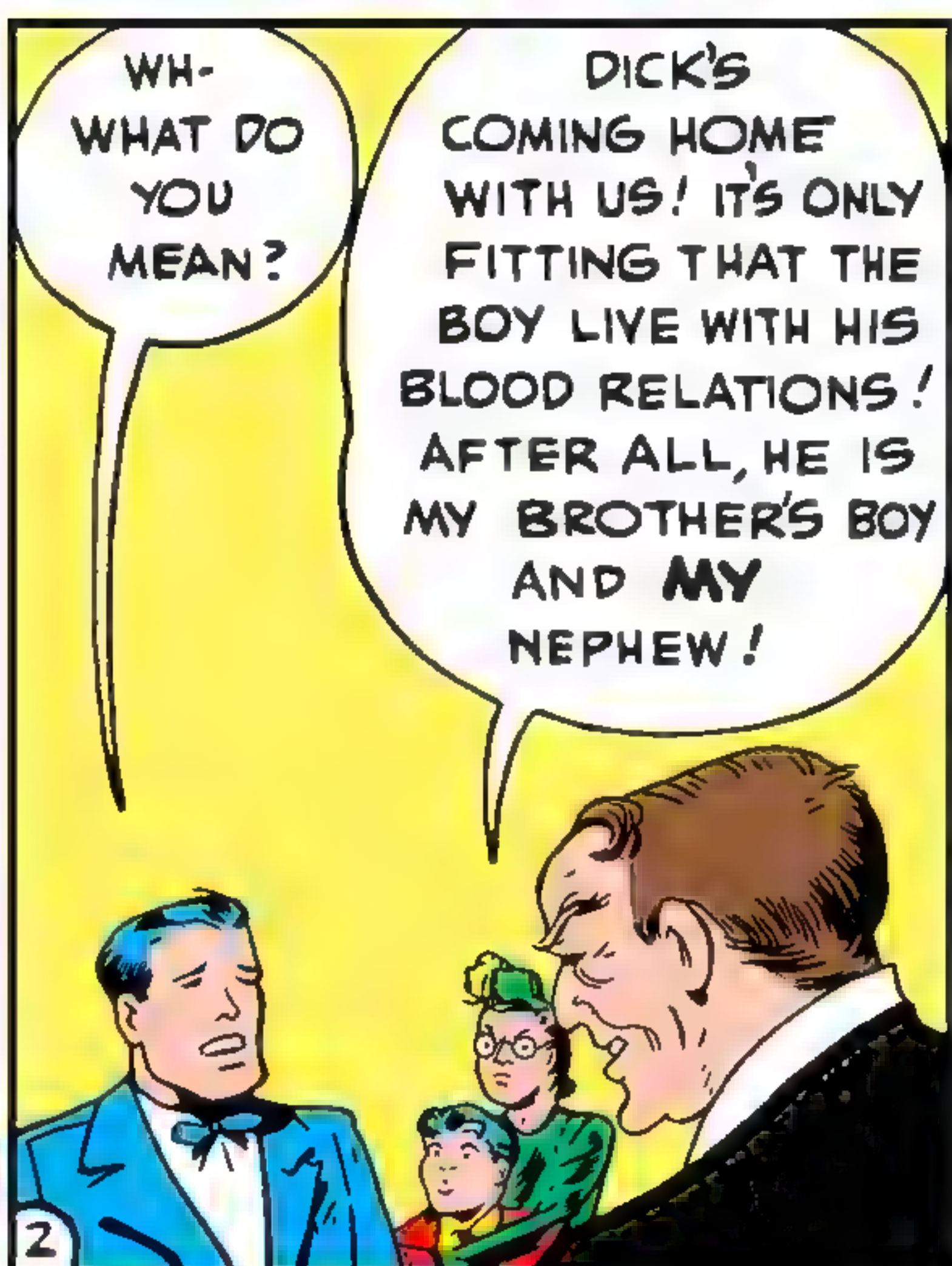
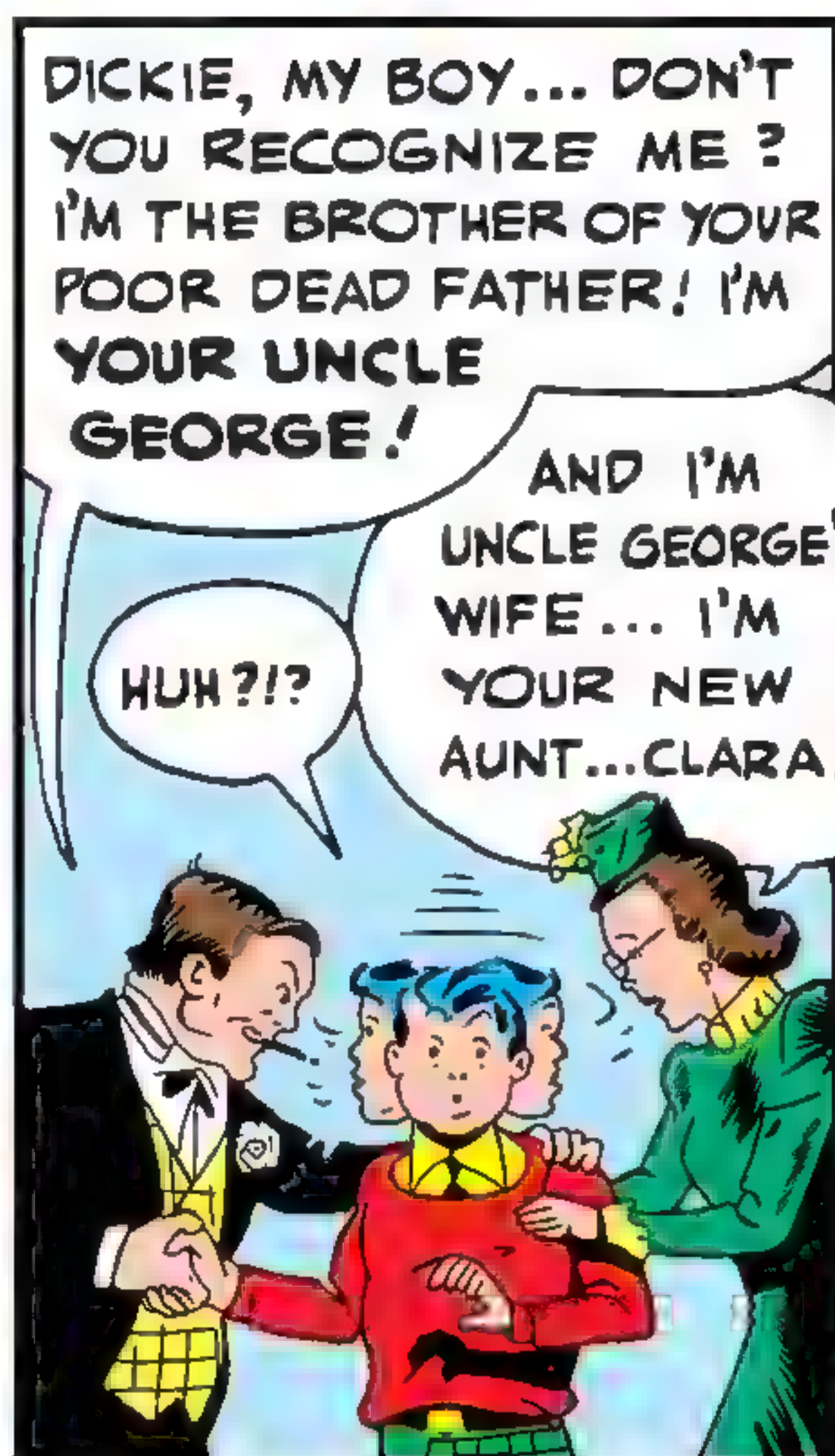
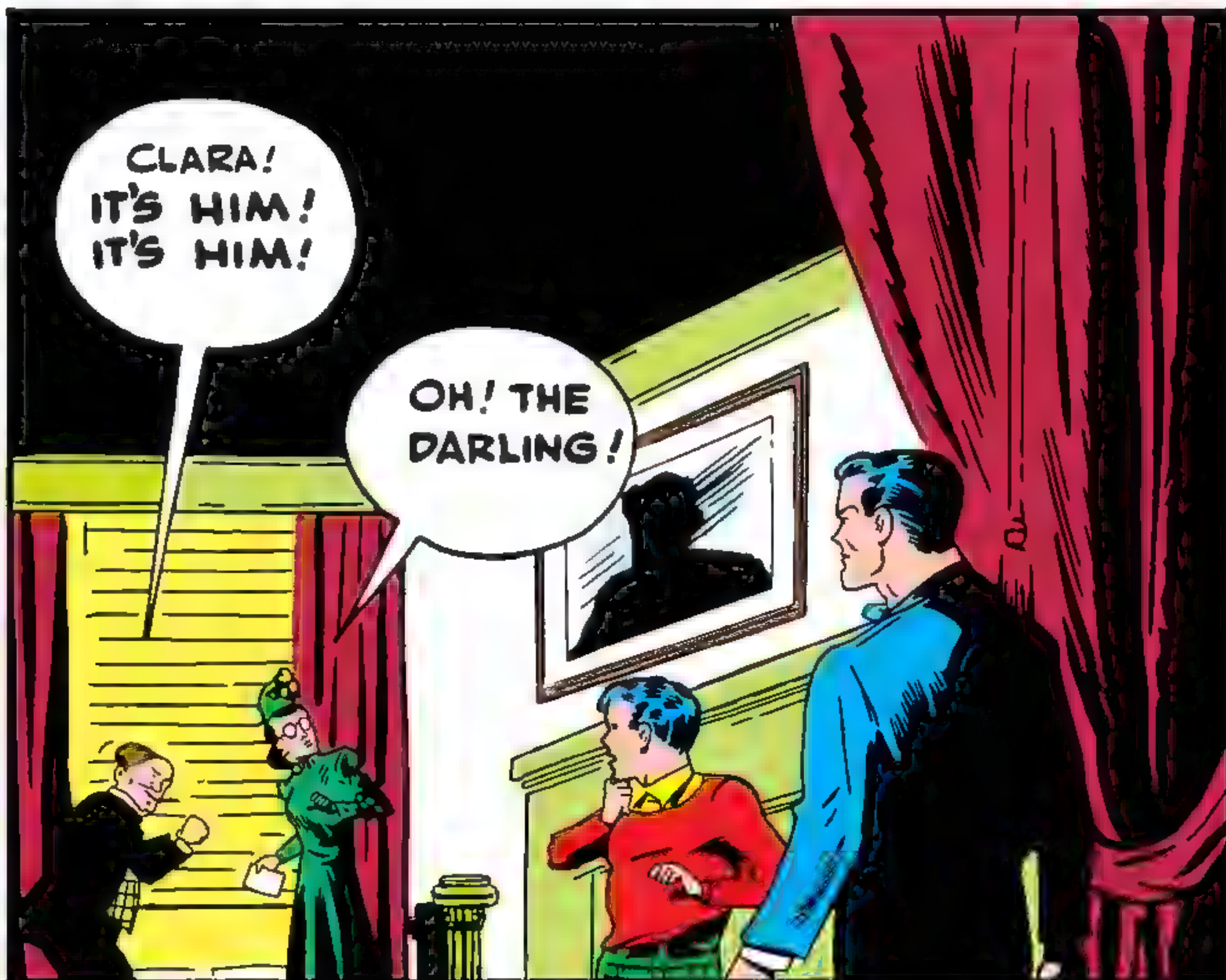
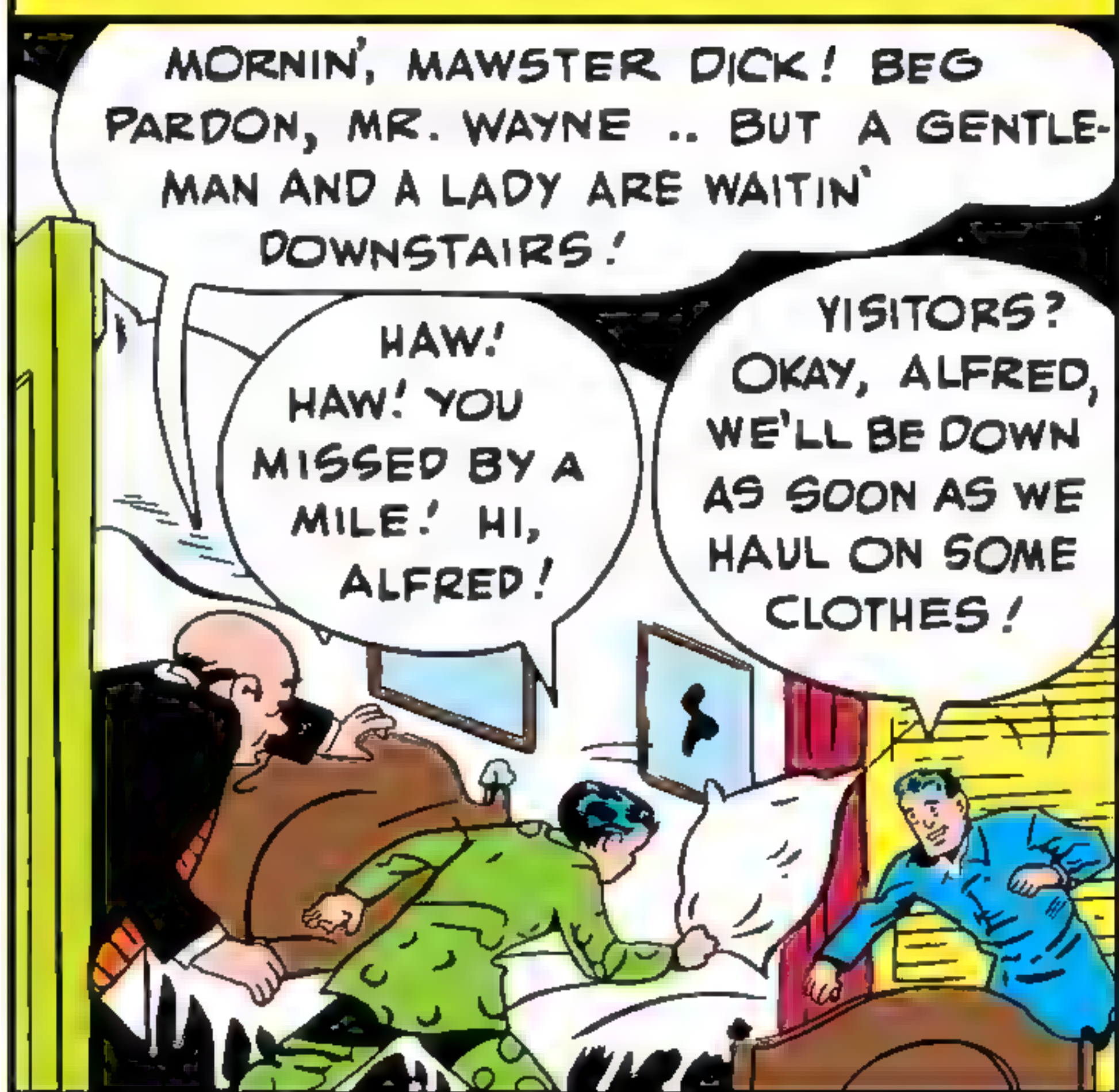
SINCE THAT DAY, THE MUTUAL AFFECTION BETWEEN THIS MAN AND BOY HAS BEEN AS STRONG AS THAT BETWEEN FATHER AND SON!

BUT NOW THAT COMRADESHIP IS FINISHED.. FOR IT IS OUR UNPLEASANT DUTY TO RELATE THAT..

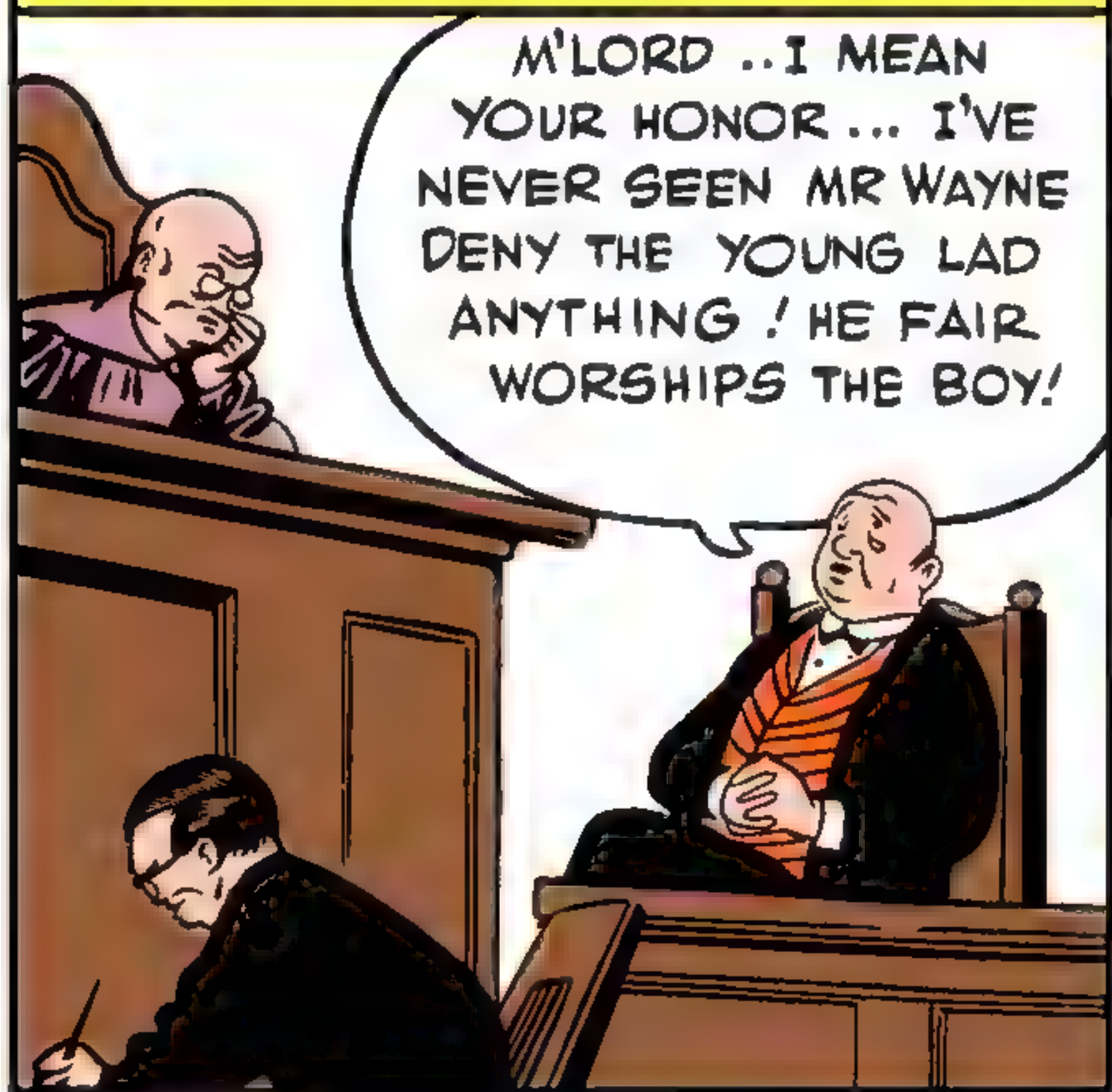
"BRUCE WAYNE LOSES THE GUARDIANSHIP OF DICK GRAYSON!"



THE WAYNE HOME IS A HAPPY HOME ,
FOR IN IT LIVES A HAPPY TRIO! ONE DAY...



TRUE TO HIS WORD, UNCLE GEORGE TAKES THE CASE TO COURT. ALFRED IS THE FIRST WITNESS...



M'LORD... I MEAN YOUR HONOR... I'VE NEVER SEEN MR WAYNE DENY THE YOUNG LAD ANYTHING! HE FAIR WORSHIPS THE BOY!

IN A STRAINED VOICE, BRUCE ADDS HIS TESTIMONY...



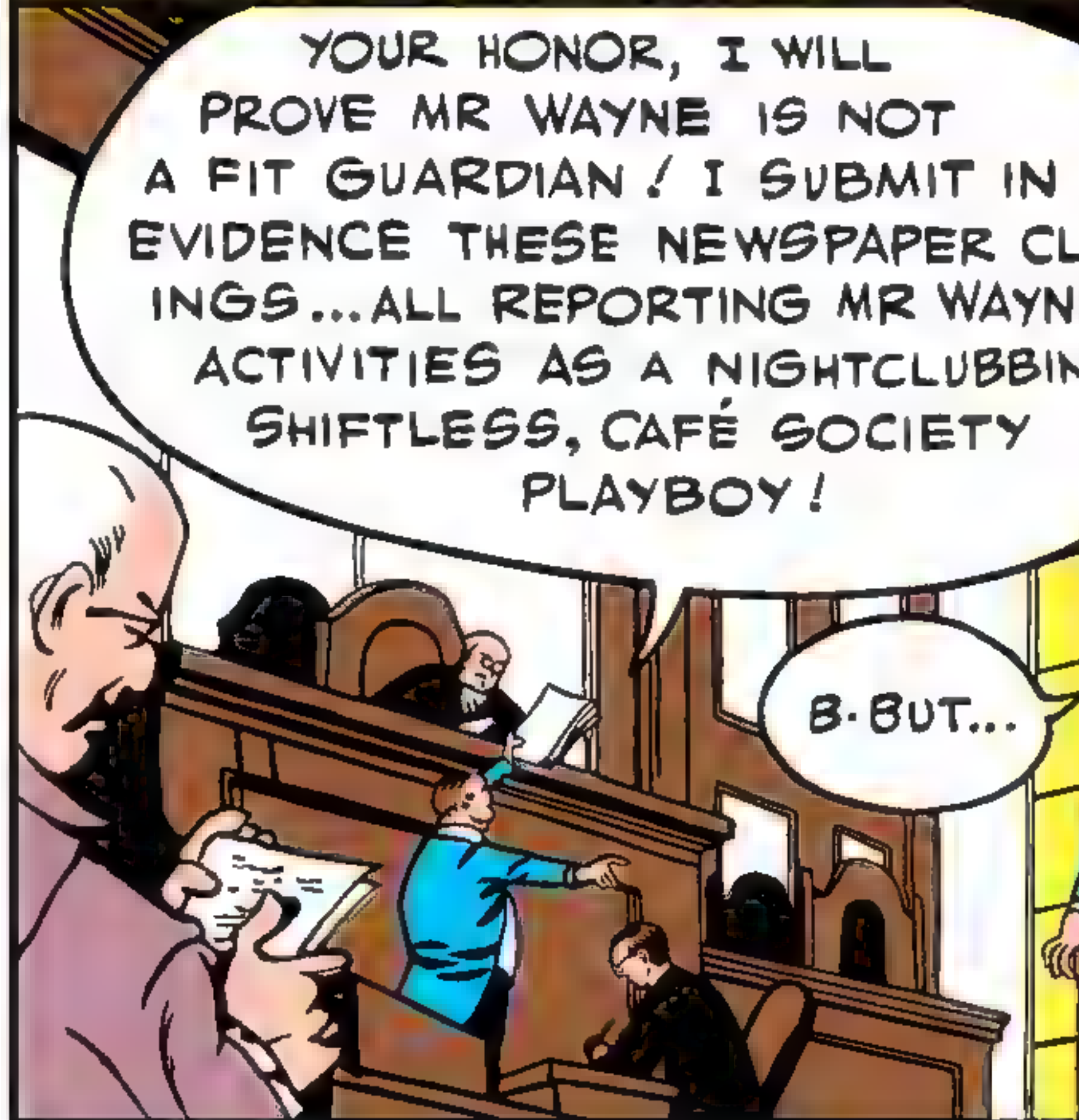
DICK IS LIKE MY OWN SON! I'VE EVEN CHANGED MY WILL SO THAT IN CASE OF MY DEATH, DICK WILL GET MY ENTIRE FORTUNE! YOUR HONOR, I... I LOVE THAT BOY! PLEASE DON'T TAKE HIM FROM ME!

DICK IS CALLED...



AND WHEN MOM AND POP DIED IN THE CIRCUS, I WAS ALL ALONE! THEN BRUCE.. MR. WAYNE TOOK ME IN! A FELLA COULDN'T WANT A BETTER FRIEND!

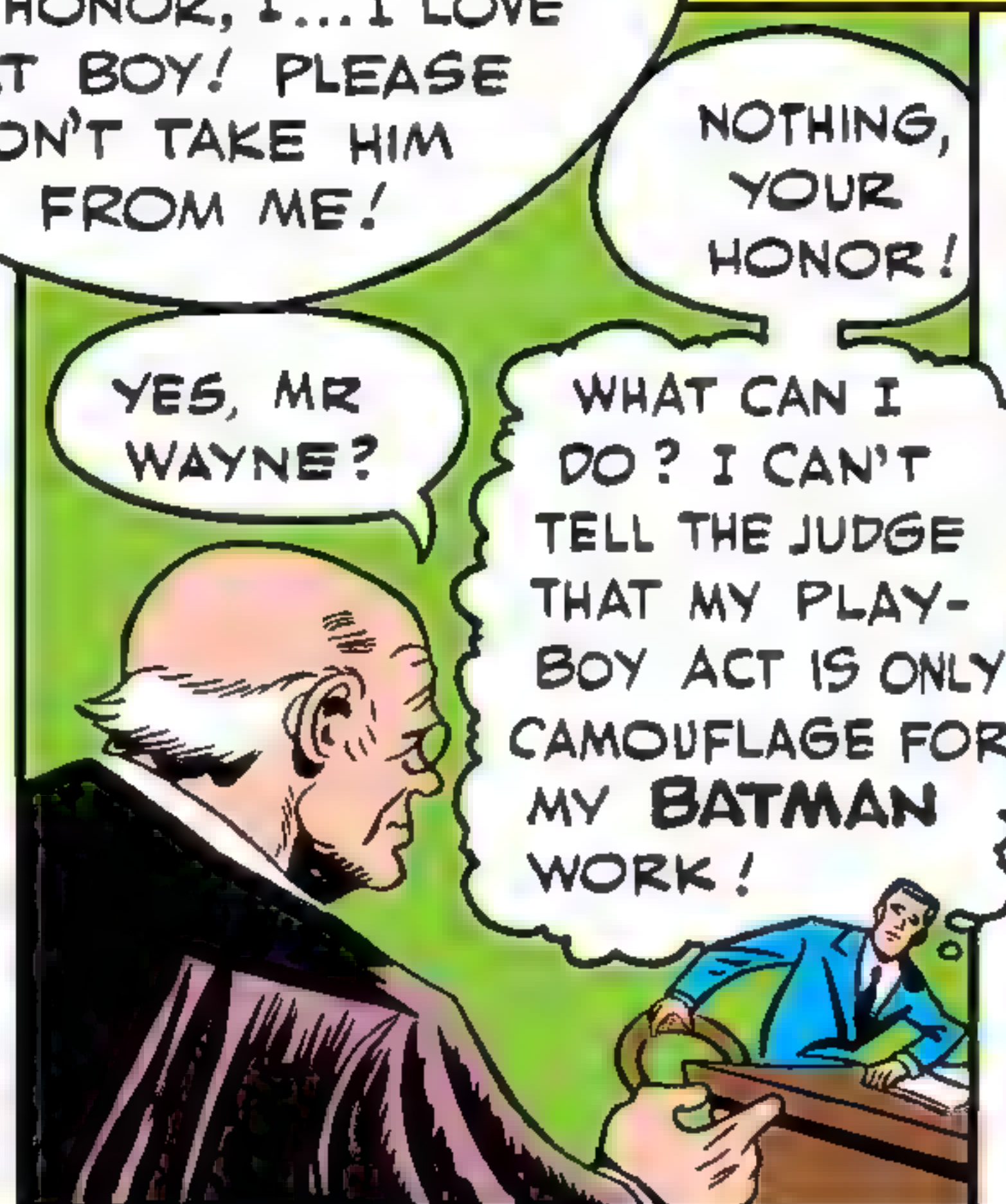
THEN UNCLE GEORGE'S LAWYER PRESENTS HIS CASE...



YOUR HONOR, I WILL PROVE MR WAYNE IS NOT A FIT GUARDIAN! I SUBMIT IN EVIDENCE THESE NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS... ALL REPORTING MR WAYNE'S ACTIVITIES AS A NIGHTCLUBBING, SHIFTLESS, CAFÉ SOCIETY PLAYBOY!

B. BUT...

UNCLE GEORGE TAKES THE STAND!



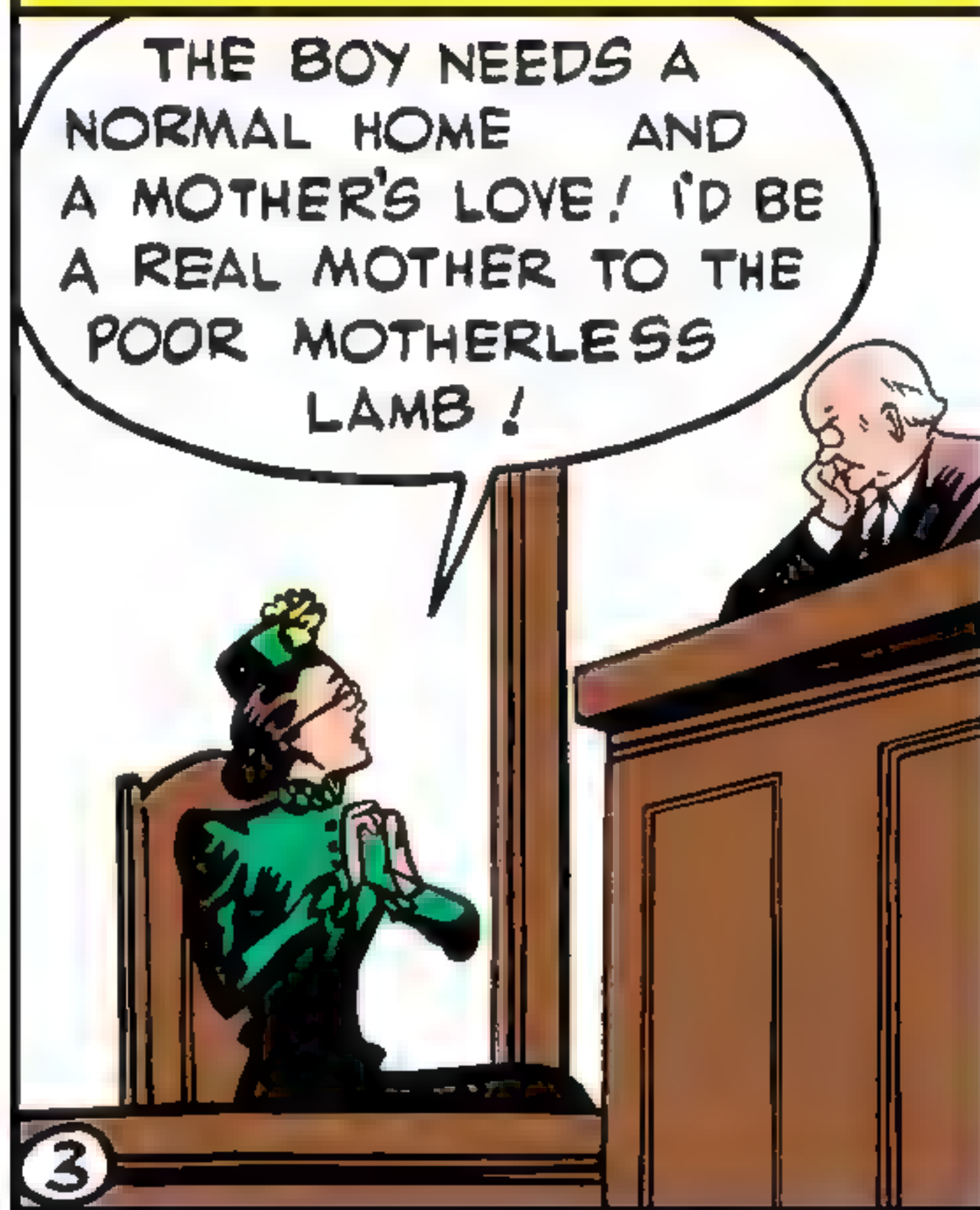
YES, MR WAYNE?

WHAT CAN I DO? I CAN'T TELL THE JUDGE THAT MY PLAYBOY ACT IS ONLY CAMOUFLAGE FOR MY BATMAN WORK!

NOTHING, YOUR HONOR!

YES... MY POOR BROTHER OFTEN SAID TO ME, "GEORGE, IF I GO, I WANT YOU TO LOOK AFTER DICK." THOSE WERE HIS VERY WORDS!

FINALLY, AUNT CLARA IS CALLED...



THE BOY NEEDS A NORMAL HOME AND A MOTHER'S LOVE! I'D BE A REAL MOTHER TO THE POOR MOTHERLESS LAMB!

AFTER MUCH DELIBERATION, THE JUDGE DELIVERS HIS VERDICT!



UPON EXAMINING THE EVIDENCE, THE COURT FEELS BOUND TO AWARD CUSTODY OF DICK GRAYSON TO HIS UNCLE, GEORGE GRAYSON! COURT IS DISMISSED!

NEXT MORNING, A SUITCASE IS PACKED IN THE WAYNE HOME...

I GUESS THE BATMAN WILL BE WORKING ALONE NOW... BUT I'D SORTA LIKE TO TAKE THIS ALONG FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE!



BRUCE... I'D LIKE TO TAKE ONE LAST LOOK AROUND THE PLACE...

SURE... SURE...



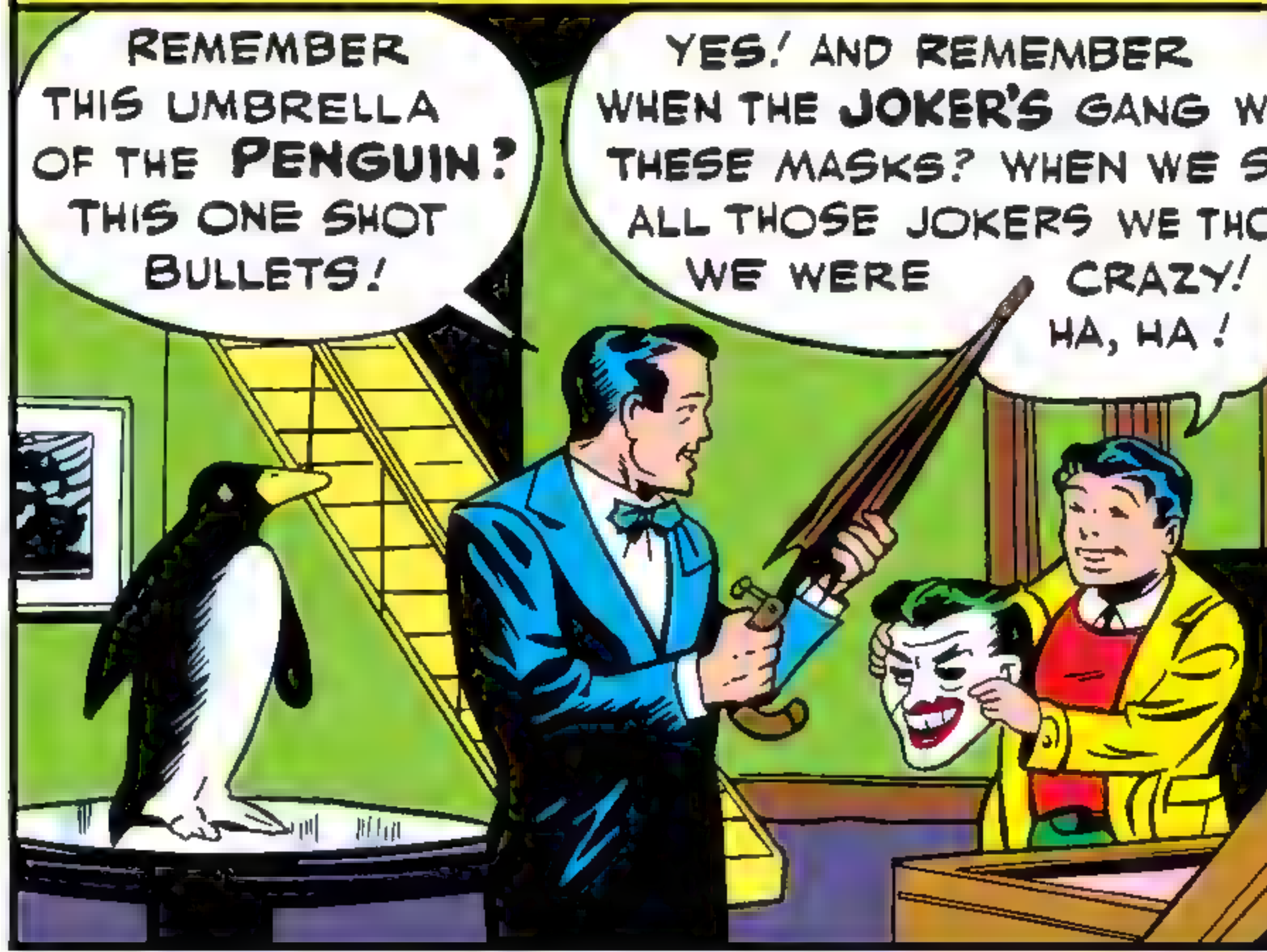
BRAVELY, HIS EYES ALMOST BLINDED BY TEARS, DICK STANDS IN THE GARAGE HOUSING THE BATMOBILES AND BAT-PLANES...



Y-YOU BETTER C-CHECK THE MOTOR! IT... IT DIDN'T SOUND T-TOO GOOD YES-TERDAY (SNIFF-SNIFF)!

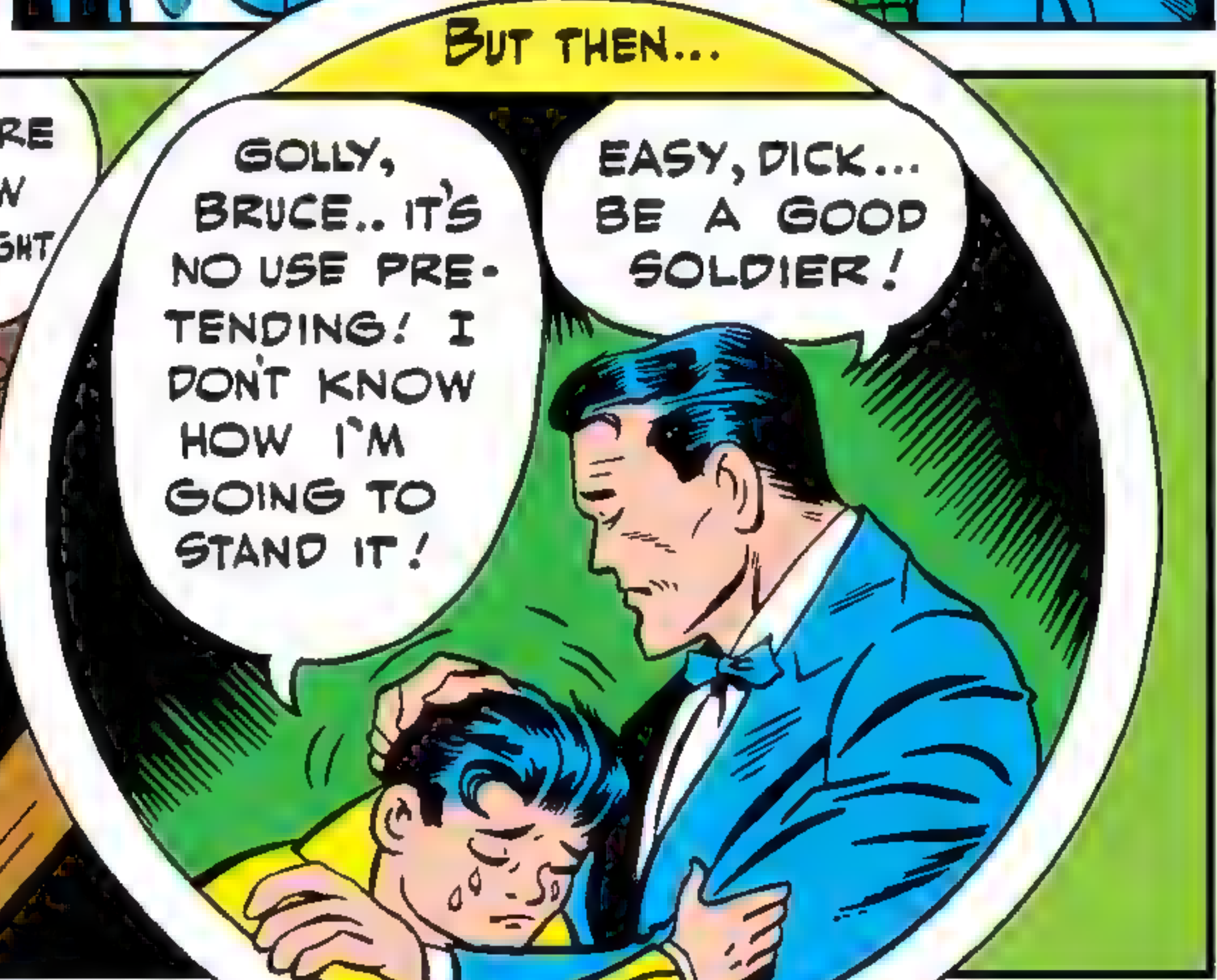
I... I'LL DO IT T-TOMORROW!

FOR A MOMENT, IN THE VAST TROPHY ROOM, THE TWO FORGET THE PRESENT AS THEY REMEMBER THE PAST...



REMEMBER THIS UMBRELLA OF THE PENGUIN? THIS ONE SHOT BULLETS!

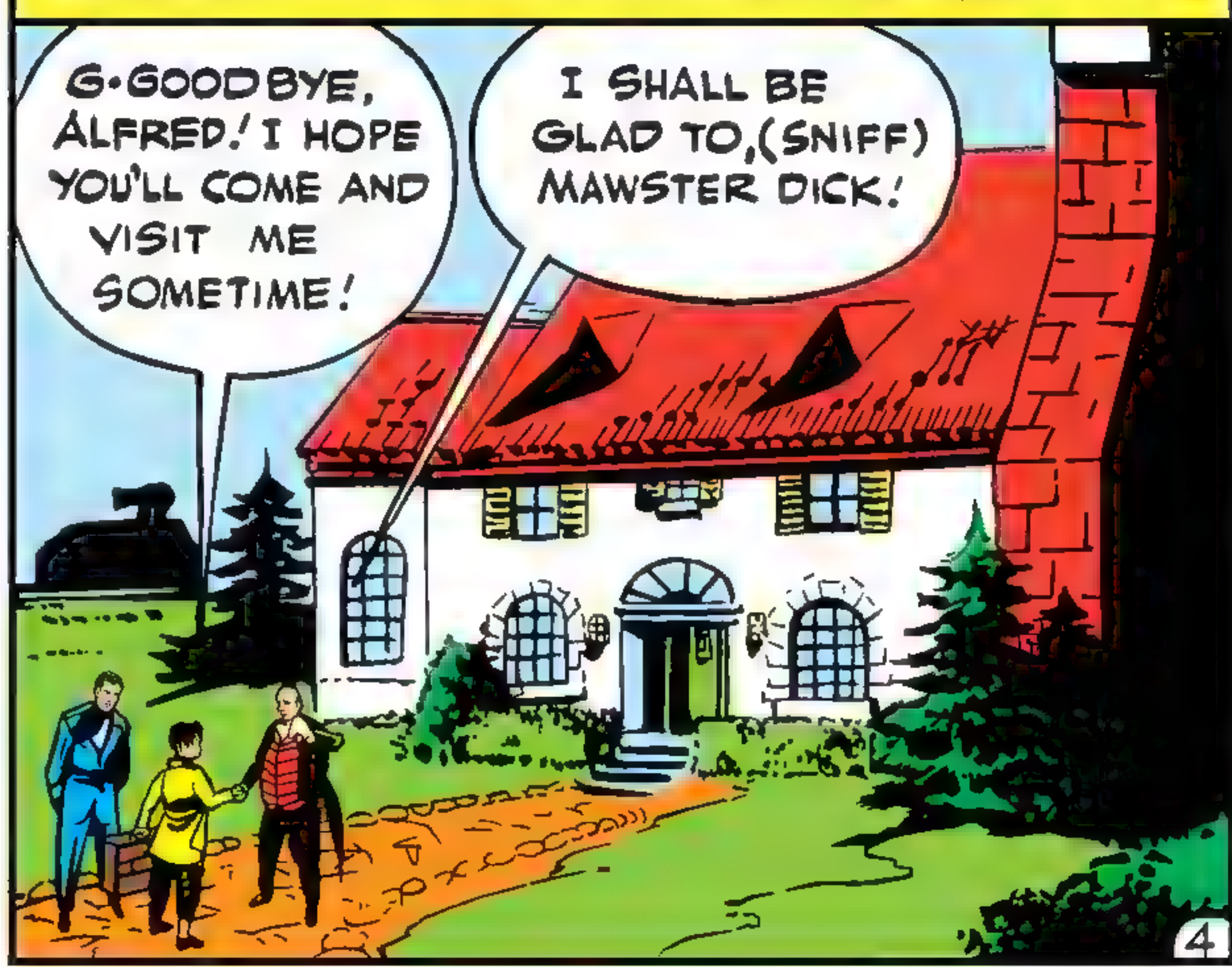
YES! AND REMEMBER WHEN THE JOKER'S GANG WORE THESE MASKS? WHEN WE SAW ALL THOSE JOKERS WE THOUGHT WE WERE CRAZY! HA, HA!



GOLLY, BRUCE.. IT'S NO USE PRE-TENDING! I DON'T KNOW HOW I'M GOING TO STAND IT!

EASY, DICK... BE A GOOD SOLDIER!

AND SOON IT IS TIME FOR GOODBYES!

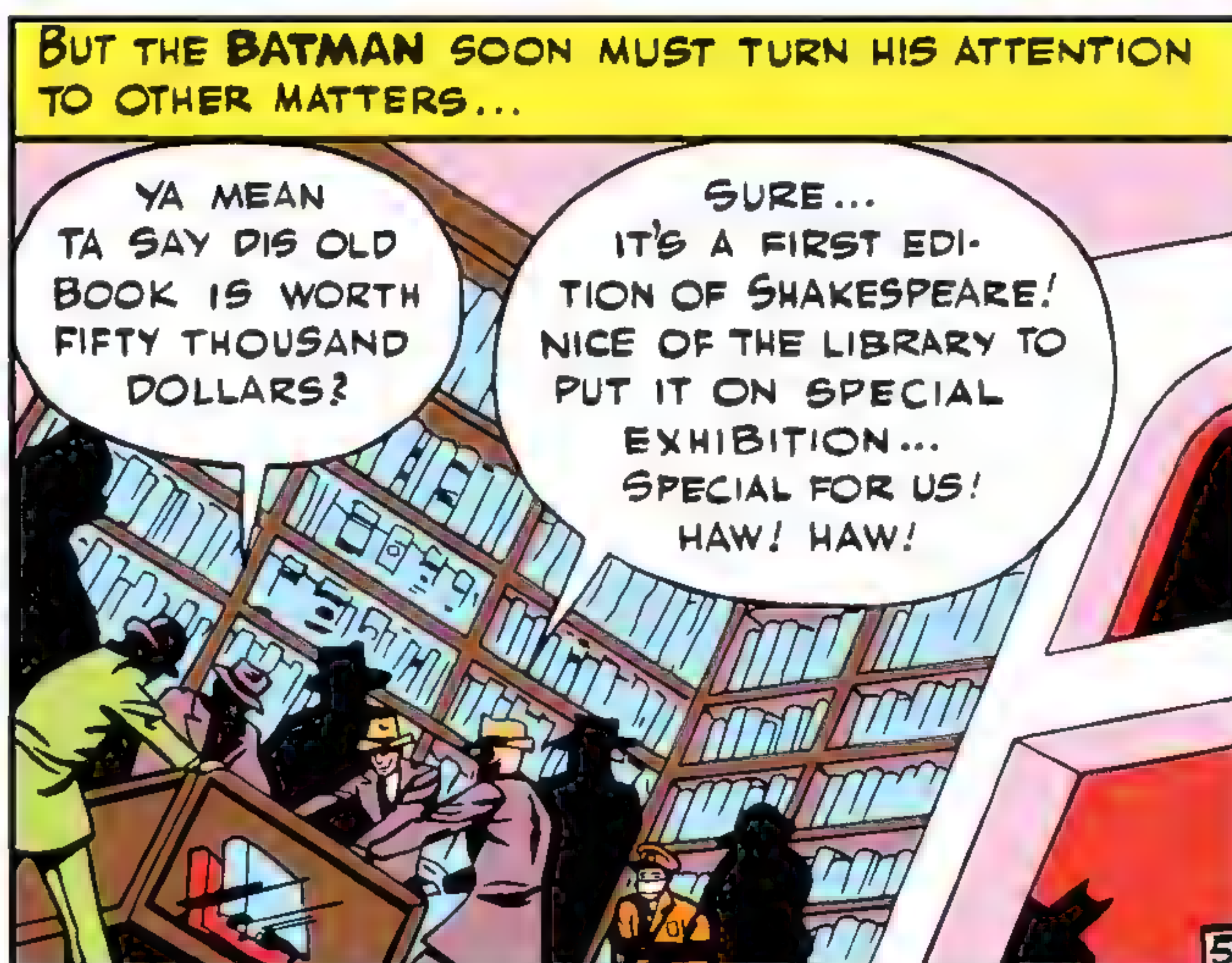
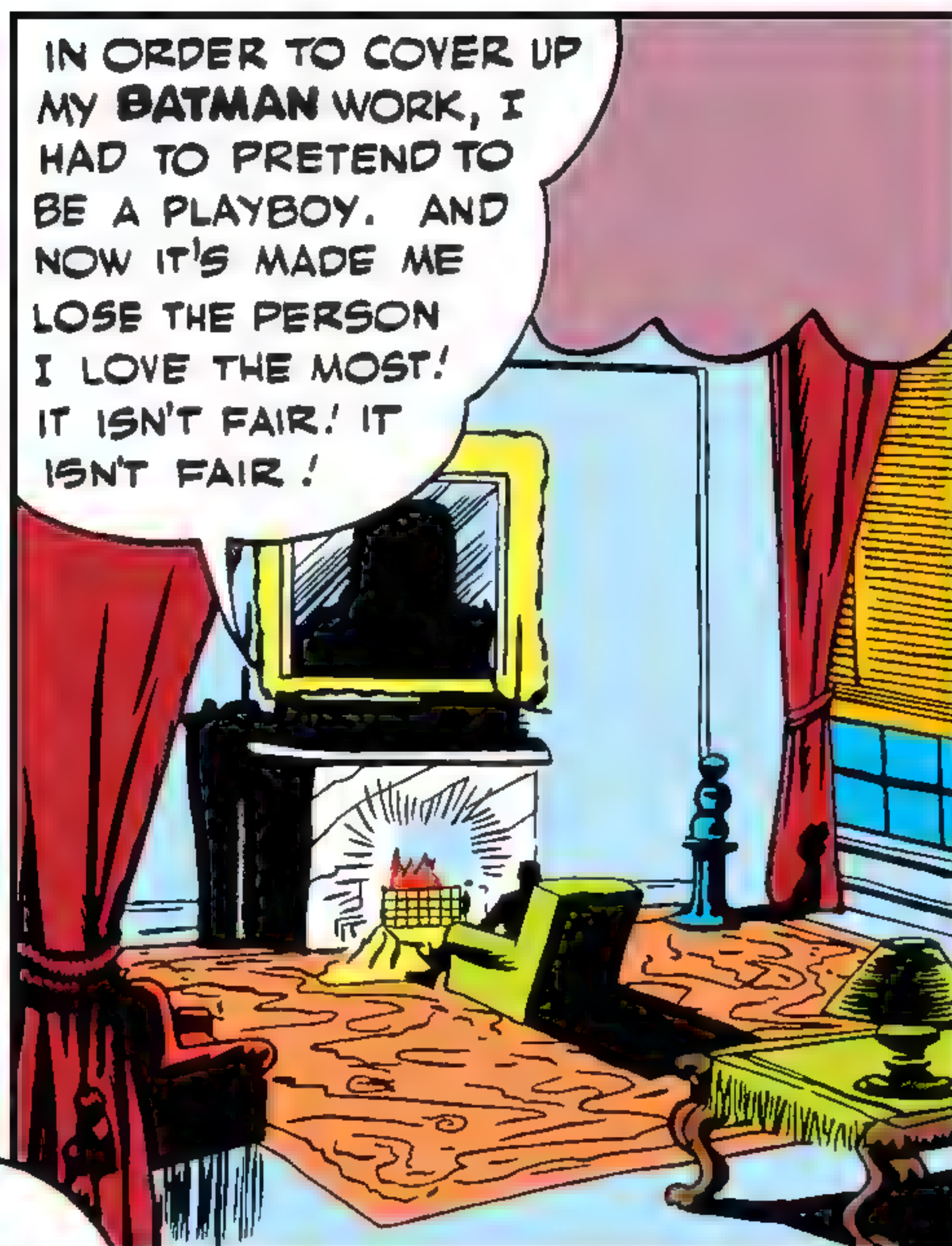


G-GOODBYE, ALFRED! I HOPE YOU'LL COME AND VISIT ME SOMETIME!

I SHALL BE GLAD TO, (SNIFF) MAWSTER DICK!



GOODBYE, KID. GOODBYE...



TONIGHT THERE ARE NO MERRY QUIPS ON THE BATMAN'S LIPS, FOR HE FIGHTS SILENTLY, WITHOUT THE JOY OF BATTLE!



AND IT IS SOON APPARENT HE FIGHTS WITHOUT INTEREST OR PURPOSE AS WELL! HIS PUNCHES ARE WIDE... HIS TIMING IS ALL OFF -- AND 45-CALIBER DANGER MENACES HIM!



THEN SEEMINGLY TO COME FROM NOWHERE, A COLORFUL FIGURE RIDES FULL-TILT INTO THE DANGER PATH!



REUNITED WITH ROBIN, BATMAN IS HIS OLD SELF AGAIN!



NOT LONG AFTER... IN THE HEADQUARTERS OF FATSO FOLEY, RACKETEER HEAD...

FLASH!
BATMAN AND ROBIN DECLARED WAR ON FATSO FOLEY THIS EVENING WHEN THEY NABBED FOUR OF HIS HENCHMEN IN THE MIDST OF A ROBBERY...

BATMAN AND ROBIN AGAIN! BLAST THEM! I'D GIVE MY RIGHT ARM TO BREAK UP THAT COMBINATION!

KEEP YOUR RIGHT ARM, FATSO! THAT FAMOUS, CRIME-BUSTING COMBINATION IS ALREADY BROKEN UP!

WHEN I REMEMBERED OUR LAB WORK ON FATSO'S MOBSTERS, I KNEW YOU'D NEED HELP, SO I SNEAKED OUT!

THANKS, ROBIN, BUT YOU'D BETTER SNEAK BACK IN AGAIN BEFORE UNCLE GEORGE FINDS YOU MISSING! AND ROBIN... DICK STICK THIS OUT... IT WON'T BE FOR LONG... I PROMISE YOU!

OH-OH! FOOTSTEPS! I WON'T HAVE TIME TO CHANGE! BETTER RIP OFF MY MASK AND HOP RIGHT INTO BED!

HE'S SLEEPING!

GOOD! GOOD!

CAN IT BE THAT UNCLE GEORGE AND AUNT CLARA, IN SPITE OF THEIR METHODS, ARE ACTUALLY INTERESTED IN DICKS WELFARE?

BUT... DOWNSTAIRS...

NOW I CAN TAKE THIS UGLY MOP AND GLASSES OFF FOR AWHILE!

AND NOW I'LL GIVE MR. BRUCE WAYNE A RING! HEE! HEE!

LUCKILY, BATMAN ARRIVES HOME JUST IN TIME TO RECEIVE THE CALL...

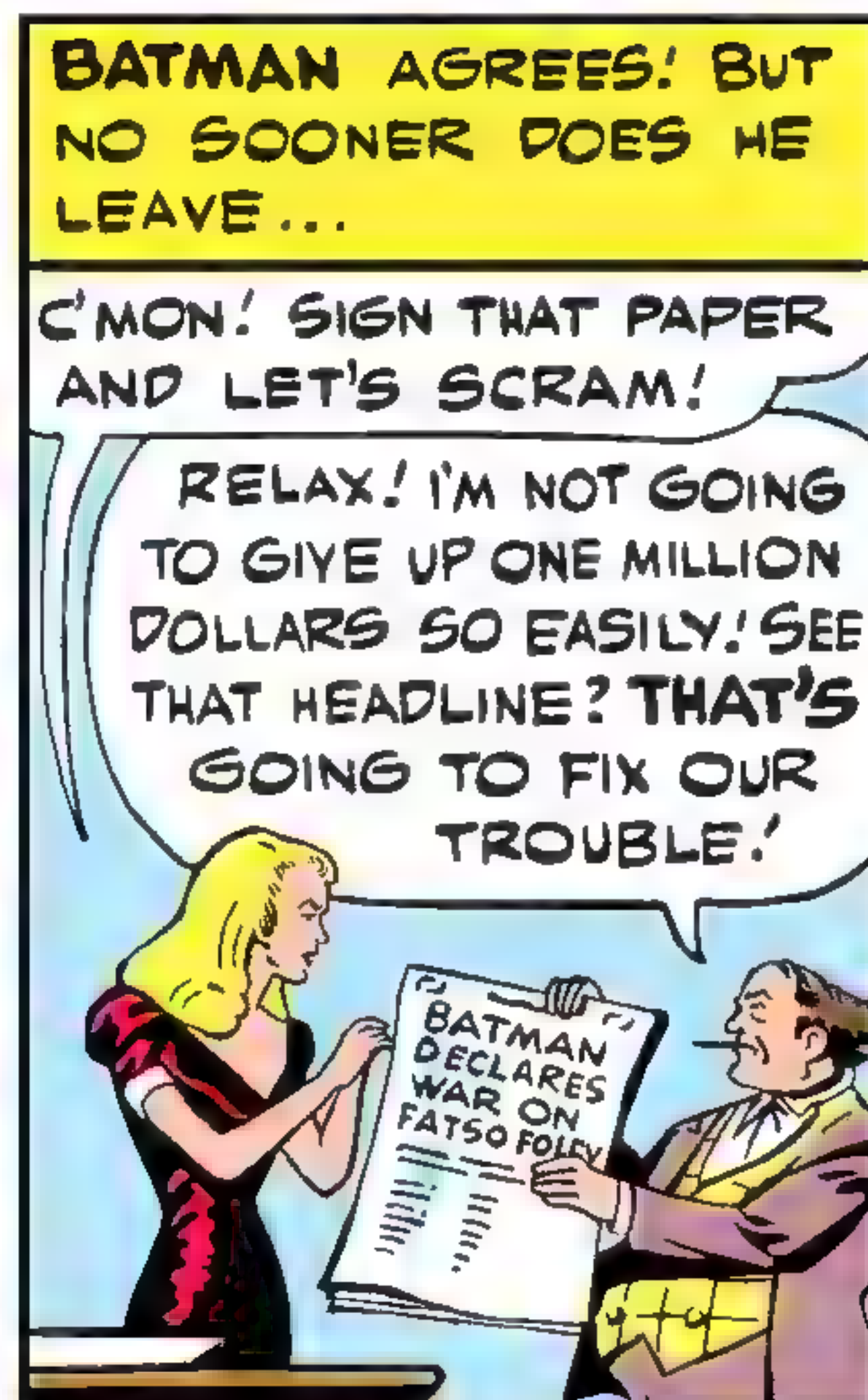
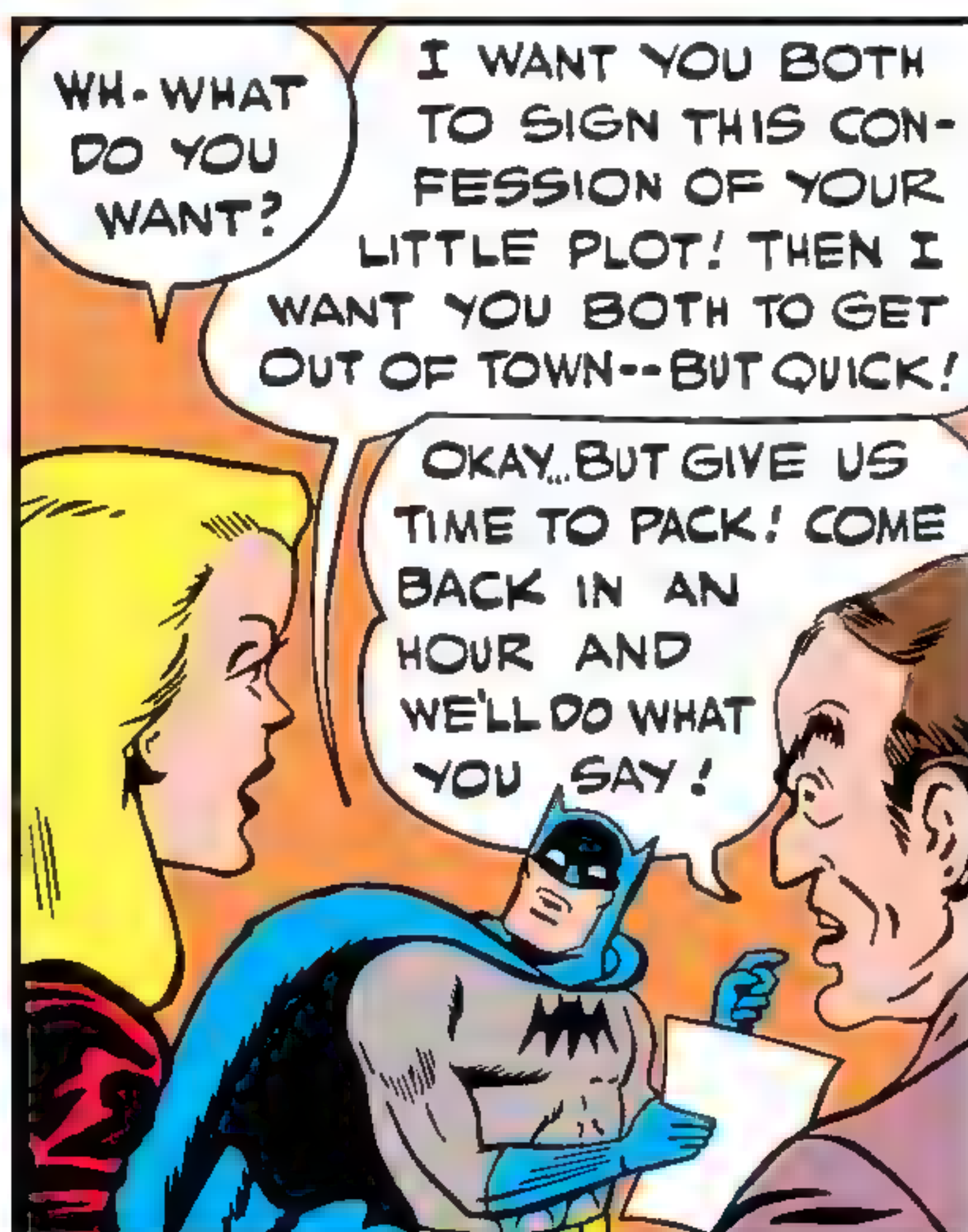
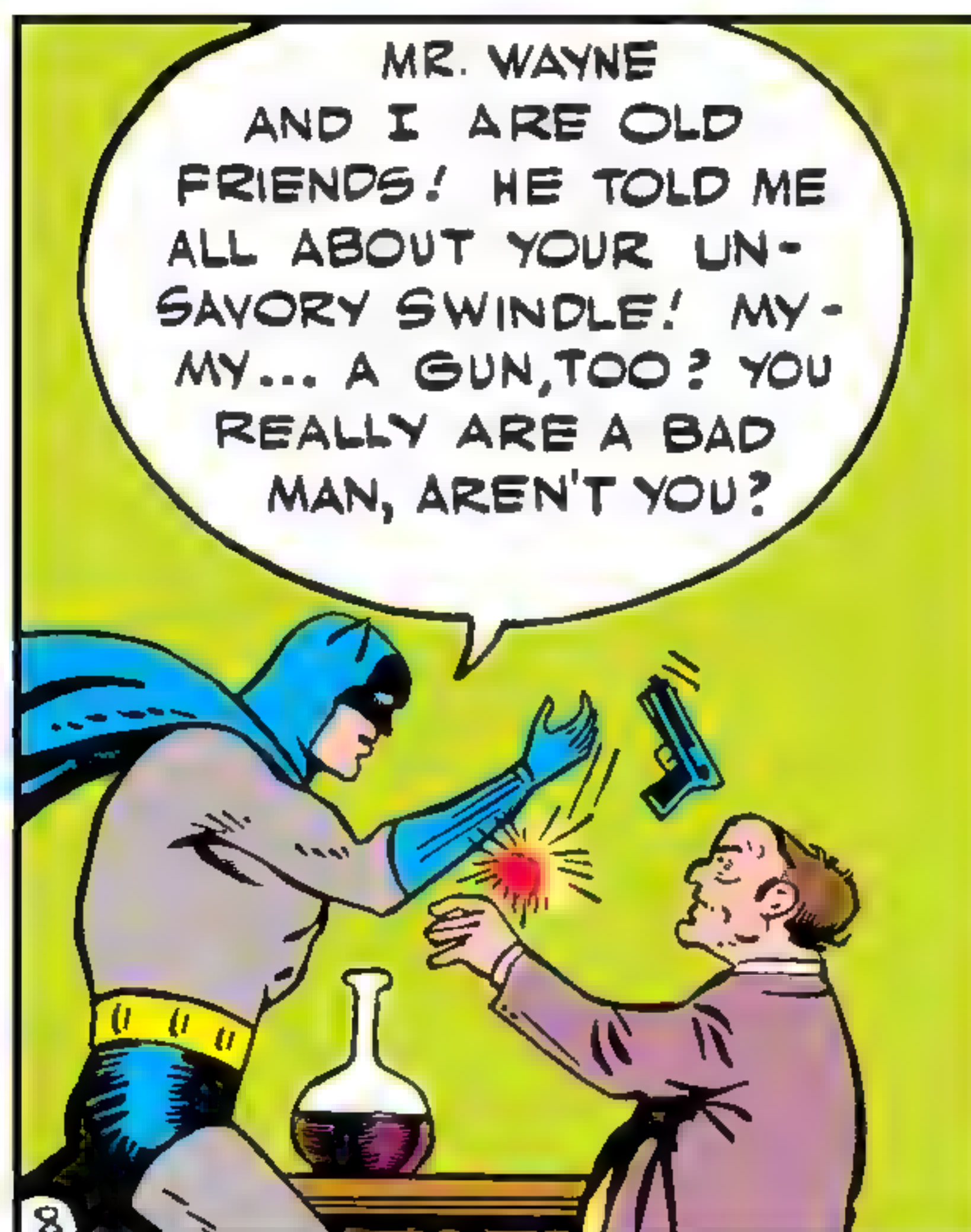
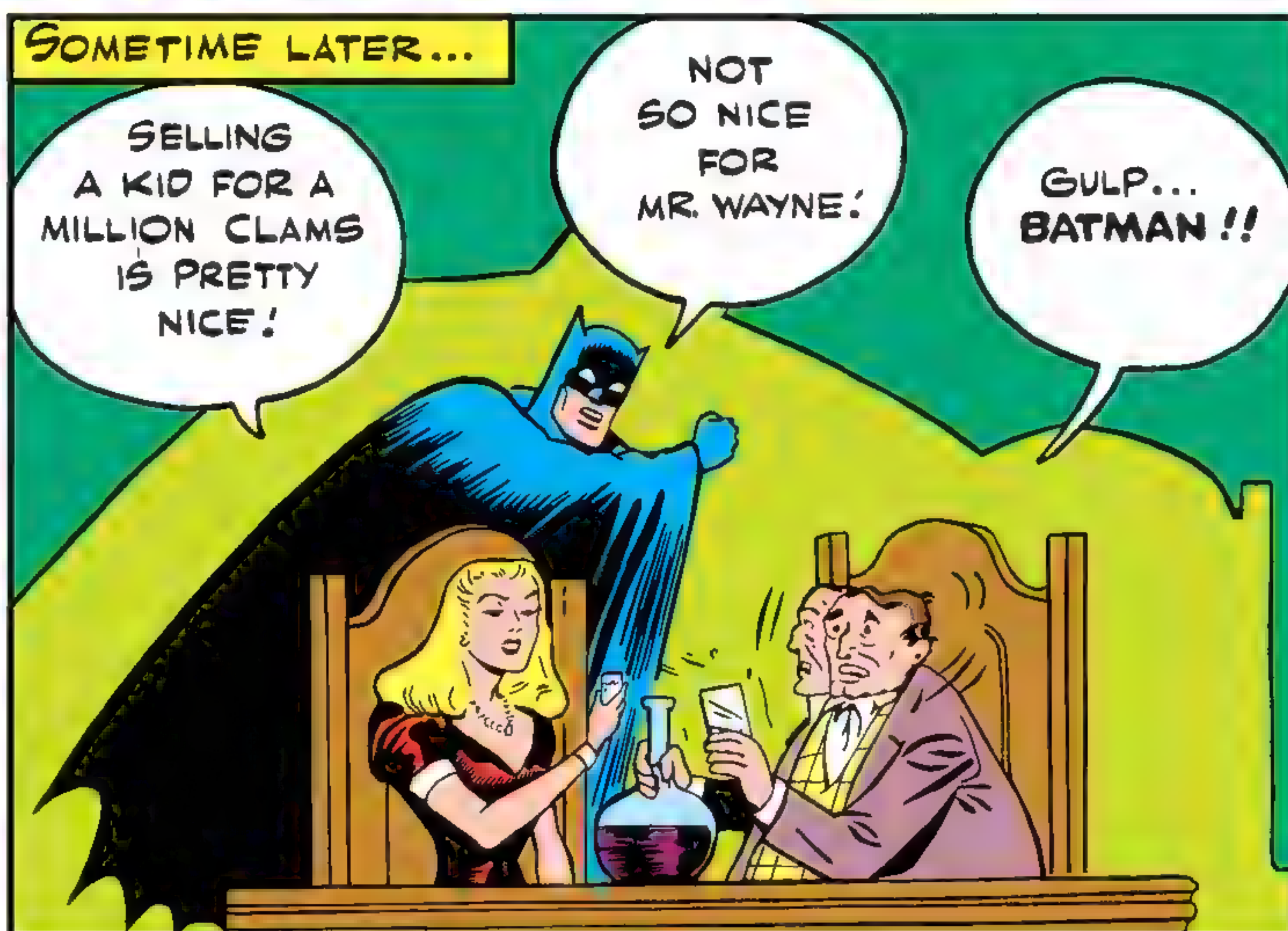
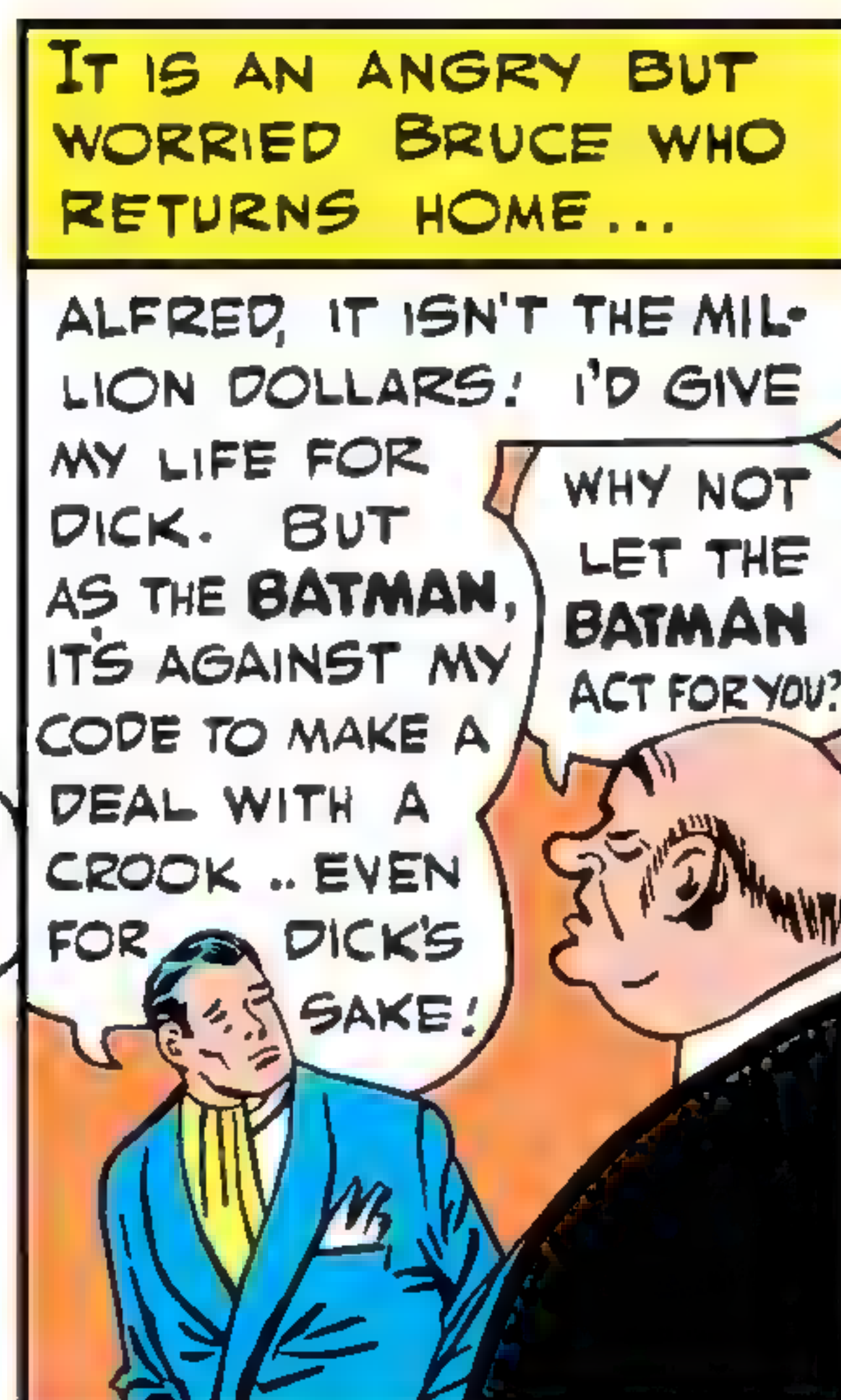
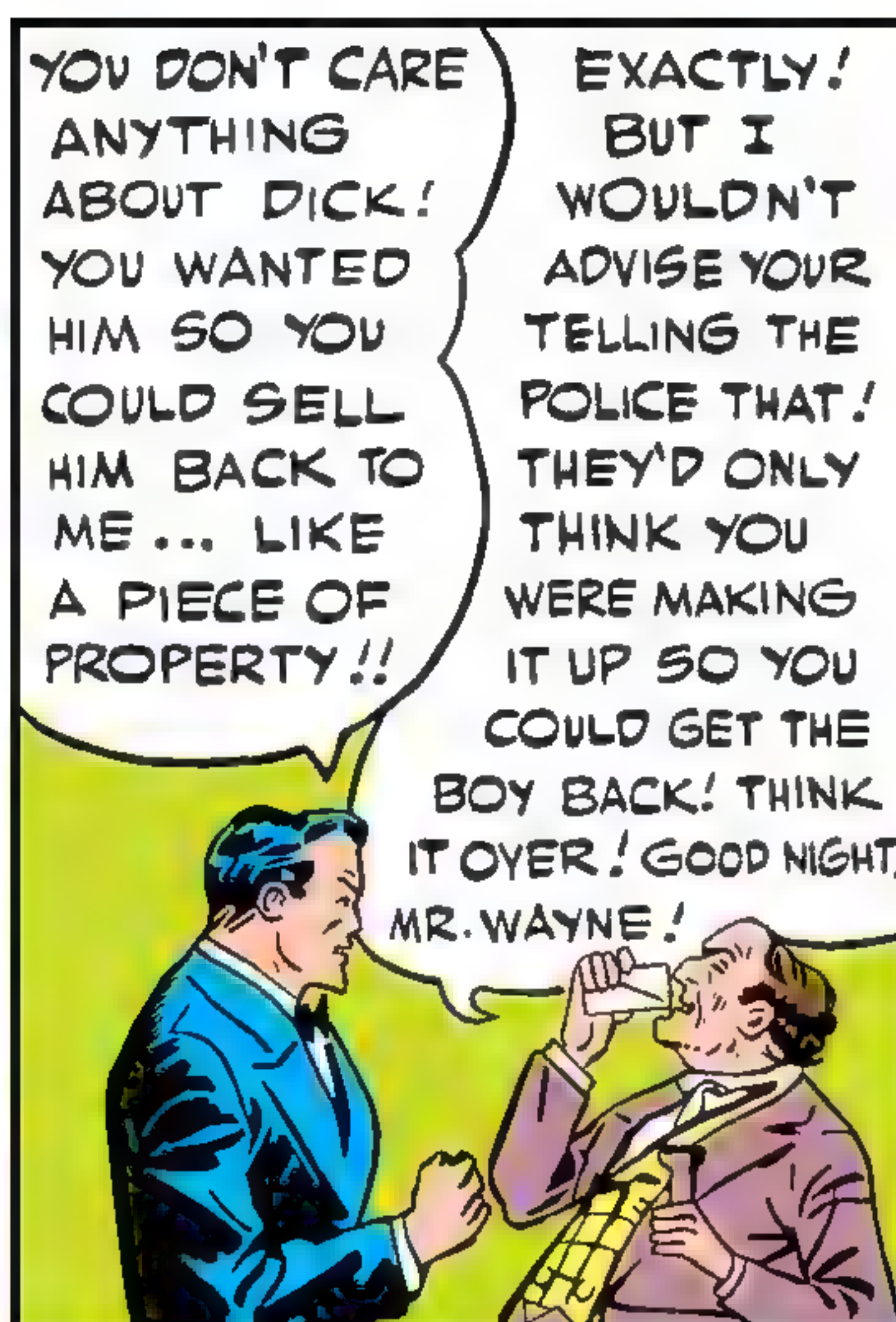
AH, HELLO, MR. WAYNE! I WONDER IF YOU COULD COME OVER HERE RIGHT AWAY! IT'S VERY IMPORTANT!

WHY... YES... OF COURSE!

SOON...

MR WAYNE! I'LL COME RIGHT TO THE POINT! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY BACK DICK GRAYSON?

WHA-AT?



WITHOUT LOSS OF TIME, UNCLE GEORGE SEEKS OUT FATSO FOLEY AND ENLISTS HIS AID!

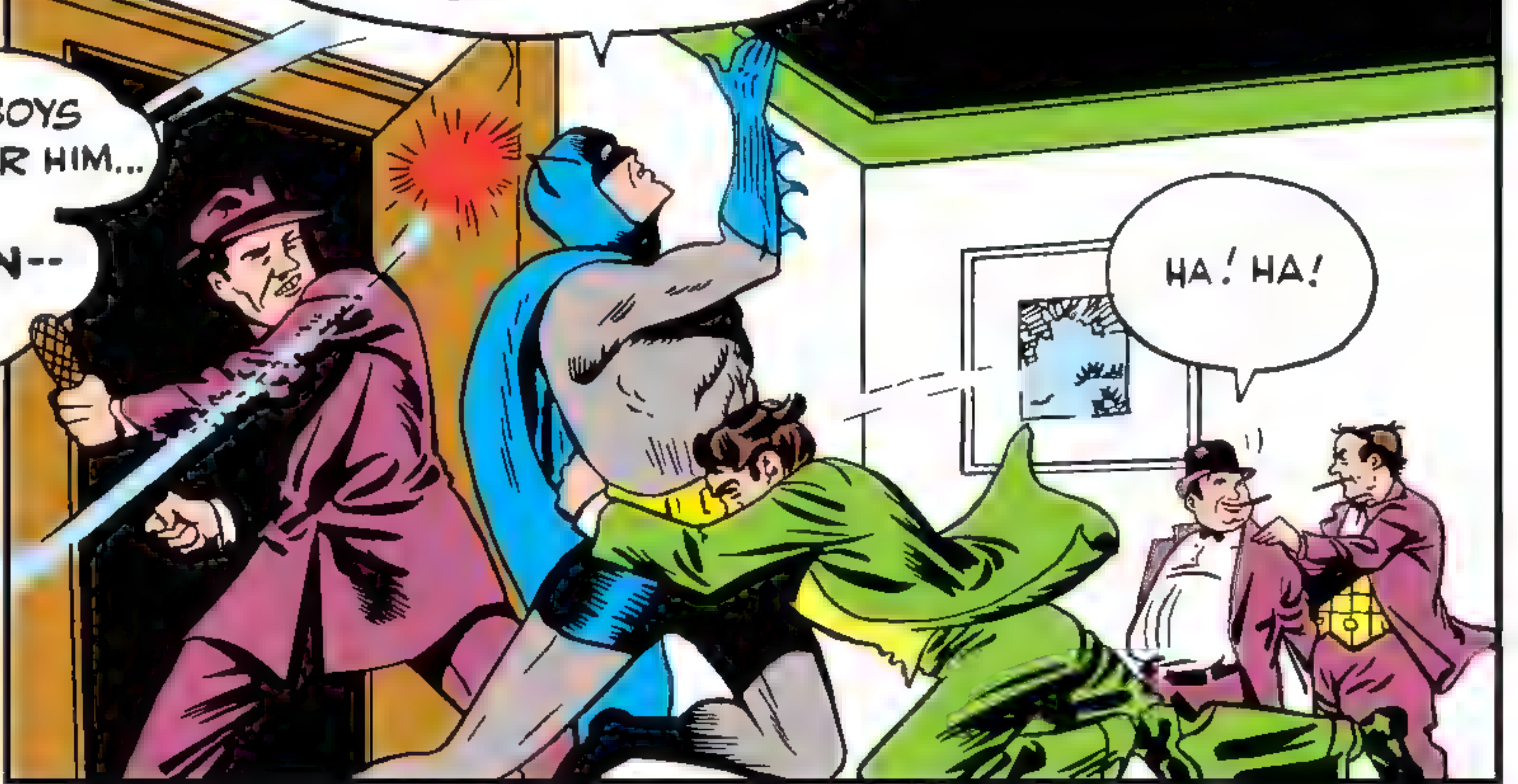
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO GET RID OF HIM! HE'LL BE BACK IN A LITTLE WHILE!



SWELL! MY BOYS WILL BE WAITING FOR HIM... AND THEN I'M GONNA SQUASH THE BATMAN-- JUST LIKE THAT!!

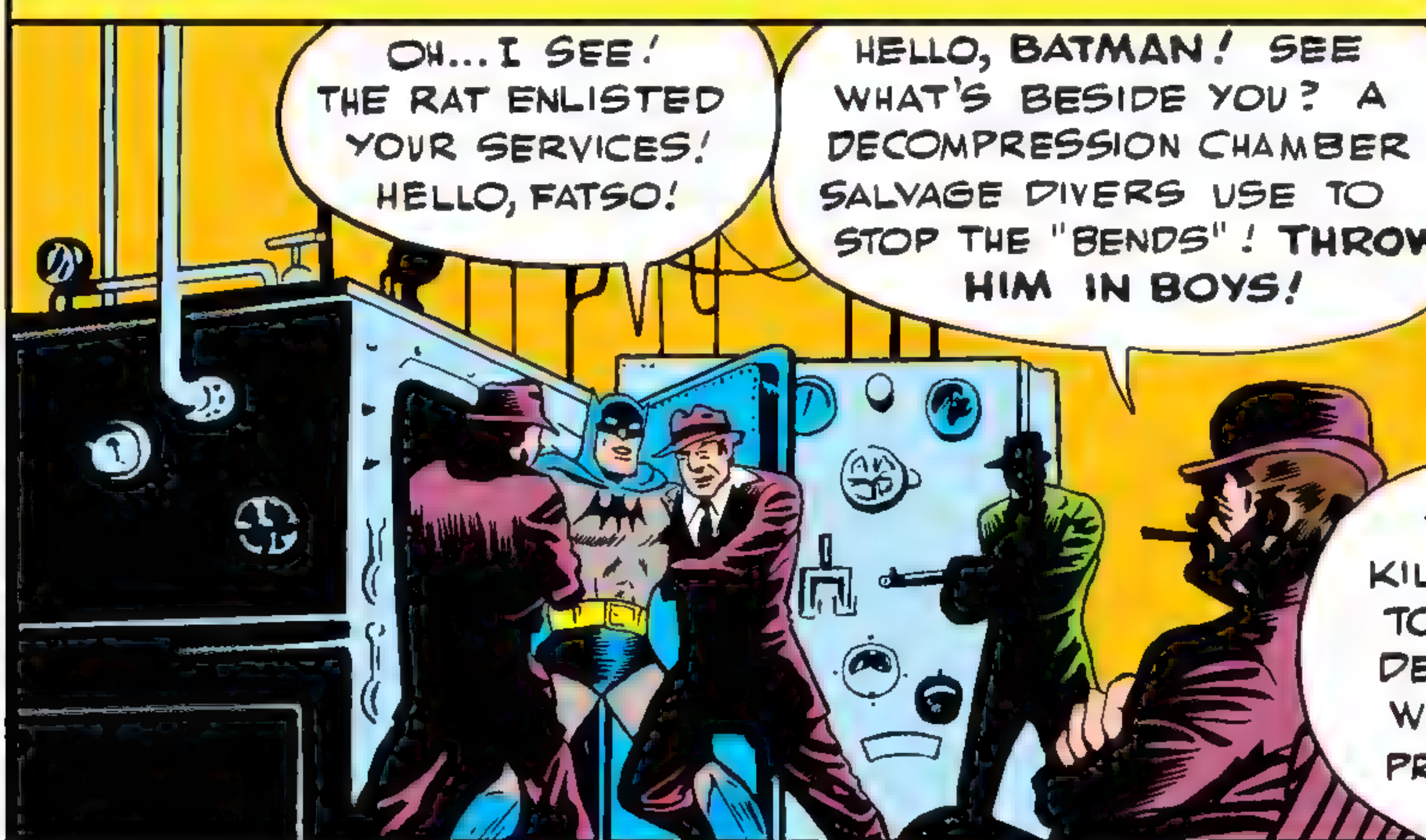
AND SO THE BATMAN COMES BACK -- INTO A MAN-TRAP!

OKAY! TIME'S UP! GIVE ME THAT CONFESS...
OHH!



HA! HA!

SOMETIME LATER, BATMAN AWAKENS INSIDE A SALVAGE BOAT ON THE RIVER...



OH...I SEE! THE RAT ENLISTED YOUR SERVICES! HELLO, FATSO!

HELLO, BATMAN! SEE WHAT'S BESIDE YOU? A DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER SALVAGE DIVERS USE TO STOP THE "BENDS"! THROW HIM IN BOYS!

THE HEAVY, STEEL DOOR CLANGS SHUT! FATSO MANIPULATES SOME COMPLICATED DIALS-- AND AIR HISSES INTO THE CHAMBER!



HA! HA! HA!

THE DIRTY KILLER! HE'S GOING TO CRUSH ME TO DEATH WITH THE WEIGHT OF COMPRESSED AIR!

HA! HA! MAKE WAR ON FATSO FOLEY, WILL YOU? HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE THOUSANDS OF POUNDS OF AIR PRESSING ON YOU, BATMAN? HA! HA!



MY CHEST... MY CHEST! I CAN HARDLY BREATHE!

YES, THE BATMAN'S IN A TOUGH SPOT NOW! AND CHANCES OF RESCUE SEEM VERY SLIM INDEED... FOR ROBIN DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT!

BUT WAIT! THE BATMAN DOES HAVE A CHANCE... AND THAT CHANCE IS THE RESULT OF A BLUNDER BY HIS OWN ENEMY -- OVER-CONFIDENT UNCLE GEORGE!

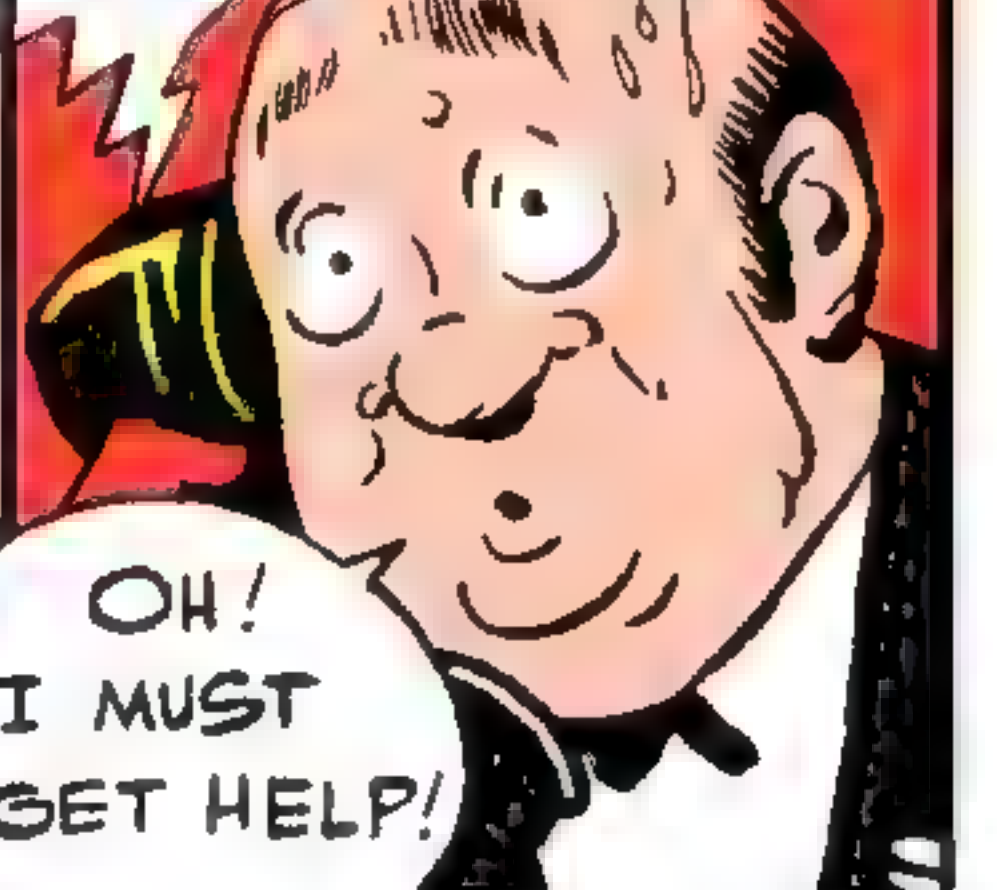


(HIC) HELLO... S'THAT YOU, MR. WAYNE? THIS IS UNCLE GEORGE! (HIC)

OH DEAR, MR. WAYNE IS AT THAT MAN'S HOUSE... AS THE BATMAN! AH! I HAVE IT! I SHALL MIMIC THE MAW-STER'S VOICE!

YES! MR WAYNE SPEAKING!

WAYNE, I CALLED TO TELL YOU THAT YOUR PAL, THE BATMAN, IS BEING TAKEN CARE OF BY MY PAL, FATSO FOLEY! SO GET THAT MILLION DOLLARS-OR ELSE! HA, HA!



OH! I MUST GET HELP!

MOMENTS LATER...

I HEARD A NOISE! WONDER... WHAT IT IS... WHY, IT'S ALFRED!

TAP! TAP! TAP!

MAWSTER DICK, THE **BATMAN** IS IN DIRE STRAITS! HE IS IN THE HANDS OF THAT RUFFIAN **FATSO FOLEY**!

WHAT? WE'VE GOT TO WORK FAST! MAYBE WE CAN FIND OUT WHERE THEY TOOK HIM IF WE GRAB ONE OF **FATSO'S GANG** AT HIS NIGHT CLUB!

SOON AFTER... AS ONE OF FATSO'S TRIGGER MEN EXITS FROM THE NIGHTCLUB...

WHAT TH'... UGH!

NEATLY DONE, MAWSTER **ROBIN**!

AND IN A WOODEN SHACK ON AN EMPTY LOT...

WHERE DID **FATSO** TAKE THE **BATMAN**? TALK!

I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN'!

HE SEEMS A BIT STUBBORN, SIR! MIGHT I SUGGEST A METHOD OF LOOSENING HIS TONGUE?

WE MIGHT JUST LEAVE HIM HERE IN THE DARK, SIR! THERE'S NOTHING AROUND TO HARM HIM - JUST SOMEER - BIG RATS!

SPLENDID! MAYBE THEY'LL GNAW AT HIS CONSCIENCE!

HEY! WAIT A MINUTE! I'LL TALK! I'LL TALK!

AND IN THE DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER...

HA! HA! CAN'T LAST MORE THAN A FEW MINUTES NOW!

AIR... TONS OF IT PRESSING ON MY CHEST... I... CAN'T... BREATHE... I... CAN'T... BREATHE...

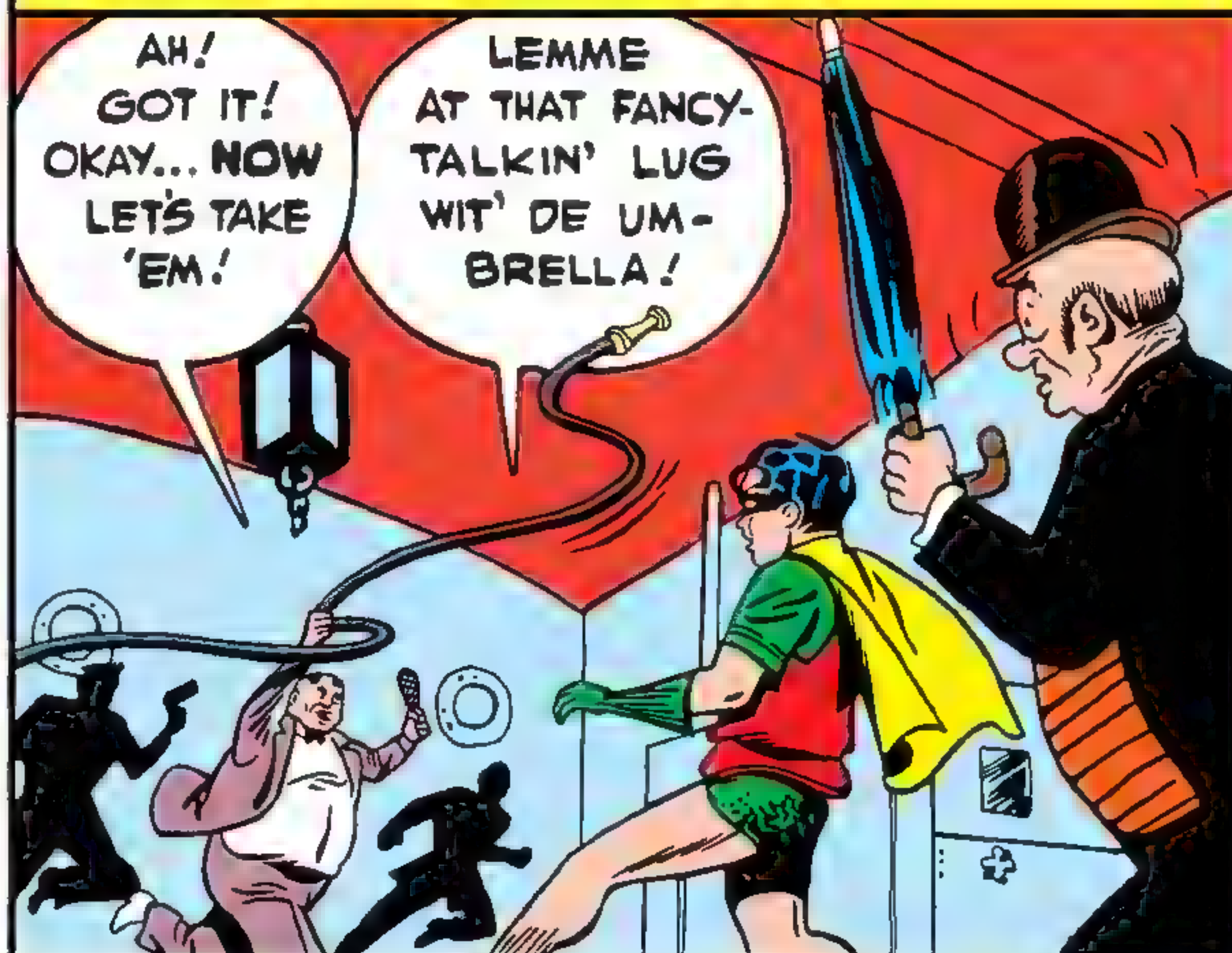
THAT **ROBIN KID**!

OUT OF THE WAY, YOU... **KILLER**!

IN ROBIN'S CAPABLE HANDS, A RUBBER HOSE BECOMES A BULL WHIP!



BUT FATSO SEIZES THE END OF THE HOSE AND RALLIES HIS THUGS!



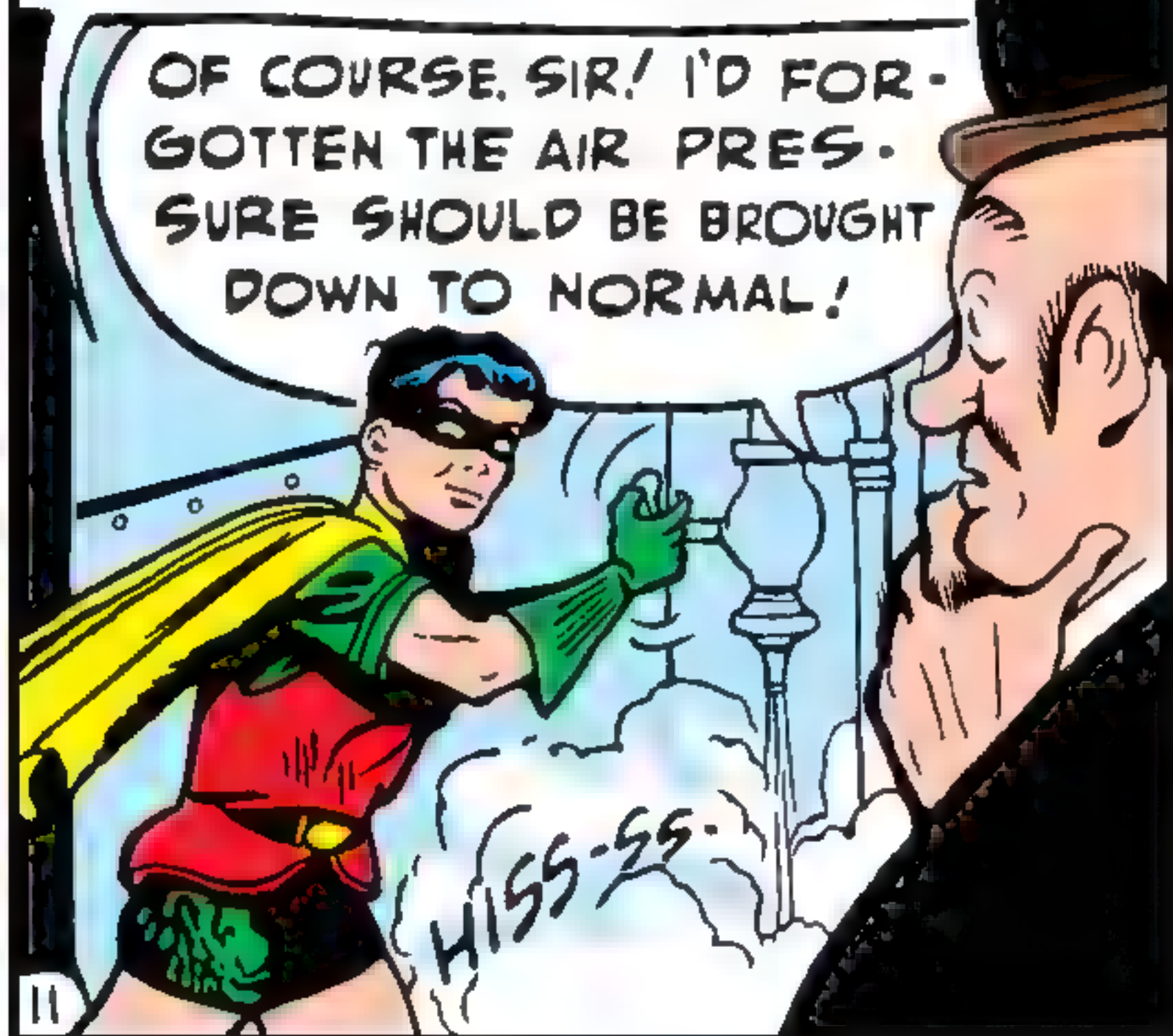
BUT "THAT FANCY TALKIN' LUG" SUDDENLY POINTS THE UMBRELLA AT THE ONRUSHING KILLERS, AND....



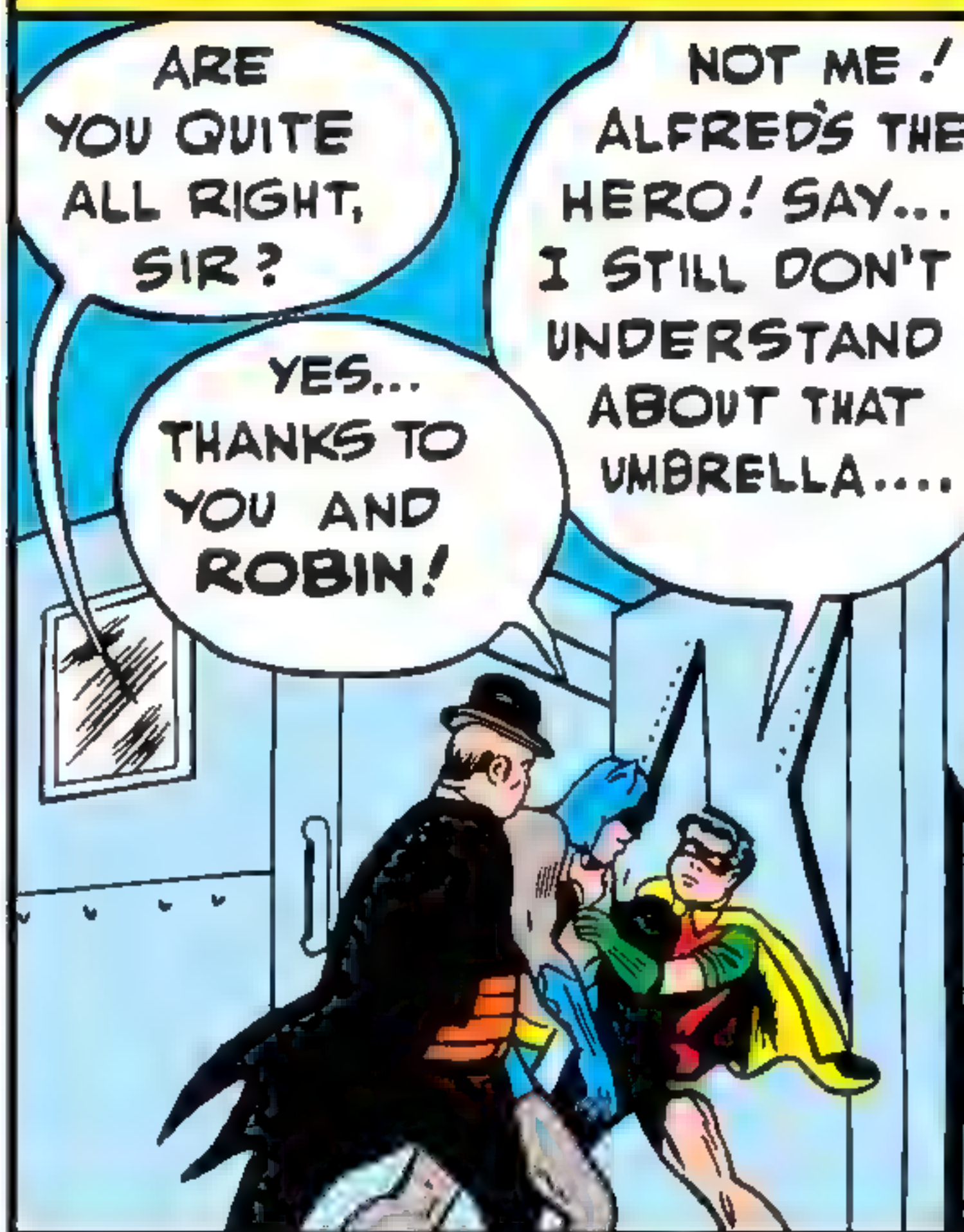
AS ONE MAN, THE THUGS SPRAWL UNTIDILY ON THE FLOOR! THEN....



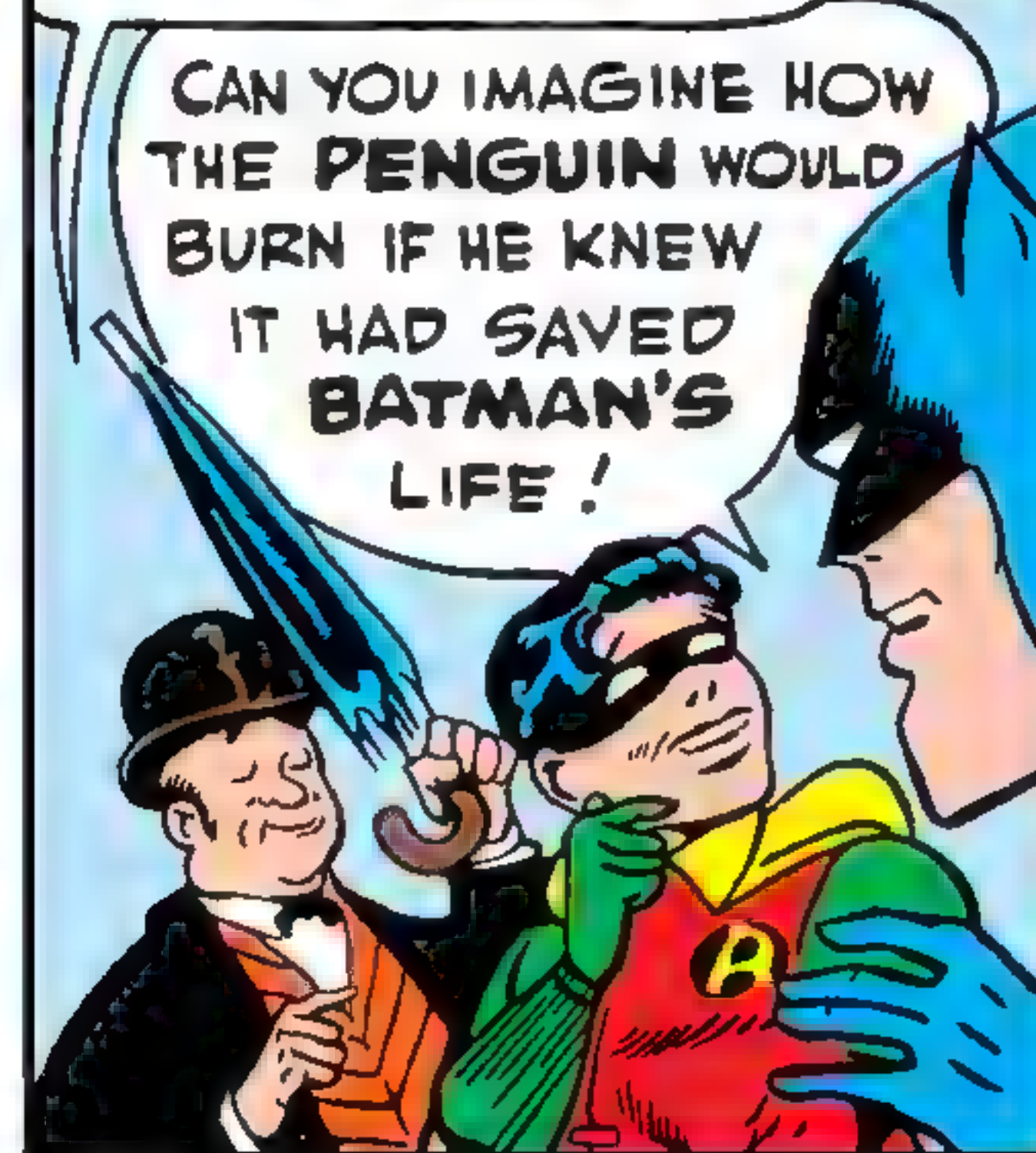
IF YOU HAD OPENED THE DOOR, BATMAN WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THE "BENDS"! WE MUST REDUCE THE AIR PRESSURE IN THERE SLOWLY.... SLOWLY....

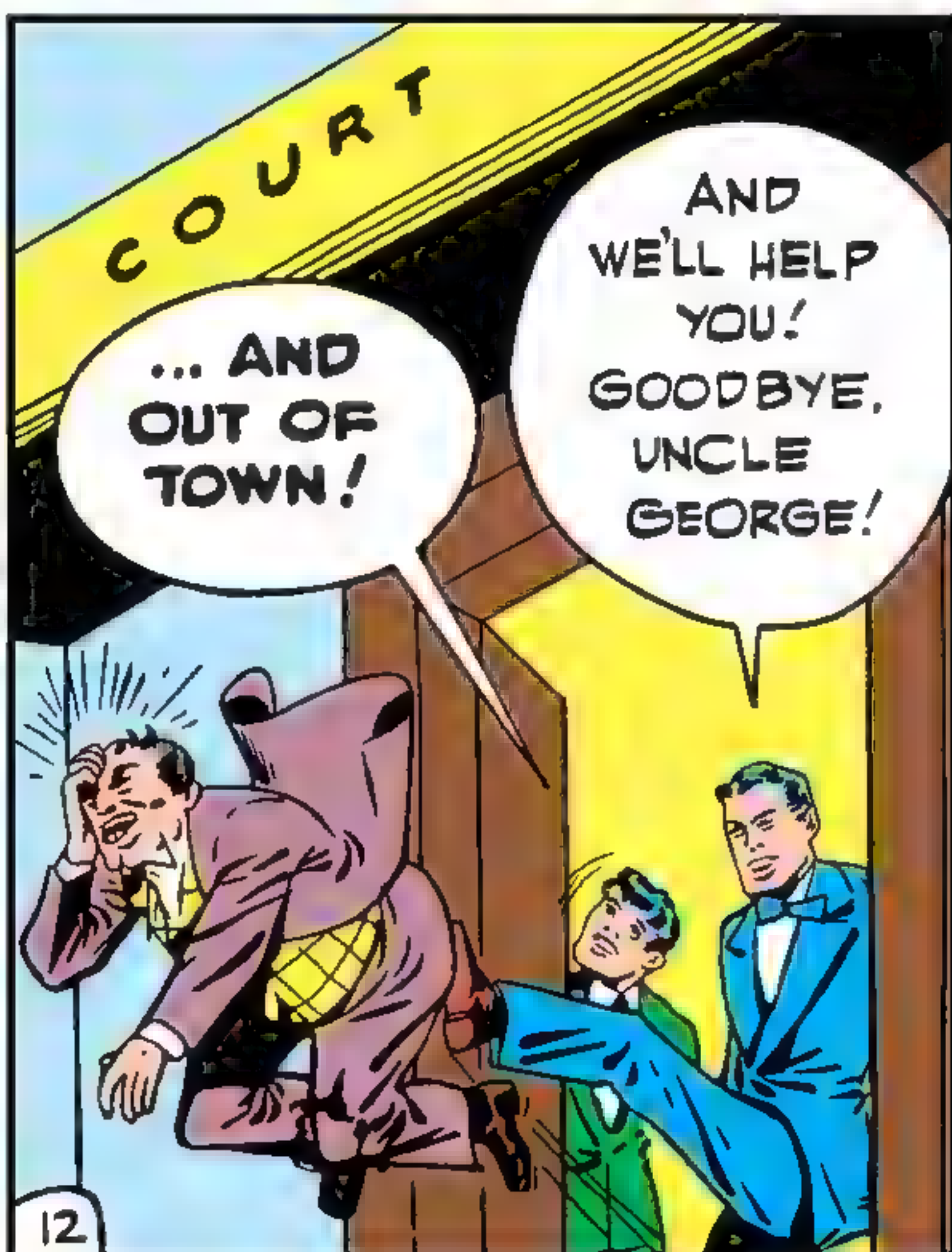
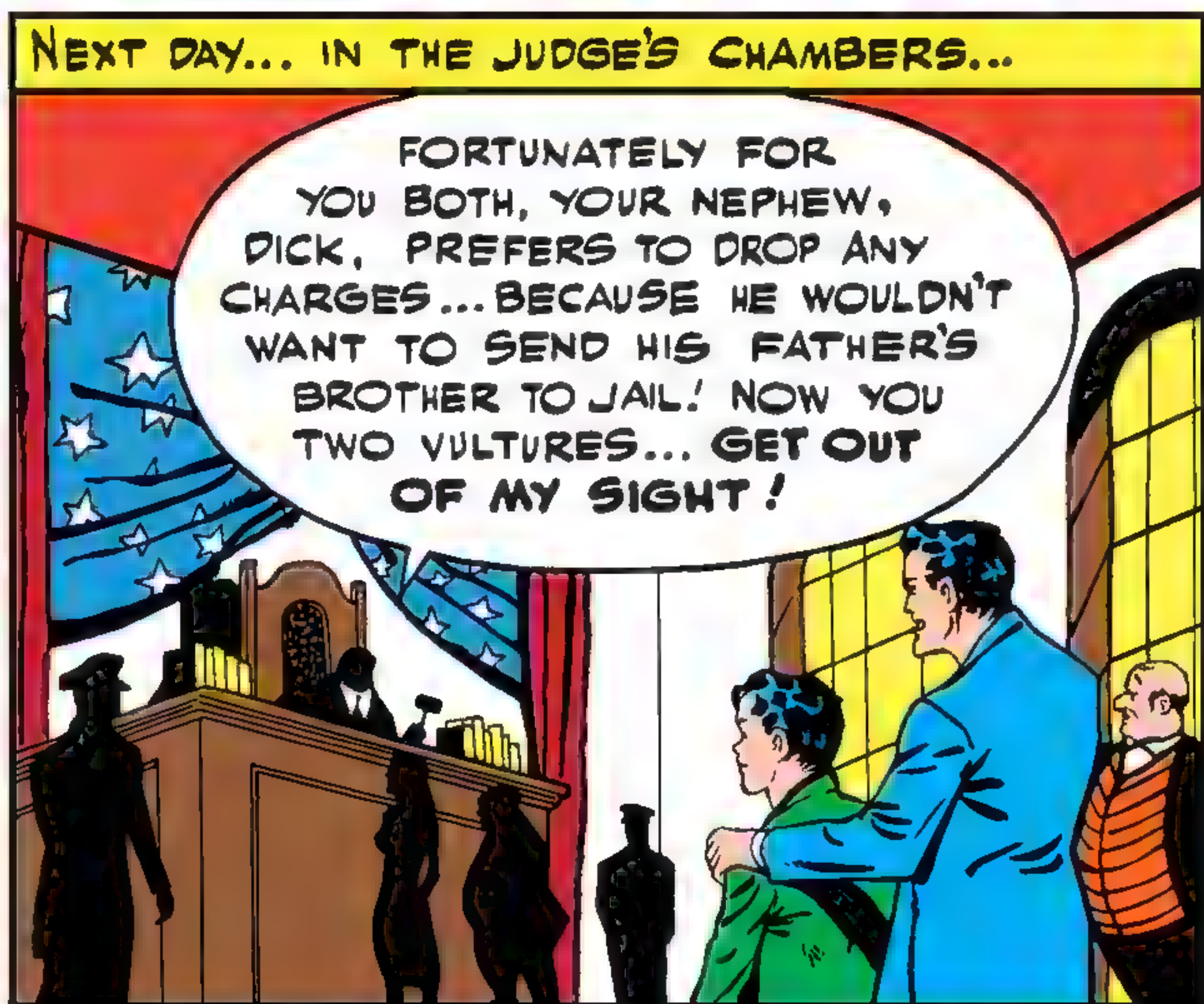
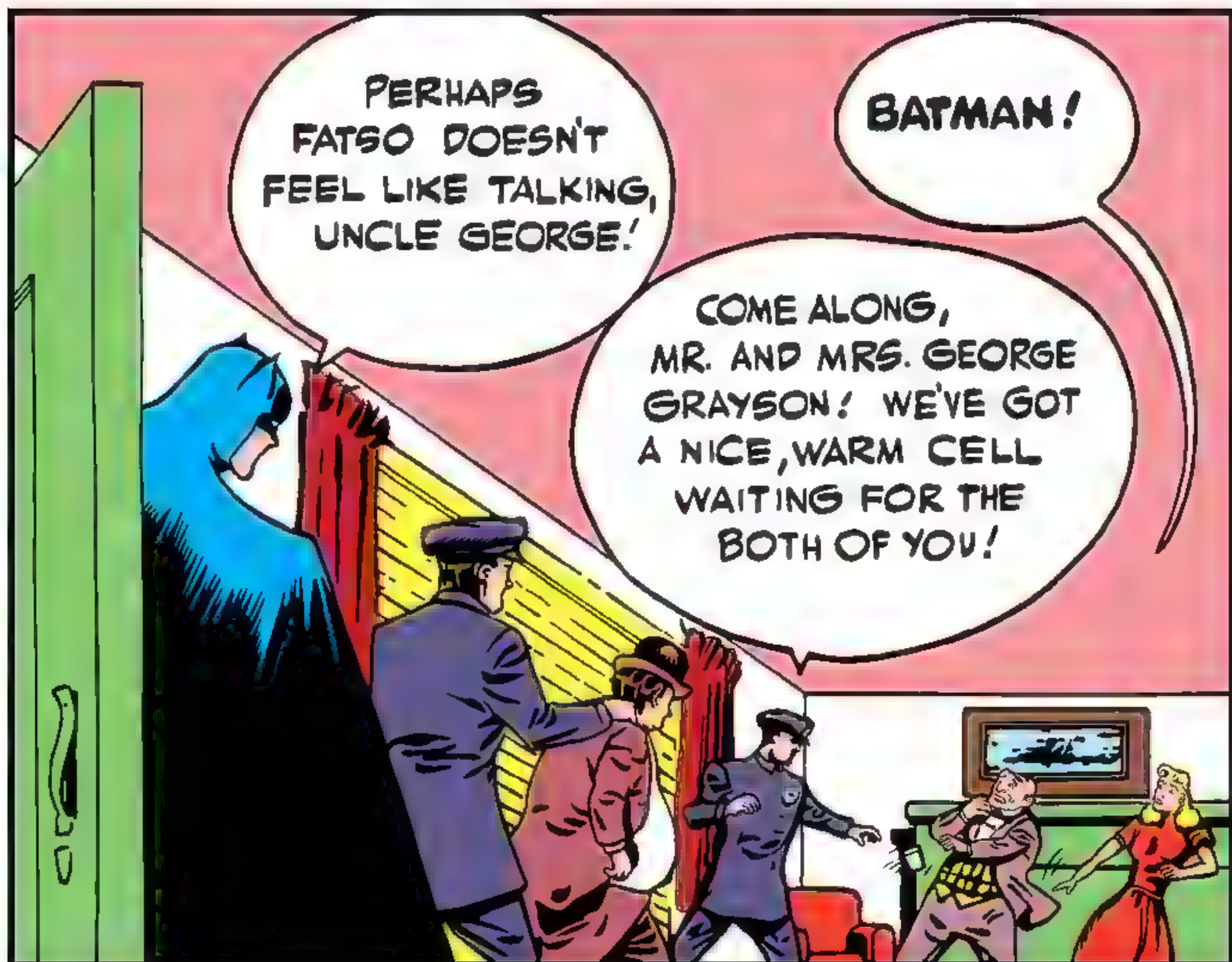
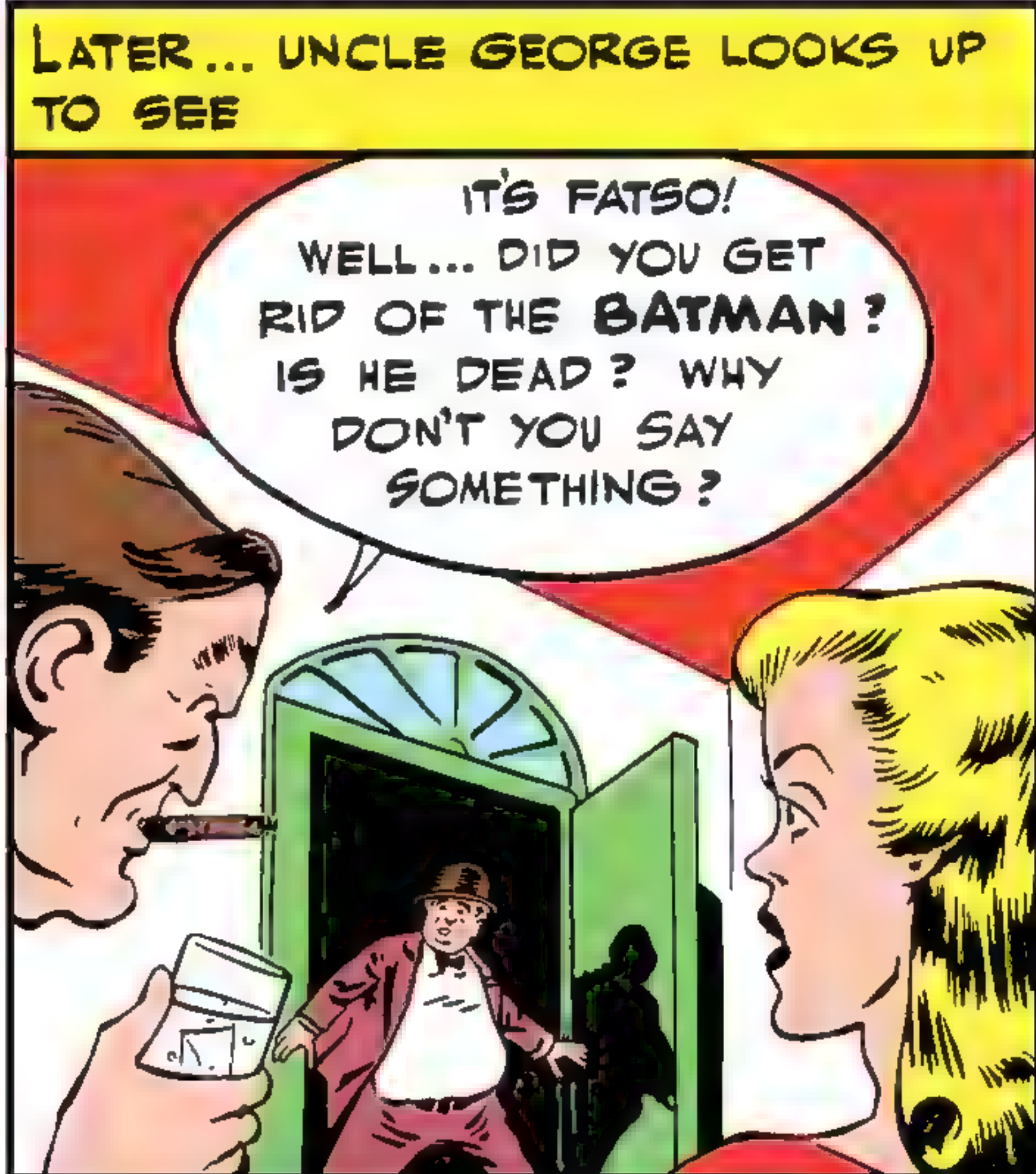


AND SO... SOMETIME LATER...



OH, THIS, SIR? I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF CARRYING IT FROM THE TROPHY ROOM! I BELIEVE IT ONCE BELONGED TO THE PENGUIN!!









The Dynamic Duo becomes the Terrific Three when they are joined by Alfred Pennyworth. From his very first appearance in **BATMAN #16**, the ever-resourceful valet proves to be a worthy ally for Batman and Robin as they encounter a never-ending string of Golden Age criminals such as the Joker, the Penguin, Two-Face, the Robber Baron, the Cavalier and the Crime Surgeon.

BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOLUME 5 collects the early adventures of Batman, Robin and Alfred from **BATMAN #16-20**, **DETECTIVE COMICS #75-81** and **WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #10-11**.

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

